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## Roscoe to the Rescue

**Katherine J. Chen** (posted on : 09 Sep 2009)

After decades of being virtually absent in the United States, an unexpected threat has returned to haunt the bedrooms of thousands of Americans. This threat is the bed bug, which has so far targeted mostly densely packed apartment buildings across the nation. The bed bug, according to an article published by the NY Times entitled "Sleeping With the Enemy," is not so much a life-endangering infestation as an itching, skin-crawling annoyance making its home between your comfortable bed sheets. Most people are not going to wait for their landlords to address the situation, so they take immediate action by calling in the exterminator. This is where Roscoe comes in, a new and highly efficient weapon against those blood-sucking pests living in your bedroom. Bed bugs can be difficult to spot. And even if you are certain that you do have a bed bug problem at home, you should still call in an exterminator to make sure. Exterminators normally charge between \$50-\$200 for a visual examination. However, some companies like BELL Environmental Services have been using trained dogs like Roscoe to hunt out bed bug locations and their eggs. Roscoe's abilities are so keen and accurate that he can literally pinpoint trouble spots in the bedroom in order to concentrate the overall efficiency of an inspection. He and another dog, Simon, come at a hefty price tag. Their services can cost between \$300 to \$600 for a home inspection. Roscoe is one half of BELL Environmental Service's newest Bed Bug K9 Force. He and Simon have both been trained by Certified Master Trainer, Bill Whitstine, at the Florida Canine Academy to track bed bugs and bed bug eggs. What is most satisfying about Roscoe's services is that he can actually prevent larger infestations by bed bugs, which means saving big bucks for homeowners and landlords alike. By keeping the location of bed bugs to concentrated areas in the home, Roscoe ensures easy, immediate, and permanent extermination. Roscoe has been featured in The New York Times, Animal Planet, and The Today Show. This smart beagle is especially efficient in tracking down bed bugs in large apartment buildings, healthcare facilities, residences, and even offices.