

Subject: RE: Public Record Request - Bedbugs at Northern State Correctional Facility

From: "LaCroix, Shawntel" <Shawntel.LaCroix@vermont.gov>

Date: Wed, 29 May 2024 17:47:50 +0000

To: Marina Brown <catskillmarina@gmail.com>

Hi Marina,

Thank you for your patience, The Department of Corrections has received a response from the Northern State Correctional Facility regarding your Public Records Request 51649. This request can be found below in your original email for a list of the requested items.

Northern State Correctional Facility has not had any cases of bedbugs in 2023 or 2024.

Our medical intake asks about bedbugs (attached is our questionnaire) We do not have any policies regarding bedbugs. We do take precautions by having the mattresses in a protective plastic covering. We rent our buildings from our Building and General Services Department they would be the ones to establish a contract with an exterminator if needed. Here is the email address to make a records request with them, BGS.RecordsRequest@vermont.gov.

Sincerely,
Shawntel LaCroix
Records and Information Tech III
State of Vermont | Department of Corrections
NOB South | 280 State Drive | Waterbury, VT 05671
802-241-0069 | Shawntel.LaCroix@vermont.gov

My work hours may not be your work hours. Please do not feel obligated to reply outside your normal work schedule.

-----Original Message-----

From: Marina Brown <catskillmarina@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:15 AM

To: LaCroix, Shawntel <Shawntel.LaCroix@vermont.gov>

Subject: Public Record Request - Bedbugs at Northern State Correctional Facility

[You don't often get email from catskillmarina@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Under the Vermont Public Records Law, Â§315 et seq., I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of records of the following:

Any policies regarding BedBug control and infestation at Northern State Correctional Facility. This would include complaints about BedBugs, policies regarding BedBugs and their extermination and any settled contracts for exterminators dealing with this problem.

I am seeking these records in the span of 2023 and 2024.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$20. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the control of BedBugs in VT prisons.

I am a citizen journalist who is gathering this information in the public interest This information is not being sought for commercial purposes however it may be shared with commercial media.

The law requires a response to this request within 2 days, or within 10 days for extraordinary circumstances. If you expect a significant delay in fulfilling this request, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records. If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law. Thank you for considering my request.

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Marina Brown