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Map: Where the bedbugs are in Boston

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By **Matt Rocheleau**

GLOBE STAFF AUGUST 29, 2016

Thinking of picking up some furniture off the street in Allston? This map might convince you to think again.

On and around Sept. 1 each year, tens of thousands of college students descend on the city, while thousands of other residents move in and out of apartments.

That means loads of furniture and other household products will be left curbside. And opportunist neighbors will snatch some of those free items up to decorate their new digs.

But city officials oppose this ritual, which has gotten the moniker "[Allston Christmas](#)" in that student-and-young-adult-centric neighborhood.

The key reason for the city's disapproval: bedbugs.

Officials say that sharing mattresses, futons, coffee tables, and other items in such a manner can cause the hitchhiking insects to spread.

If you're itching to bring unwanted furniture in from off the street, think again, officials say, or you may soon find yourself with some tiny, unwanted roommates.



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Map: Where the bedbugs are in Boston





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Map: Where the bedbugs are in Boston



Around move-in week each year, city workers patrol city streets, slapping bright orange stickers on discarded items to warn residents that they may contain bedbugs. Flyers and other informational packets are also passed out to new residents, students, and students' parents.

City officials in Boston typically field a few hundred complaints of bed bugs annually.

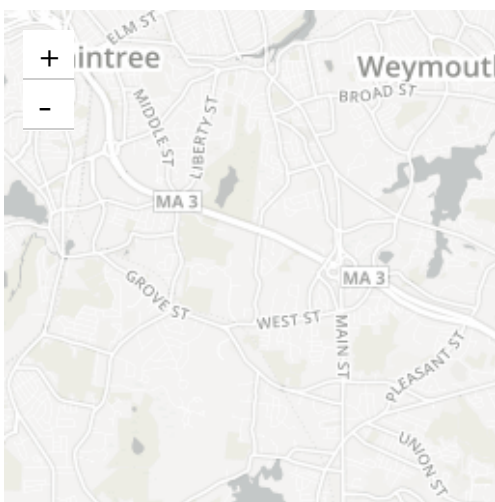
Last year, the city received 427 complaints, the highest such total since at least 2012, records show. There were 398 complaints made in 2014; 336 in 2013; and 412 in 2012, records show.

So far this year (through Sunday), 249 such pleas for help have been filed with the city.

The map below shows a dot for each complaint filed since the start of 2012. Apparently, bedbugs are not picky about which part of the city they live in.

Bed bug complaints in Boston

Each dot represents one bed bug complaint. The map shows a total of 1,822 such complaints filed with the City of Boston between Jan. 1, 2012 and Aug. 28, 2016.





DATA: City of Boston

MATT ROCHELEAU/GLOBE STAFF

Bed bugs have not been shown to spread disease, but their bites can cause allergic reactions and secondary skin infections. They can also take a toll on a person's mental health, according to the [US Environmental Protection Agency](#). People living in infested homes have reported anxiety, insomnia, and systemic reactions.


Eradicating the bloodsucking insects can be difficult, and expensive.

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Woods Hole researchers find human skeleton aboard ancient Greek shipwreck

DNA testing will be used to reveal secrets of the skeleton found aboard the Antikythera Shipwreck, a ship that last sailed about 65 BC. [MORE...](#)



Cape Cod boaters spot great white off Sandy Neck Beach

The great white shark momentarily disappeared before jumping about 5 feet out of the water. [MORE...](#)



F. Gorham Brigham Jr., a mainstay among Boston banking executives, dies at 101

Mr. Brigham was the oldest living graduate of Harvard Business School and was described as “the classic Boston gentleman.” [MORE...](#)



T could pour hundreds of millions into increasing Red Line capacity by 50 percent

An official said replacing 86 more cars — instead of overhauling them — and buying more vehicles could improve the quality of service. [MORE...](#)



14-year-old killed by train was ‘a true friend to people’

The ninth-grader was “a super-creative, super-smart kid,” his family said as they continue grieving his death. [MORE...](#)



Prosecutors don't believe MS played role in Sweet Tomatoes crash

The driver of a car that crashed into a Newton pizza restaurant and killed two people appeared never to have hit his brakes. [MORE...](#)



