

RODENT PREVENTION TIPS

- Keep unit clean.
- Seal all holes around pipes, heating ducts and under cabinets.
- Regularly clean all hidden areas under stoves and refrigerators,
- Store garbage in metal or heavy plastic containers with tight fitting lids.
- Remove debris near buildings and in yards.
- Plug holes in dumpsters.
- Do not leave pet food outside.
- Hire a licensed, insured pest control company familiar with IPM (Integrated Pest Management) techniques.
- Keep grass and shrubbery well trimmed.
- Place bird food in a feeder, not on the ground and clean up spillage daily.
- Animal waste is a food source, clean frequently!
- Be sure to seal any openings to the house, even above ground level.
- Repair any breaks in the sewer line connecting your home with the main sewer system.

DID YOU KNOW?



The Norway Rat (*Rattus Norvegicus*) is the most common rat in the North East Region.

These rats are heavy set, light brown to almost black.

Their droppings are capsule shaped, about three quarters of an inch long.

Rats generally live for one year at which time they can have six to twelve "pups" per litter, up to seven times a year.

Rats burrow in the ground, under buildings and rubbish; usually living well within 150 feet of food and water source.

Rats require roughly one ounce of food a day and a half ounce of water. They feed habitually on familiar food, preferring meats and grains.



Boston Inspectional Services
Environmental Services Division
1010 Mass Ave 4th Fl.
Boston, MA 02118
Tel. 617-961-3422
Fax. 617-635-5388

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION



Nationally Recognized Leader
in Addressing Rodent Control
in the Urban Environment

PEST MANAGEMENT Brochure



MAYOR
Martin J. Walsh

COMMISSIONER
William "Buddy" Christopher, Jr.

The City of Boston's Environmental Services Division Operates on Five Basic Principles:

- Public Education
- Improve Sanitation Practices
- Proactive Prevention
- Rapid Response
- Enforcement

Functions of the Environmental Services Division are:

- Rapidly respond to rodent and trash complaints.
- Conduct inspections.
- Emergency trapping and rodent baiting.
- Monitor and treat rodent activity on city property.
- Review construction plans and rodent control specifications.
- Inspect and monitor all *permitted construction sites* for rodent activity.
- Enforce the State Sanitary Code,
- Site Cleanliness Enforcement.

Documenting Rodent Sightings

Upon receiving a complaint a Health Inspector will conduct a full comprehensive inspection, at which time the inspector will attempt to identify the food/water source and the exact area of infestation and activity.

Violations

If infestation or activity is found, abatement notices will be written and served upon the property owner/manager.



Hearings

If the violation is not corrected a notice to appear at an Administrative Hearing will be served upon the owner or manager of the property. Hearings are conducted by a Hearing Officer, at which time the Inspector will give testimony of the conditions of the property, the violations cited and the date and time of the re-inspection.

The property owner/manager is given the opportunity to discuss the conditions of the property and what has or will be done to bring the property up to code. The Hearing Officer will take all testimony into consideration and render his/her decision within 7 days. All hearings are held at 1010 Mass Ave. 4th Floor Conference Room, Boston, MA.

What are Rodenticides?

Rodenticides are baiting mechanisms used to kill rats, mice and any other rodents. These pesticides come in different variations such as: liquid, pellets, dust and blocks all of which can only be purchased by a licensed pest control operator.

Where are Rodenticides Placed?

Most rodenticides are placed sub-surface, where heavy activity occurs.

Trappings

Trappings can take place all year round particularly during the change of seasons known as "breeding seasons."



Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

An IPM program utilizes all suitable control methods to keep pest populations below the economic injury level. Methods include cultural practices, use of biological, physical and genetic controlled agents and the selective use of pesticides.

Construction Sites

In accordance with Massachusetts Building Code, section 108.6; Massachusetts State Sanitary Code, Ch. 1, 105 CMR400.100 and Ch. II, 105CMR 410.550 and the City of Boston Code, Ordinance Chapter 16-§31 and Ch. 9, §1.2, it is established that the control or rodent infestation is a precondition for the issuance of a building permit to do work.

City of Boston Code Ordinance

16-31 Rodent Inspection Prevention Measures at Construction Site state:

No building permit shall be issued for renovation, conversion, or new construction until the applicant shows evidence that the premises have been treated for, or are free from insects and rodents in compliance with all applicable codes. The contractor/applicant shall be held responsible for corrective measures should the construction, renovation or conversion work cause infestation to immediate abutters.



