

Rodent Control Guidelines

Building Inspection Services

- The Morton Grove Building Inspection Services Department's rodent control program includes: inspection for rats, treatment of burrows, and ensuring that preventative measures are in place.
- Treatment for rodent control involves baiting with rodenticide in a secure manner for residential properties.
 - *This allows for:* investigation and tracking of rodent service requests; and provides measures for property maintenance.

To Know

- Attractants such as food, water, and shelter are what helps rats survive in residential areas. Rodents will consume almost any food that they have access to; needing only 1 ounce of food & ½ ounce of water each day.
- Rodents can cause extensive damage to homes and structures, as they can chew through almost any type of material, including: pipes, wood, walls, plastic, aluminum siding, sheet rock, and electrical wiring.
 - Moreover, they are attached to compost piles, pet waste debris, and rotting wood piles on the property.

To Do

- Rat activity can be controlled and prevented by: bagging garbage securely in containers, picking up fallen bird seed, cleaning up after dogs, discarding clutter, and maintaining property.
- Enacting measures such as preventative maintenance and good sanitation will help in making the environment less suitable for rodents to thrive in. Rat proof construction includes making the necessary repairs of sealing all holes and cracks found in foundations, walls, floors, under doors, and by windows.
- The presence of mice is the responsibility of the homeowner to address.

Village

- Managing the rodent population is a community effort.
 - When rodent problems occur, the community needs to work together to eliminate sources of food, water, and shelter.
- Remember that baiting alone is not an effective elimination method.
 - It takes coordinated and sustained efforts to control rats.
- Homeowners agree to do their part by eliminating rodent attractants as listed above; as these attractants hinder MGPD's ability to properly treat for rodent populations. Code enforcement will be referred to for action in applicable cases.

For questions regarding rodents, baiting, or items mentioned in this guide, please call: (847) 470-5200.

This publication is for information and is intended as a guide only