In Colo., a look at life after marijuana legalization

In November, Massachusetts voters are likely to consider a ballot question legalizing recreational marijuana. [MORE...](#)



Kelly Ayotte's foe isn't just Maggie Hassan. It's also history

If the US senator loses reelection, she'll be able pinpoint when it happened: when she won her first term. [MORE...](#)



Needing support from communities, builders pay for it

Local backing for a development project often comes with a price tag, bought as easily as lumber or drywall. [MORE...](#)



Rejecting opioids, pain patients find relief with marijuana

But the world of medical marijuana bears little resemblance to usual medical care. [MORE...](#)

KEVIN CULLEN

Counting your fish — and your blessings

Travis Roy got a chance to go ocean fishing, despite being attached to a 600-pound motorized wheelchair. [MORE...](#)





Can't wait to vote against [fill in blank here]? Your chance is soon.

The "Vote Early Boston" site on Boston.gov provides information on early voting, which runs Oct. 24 through Nov. 4. [MORE...](#)



DEBATING QUESTION 3 | TUESDAY, 3 P.M.

Two sides of cage-free egg debate will face off

Representatives from the Humane Society and the New England Brown Egg Council will argue the merits of Question 3 Tuesday in a Globe-sponsored debate. [MORE...](#)



Firm with spotty past regains state's car inspection contract

Applus Technologies Inc. was selected to provide testing equipment to more than 1,900 Mass. inspection stations. [MORE...](#)



Families of murder victims seek help moving

There is no formal program to assist families of homicide victims who want to move because they fear for their own safety. [MORE...](#)



Somerville to offer tours of Prospect Hill Tower

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the re-opening of the tower will take place Tuesday. [MORE...](#)



The great rabbit pardon of 2016

A Buddhist gardener felt sorry for rabbits being raised for slaughter at Codman Community Farms, so she bought them — 135 rabbits in all. [MORE...](#)

Somerville's innovative new school plan garners a \$10 million grant

The grant will help to open a new high school that won't have grade levels or traditional courses. [MORE...](#)



'Mermaid' to go on display at Harvard museum — but she's no Ariel

The Peabody Museum's "FeeJee Mermaid" will be brought out to celebrate the institute's 150th anniversary next month. [MORE...](#)



Two Mass. schools ranked among top 10 colleges in US

Move over Crimson; the Tigers are No. 1 on US News & World Report's 2017 university rankings. [MORE...](#)



Make-or-break vote for a new Minuteman High School

Residents in 16 communities will decide at the polls Tuesday whether to support a new \$145 million vocational school. [MORE...](#)



Beer, politics, and a whole lot of tech talk at HUBweek

HUBweek organizers are grappling with how to ensure the annual festival does not cater solely to the business and academic elite. [MORE...](#)



JFK: 50 YEARS LATER

Robert F. Kennedy saw conspiracy in JFK's assassination

Robert F. Kennedy took on some of the Kennedy Administration's hardest tasks, ones that created dangerous foes, and after the assassination, RFK wondered if one of them had done it. [MORE...](#)



MBTA to subsidize Uber, Lyft rides for customers with disabilities

The first-of-its-kind partnership reflects a growing relationship between public agencies and ride-for-hire firms. [MORE...](#)



This 19th-century trash is now modern treasure

A 7-foot-deep hole off Salem Street has unveiled day-to-day details of life in the North End of the 1800s like few discoveries before it. [MORE...](#)



These kids now have a life without homework

In a bold move sure to delight students and many parents, Essex Elementary School has stopped assigning homework. [MORE...](#)



'I just saw cops rushing to the scene,' N.J. shootout witness says

Employees at the Linden Auto Body Shop in Linden, N.J., were sitting in their office when they suddenly heard gunshots. [MORE...](#)

Business lobby holds new sway on Beacon Hill

Associated Industries of Massachusetts, which has for years been business's most effective lobbying group, has developed new clout in the past year and a half, shaped by the 2014 election of a Republican governor and House leadership that is inclined to accommodate much of the group's priorities. [MORE...](#)



Drought's effects mount as dry weather continues

The results of the drought are being felt throughout the region, including by wildlife and plants. [MORE...](#)

MassHealth to pay for hepatitis C drugs for all infected members

The state had previously required that many patients show evidence of liver damage before it would pay for the powerful drugs. [MORE...](#)



Supporters of recreational use of marijuana fill the Common

Massachusetts voters will decide in November whether to legalize marijuana for recreational use.

