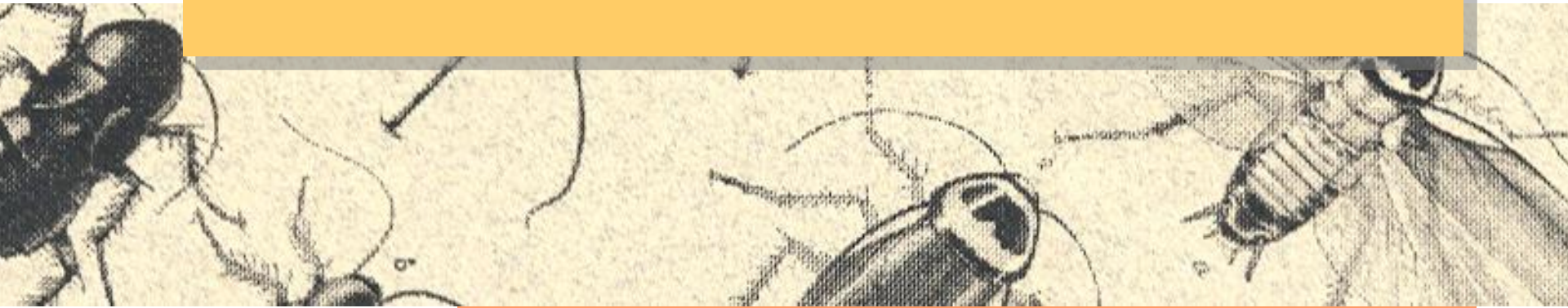


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# **Establishing a Bed Bug Control Program in Boston Public Housing**



