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In 2010 we're seeing the introduction of many spray products labeled as nontoxic bed bug treatments for your home and work place. Most are nothing more than common natural garden sprays relabeled for a different use. The EPA, FDA and Department of Agriculture require relabeling of a product when recommended for another use even if the product is already available under another name be it a generic name or name brand you recognize.

Some of these new releases claim to kill the bugs and their larvae and soon you can bet Home Depot and other box stores will be carrying them. We at Dirt Works can't test every new product that comes out so we hope these things work and aren't just another hyped up product delivered by China to the consumer market.

Even if they work as stated there's nothing on the market that can give you the safety and long term results that diatomaceous earth gives you because all liquid sprays eventually gas off and go away and need reapplication. Diatomaceous Earth kills by physical action. Insects can never become immune to it. Since diatomaceous earth is a mined mineral from the earth, once applied it remains in place until some one either vacuums it up or wipes the treated area clean.

We recommend doing this after your first application to pick up any and all dead bugs and their eggs etc. and then reapplying it and leaving it down for good. Diatomaceous Earth, unlike sprays can be used as a permanent barrier to insect infestations in new construction as well.

Before installing the sills apply a generous amount of diatomaceous earth to the top of the foundation wall and both sides of the sill seal and flashing if used. Once a building is framed diatomaceous earth can be applied to all the sill areas and wall cavities and under the kick spaces of installed cabinets. Once these areas are sealed the DE works as a permanent barrier to any insect that tries to enter the house by that means.

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