[MORE...](#)



ADRIAN WALKER

Developers buying community support is an insider game

Civic groups should not be able to take money from developers looking to buy support, much less solicit payment. [MORE...](#)

Allston shooting leaves victim fighting for life

A man was shot Sunday night on Linden Street, according to Boston police. [MORE...](#)



1 dead, 2 injured in Boston shooting

Police haven't officially identified the victims. According to friends, the slain man was 21-year-old Phillip Woods. [MORE...](#)



Father arraigned in New Bedford slaying

A prosecutor said Walter DaSilva was upset that his 19-year-old daughter did not visit him for Father's Day and that she was dating an older man. [MORE...](#)



At BLS, how furor unfolded behind the scenes

Concerns rose that the elite exam school was moving too slowly to address allegations about racism.

[MORE...](#)



Charmian Carr, 73; portrayed Liesl in 'The Sound of Music'

Ms. Carr fully embraced audiences' reverence for the musical, frequently appearing at sing-a-long performances. [MORE...](#)



Duxbury oysters have their day

Through much trial and error, oyster beds were sown and eventually flourished, and today a wave of oyster growers is flooding Duxbury. [MORE...](#)



Big Papi gets an oceanic namesake

Add a 15-foot shark to the list of things fans have done to honor David Ortiz. [MORE...](#)



THIRD OF THREE PARTS

Desperately guarding a spark of hope

Michael Bourne has decided to stick with his meds. They may save his life, but at the price of not feeling fully alive. It is a cruel calculus, for him and for many. [MORE...](#)



ADRIAN WALKER

Controversy again engulfs Roxbury Community College

The firing of Keith McDermott, the longtime head of the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center, has unleashed a controversy. [MORE...](#)

Clergy accused of sexual abuse in the Boston Archdiocese

Database of accused clergy in Boston Archdiocese

At least 271 clergy have been publicly accused of child sex abuse in the Boston Archdiocese, according to a Globe review. [MORE...](#)

Name	Last	Age	Sex	Abused	Notes
John J.
Richard J.
John T.
Charles E.
Thomas J.
Thomas J.

YVONNE ABRAHAM



I'm so sorry, Mitt Romney

I've been tough on you over the years, and I feel awful about it. Because now I see how bad bad can be. [MORE...](#)



Harvard report shines light on ex-researcher's misconduct

An internal report suggests it was not mere negligence that led to problems in Marc Hauser's lab. [MORE...](#)



See the skeleton that researchers have discovered aboard an ancient Greek shipwreck

The skeleton was found on the Antikythera Shipwreck, a Greek ship from 65 B.C. [MORE...](#)



Transit Police boost patrols following bombings in New York and New Jersey

No connection was seen between those attacks and Massachusetts. Still, authorities urged vigilance. [MORE...](#)

Developer to hold open houses for Maynard project

There will be seven open houses from Monday, Sept. 19, through Oct. 3 [MORE...](#)

YVONNE ABRAHAM



Few options for domestic violence victims

Like so many domestic violence victims, Wanda Rosa was powerless to separate herself from the abuser who murdered her. [MORE...](#)

Chasing Bayla



Biologist Michael Moore had waited all day — really, all his life — for the whale to surface, the suffering giant he thought he could save, that science had to save. It had come down to this. [MORE...](#)



Parents of Justina Pelletier sue Boston Children's Hospital

The teen spoke out at a press conference to announce a lawsuit against Boston Children's Hospital over her care. [MORE...](#)



SPOTLIGHT

Concurrent surgeries come under new scrutiny

Following controversy at MGH, the world's largest surgeons' group is considering new guidelines for overlapping surgery. [MORE...](#)



Cambridge aims to take pets out of pet stores

A proposed city ordinance would stop breeders from supplying animals to shops. [MORE...](#)

Teen killed by train was 14-year-old boy from Newton

The teen was on the inbound track on Friday when he was hit by a Worcester/Framingham commuter rail train. [MORE...](#)