**Presented by the Boston Housing Authority -George McGrath, Assistant Director of Property Management**



Second National  
Bed Bug Summit  
**February 1, 2011**

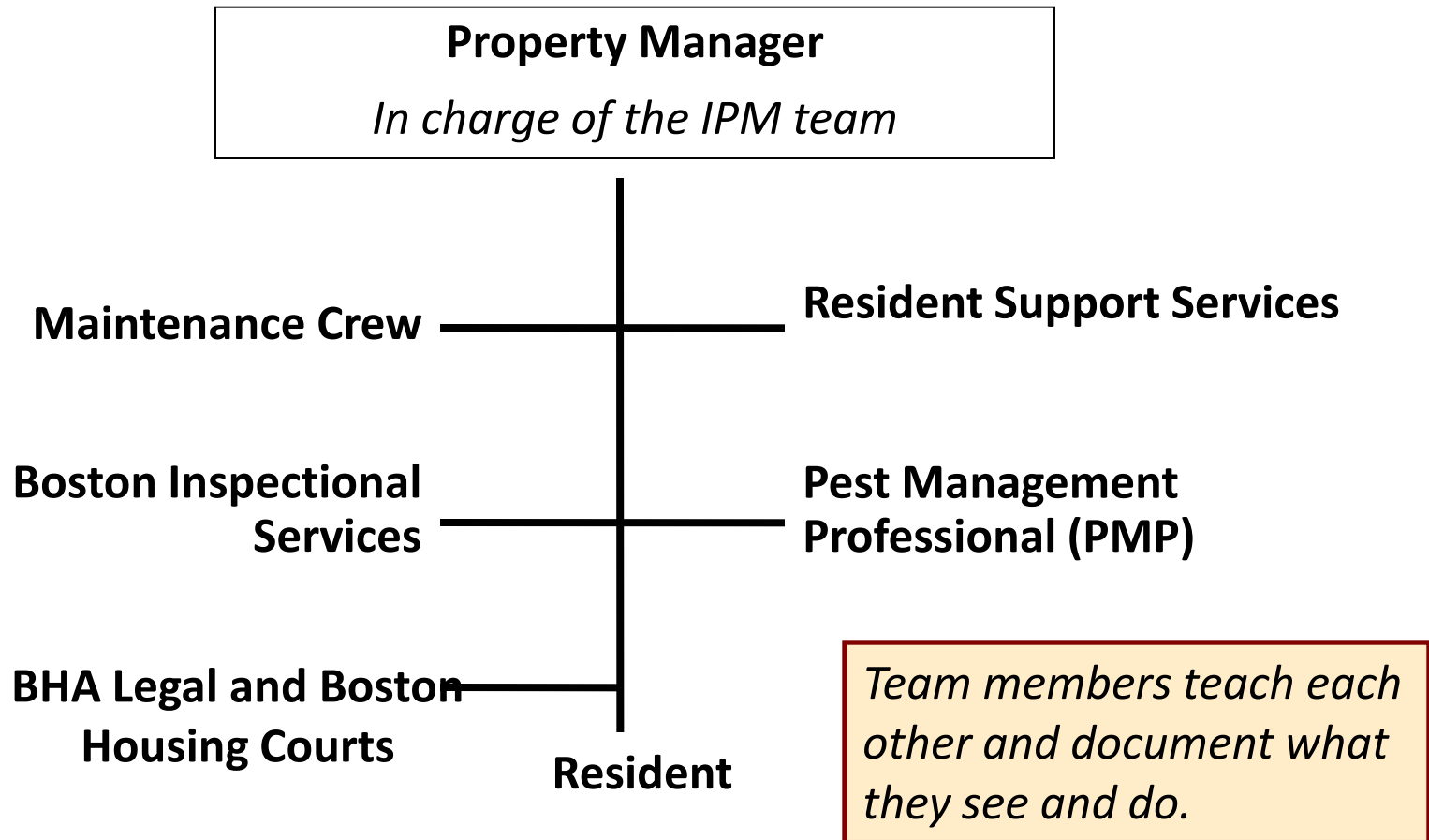


# Boston Housing Authority



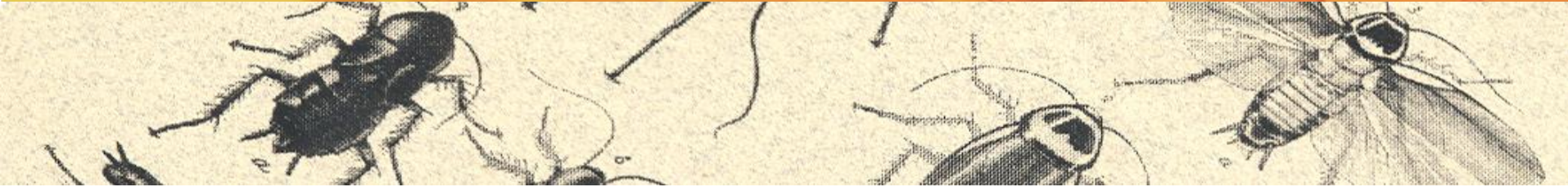
- **Largest housing authority in New England**
- **Largest property owner in Boston**
- **10% of Boston residents in BHA housing**

# BED BUG PARTNERS





# Develop Community Partners



1. Boston Housing Authority
2. Boston Public Health Commission
3. Boston Inspectional Services Department
4. Committee for Boston Public Housing and W. Broadway Task Force
5. Boston University School of Public Health
6. Tenancy Preservation Program
7. Boston Hoarding Task Force
8. Greater Boston Bed Bug Task Force

# The Bed Bug Process



In a structural setting, a Bed Bug program consists of

1. Inspection, with manager and PMP'
2. Identification by PMPs
3. Establishment of threshold levels,
4. Employment of two or more control measures (which may be cultural, mechanical, biological, or chemical)
5. Evaluation of effectiveness
6. Refer tenants to social services if needed
7. Refer tenant to legal department (TRO/TPP)

# Disposal of Infested Items

- BHA relies on the PMP's to determine what items will need to be removed from a unit
- All items are wrapped up or placed in bags and sealed to protect from spreading infestations.
- Remove items from the property or destroyed prior to disposing on site.

# Monitors

- *Intent:* Identify the presence of a bed bug infestation.
- *Methods:*
  -  Passive—no attractant- moat style interceptors
  -  Active—attractant- Night Watch Monitoring system









# How to prevent getting bed bugs

## **Educate residents**

- Pamphlets and educational flyers.
- Multi-lingual bedbug information sheets
- Education using PMP's and other professional resources

## **Educate staff:**

- December, 2010 BHA developed a training tool in order to educate staff on how to work, and identify bed bug infestations

# Capital Projects

- Currently 2 Capital projects requiring on site relocations in temporary hotel units
- Relocates inspected 45 days prior to move
- Those identified with Bed bugs are treated twice prior to relocation
- All clothing brought to hotel units are placed into a dryer prior to entering units
- All hotel units inspected after units turn, 0 reported cases of bedbugs in units after 1year of utilization.

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# Non-Chemical Treatment Methods

## **Tools available to Boston Housing Authority Managers and Residents:**

- Mattress and Box Spring Encasements
- Dissolvable Laundry Bags
- Furniture Bags for removals



# Pest Management Cost

- This slide illustrates the expenses in Region II of the BHA's Public Housing Portfolio
- The R-II Portfolio consists of 3200 units .
- For the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010, resident request for bedbug services totaled 113 work orders
- Pest management contracts in Region II \$334,000 for fiscal year ending 3/31/10
- The Cost associated to Bed Bugs \$83,000 for the same period.