

Rats and other vermin

How to prevent them from
making themselves at home
in your home

October 15, 2019

What attracts rats?

- Long grass
- Exterior waste and debris
- Garbage (food sources)



Step 1 – Prevention

- Eliminate long grass and weeds
- Properly contain waste and debris
- Remove food sources
- Identify possible points of entry into a dwelling



Identification of infestation



- **Look for evidence (outdoors)**
 - Look for places where vermin live.
 - Look for droppings.
 - Look for holes and gnaw marks on wood and plastic garbage cans
 - Check walls and grass for signs of runways.



Identification of infestation

- **Look for evidence (indoors)**
 - Small black feces
 - Chewed food and packaging
 - Chewed areas on walls



Addressing the problem

- **Clean up**
 - Wash away droppings and track marks
 - Get rid of clutter
 - Remove long grass and weeds



Addressing the problem

• Control



- Discard any food with evidence of rodent activity that cannot be washed, rinsed and sanitized
- Wash, rinse and sanitize foods such as canned goods that may have been contaminated
- Store dry goods in metal, glass or thick plastic containers
- Keep kitchen and storage areas clean
- Get rid of water sources such as leaky taps, sweating pipes and open drains
- Do not leave pet food out

Addressing the Problem

- **Safe clean up**

- Wear rubber, latex or vinyl gloves and a dust mask
- Spray feces with water solution and let soak prior to clean up
- Use a paper towel to pick up feces/urine/nesting materials and dispose in garbage
- Use soap to clean and then a bleach and water solution (100ppm) to disinfect the area
- Wash gloved hands
- Wash hands after removing gloves

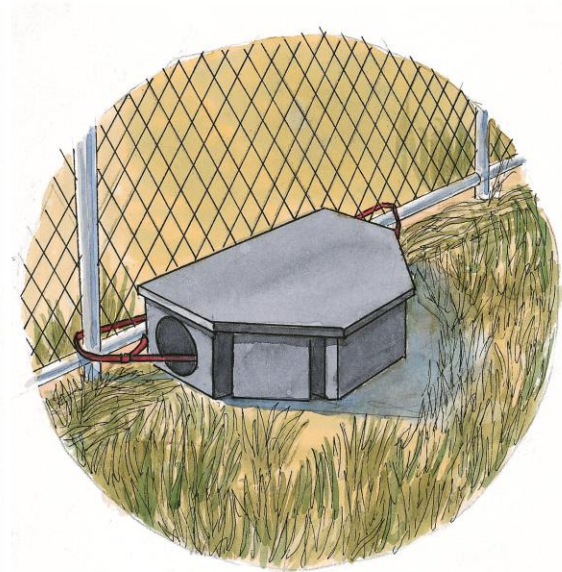
Addressing the problem

- Shut them out
 - Seal cracks and small holes
 - Fill large gaps and holes
 - Close burrows



Addressing the problem

- Rodent baiting/trapping
- Engaging pest control specialist



What's my responsibility?

- **Property owner/landlord**
 - maintaining the property in a clean and tidy condition
 - provide sufficient and proper waste receptacles
 - deal quickly and effectively with any infestation within the dwelling
 - maintain the building in good repair

What's my responsibility?

- **Tenant:**
 - maintain the property and the dwelling in a clean and tidy condition
 - notify the landlord of any infestation immediately so that it can be addressed
 - make sure garbage is properly contained in receptacles.

How can I file a report?



- Call 3-1-1 and a case will be created
- A By-law Officer will be assigned

What will By-law do?

- **Exterior sightings:** a By-law Officer will attend and address any exterior issues such as long grass, waste and debris, improper/insufficient receptacles. Sewers will then be notified and asked to bait the sewers in the area
- **Interior infestation:** a Bylaw Officer will investigate and ensure property owner addresses the issue

Questions?