Patrick F. Brady, 71, retired Superior Court judge

During more than 25 years on the bench, Superior Court Judge Patrick F. Brady ran a strict courtroom. [MORE...](#)

Boston police crack down on off-road vehicles



The vehicles that are a nuisance to some residents have also been tied to a wide variety of crimes. [MORE...](#)



History rolled in on a yellow school bus

When rocks and jeers greeted some of the children, Boston's image was scarred forever. [MORE...](#)

JetBlue flight makes unscheduled landing at Logan Airport

The plane may have been struck by lightning on its way to Bermuda from New York's John F. Kennedy Airport. [MORE...](#)



12/16/13 | SECOND OF TWO PARTS

Frustration on all fronts in struggle over child's future

The Justina Pelletier case sheds light on the fact that there are few good paths to resolution once doctors are convinced that parents are harming their child. [MORE...](#)



Harvard gives humanitarian award to Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi

The activist urged people to go out into the world and prove for themselves that hatred is rooted in fear. [MORE...](#)



Overcrowded and at risk: A way of life and, sometimes, death for student tenants

Every year they come, thousands of students whose dreams help drive Boston, but who must increasingly scrounge for housing off campus. A Globe investigation finds they are easy targets for scofflaw landlords whom the city seems unable, or unwilling, to control. [MORE...](#)



Boston boosts diversity in preparing for exam school tests

Boston's school system this year made an effort to recruit black and Latino students to the Exam School Initiative. [MORE...](#)



Winthrop official takes 7-way state Senate race

Joseph Boncore beat out a crowded field in the Democratic primary, according to unofficial results. [MORE...](#)

SPOTLIGHT FOLLOW-UP



State acts on simultaneous surgeries

The move comes in the wake of a series of reports by the Globe Spotlight Team about double-booked operations. [MORE...](#)



Charter debate focuses on funding, equity issues

A charter school supporter accused officials of not adequately educating all students, during a tense debate Tuesday. [MORE...](#)



What happens next after the jury's decision?

A formal sentencing hearing will be scheduled, at which time Dzhokhar Tsarnaev will be given the option of addressing the court. [MORE...](#)



In Ghana, he's royalty. In Worcester, he's just Harry.

Harry Danso, a middle-aged middle manager at an endoscopy company, is also known as Nana Awuah Panin III, a royal chief in his native country. [MORE...](#)



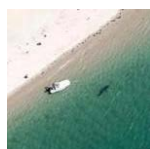
From Marathon calamity, newlyweds' bond deepens

The first blast cost each of them part of a limb, but Patrick Downes and Jessica Kensky share a resolve to figure out life together. [MORE...](#)



Haverhill parents may have overdosed

Two children found their parents dead Saturday and the mayor said they were the latest victims of the city's heroin epidemic. [MORE...](#)



The realization hit: The shark was right there.

A family came unbelievably close to a 14-foot predator on a stretch of secluded Chatham beach. [MORE...](#)

READING

Library in Reading to shut down during move

The library project at 64 Middlesex Ave. took nearly two years to complete and cost nearly \$27 million. [MORE...](#)



Dzhokhar Tsarnaev says he called brother to synchronize blasts

Tsarnaev told investigators he didn't care if his friends got hurt, according to court records unsealed Monday. [MORE...](#)



EVAN HOROWITZ | QUICK STUDY

Heroin, prescription opioids form especially toxic mix in Mass.

A substantial and spiking number of overdoses in Massachusetts involves both heroin and prescription drugs. [MORE...](#)

FROM THE ARCHIVES | JAN. 13, 1967

Albert DeSalvo is 'Boston Strangler'



Sensation followed sensation in a crowded Middlesex Superior Courtroom as DeSalvo's lawyer and a psychiatrist said the defendant had told them of committing 13 murders in an 18-month period. [MORE...](#)

SPOTLIGHT REPORT

Private schools, painful secrets

More than 200 victims. At least 90 legal claims. At least 67 private schools in New England. This is the story of hundreds of students sexually abused by staffers, and emerging from decades of silence today. [MORE...](#)

A cyclist's mecca, with lessons for Boston

By innovating ways for cars and bikes to share the road, the Dutch have set the safety standard. [MORE...](#)

How good is your child's school district? These numbers are a place to start

Data on spending per student, average class size, SAT scores, attendance rates, and more, are available from the state's Education Department. [MORE...](#)

Justina Pelletier heads home after judge ends state custody

Pelletier will be in the custody of her parents Wednesday, ending a 16-month battle with Mass. over control of the teen. [MORE...](#)

Teen stabbed six times in Melrose; suspects flee

The 17-year-old male was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. [MORE...](#)

SJC rules Mass. failed to issue proper regulations to cut emissions

Environmental advocates hailed the decision by the state's high court's as a landmark. [MORE...](#)



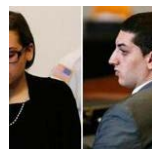
Somerville eyes zoning code to match its hip reputation

The city's set of regulations are not quite as "hip" as Somerville's reputation. [MORE...](#)



Hate parking tickets? Avoid Boston at these times

You are more likely to get a parking ticket in a handful of downtown blocks, especially around lunchtime from Tuesday through Friday. [MORE...](#)



Pair in Snapchat sex assault get 4-5 years in prison

The two were convicted of assault to rape, indecent assault and battery, and kidnapping in the attack that was carried out in the woods and shared on Snapchat. [MORE...](#)



New state law is intended to prevent animal suffering

Bystanders can now enter other people's cars to rescue trapped, overheated animals, if the owners cannot be found. [MORE...](#)

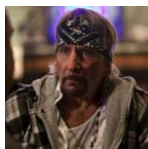


Last downtown fabric shop feels pull of time

When Winnil Fabrics closes in June, it means downtown Boston won't have a full-service fabric store. [MORE...](#)

Great White's frontman has struggled with fire's legacy

Jack Russell, 52, has fallen a long way since that night 10 years ago when he preened before a



packed house in The Station nightclub. [MORE...](#)



Milestone for Allston outreach: first student to attend Harvard

The university's Ed Portal opened in 2008 as a conduit to the community. [MORE...](#)



Second boater in high-speed crash in Taunton has died

Stephen Joy, 67, of Bangor, Maine, died Thursday in Providence, authorities said. [MORE...](#)



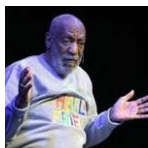
It just got harder to get into Harvard

Harvard University accepted a slim 5.2 percent of applicants to the Class of 2020 — the lowest number ever offered admission at the college. [MORE...](#)



Ballot question on charter schools divides Democrats

State committee members will discuss the measure when they gather Tuesday night in Lawrence. [MORE...](#)



UMass Amherst cuts ties with Bill Cosby

The university joined a number of other colleges that have distanced themselves from the entertainer. [MORE...](#)

Marblehead home razed after 18-year legal battle



Neighbors said the house blocked light and harbor views, setting off a battle that lasted 18 years and cost hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees. [MORE...](#)



Baker orders new rules to reduce greenhouse emissions

The order comes after a court ruling that the state has not done enough to meet its obligations. [MORE...](#)



Commuter rail cited as source of most T fare evasion

More than 80 percent of the \$42 million cited by the agency is estimated to come from the rail lines, officials said. [MORE...](#)

State Senate votes to remove FID requirement for pepper spray

The state House and Senate are on record unanimously supporting access to the spray without a firearm identification card. [MORE...](#)



CATCHING UP WITH

Catching Up With ... Pam Kuong, Wellesley High/Ohio Wesleyan athletics

A senior vice president at Bank of America, she will tee off in her fifth USGA Senior Women's Amateur Saturday. [MORE...](#)



City teaching-training effort didn't have state approval

The stumble is a setback for a program that aims to increase the diversity of Boston's teaching force. [MORE...](#)

Strange visitor from the South (a manatee) is spotted off Cape Cod



At least a half-dozen sightings have been reported since mid-August of a manatee that probably ambled up the East Coast from Florida. [MORE...](#)

Lynn police investigating overnight shooting

Lynn police are investigating an overnight shooting that left one man with life-threatening injuries after he was shot in the head. [MORE...](#)

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