



How To Control Rats In Your Neighborhood

Eliminate Food Sources

1. Do not allow bird seed to accumulate under feeders. Remove feeders if rat activity is identified on your or your neighbor's property.
2. Use metal or heavy duty plastic garbage cans with tight fitting lids. Replace garbage cans with cracks, holes or missing lids.
3. Remove fruit and nuts that have fallen from trees on your property. Fruits and vegetables from gardens should be picked up promptly when ripened.
4. Remove pet food dishes and leftovers promptly after feeding. Do not leave pet food outside overnight. Remove pet waste frequently.

Remove Harborage Areas

1. Store lumber, firewood and other materials at least eighteen (18) inches off the ground.
2. Groundcover, landscaping and dense vegetation provide harborage. Monitor these areas for signs of rat activity or remove them.
3. Seal any openings to your home and garage. These include garage door seals, openings where utilities enter, dryer vents and floor drains.

Use Effective Extermination Methods

1. Rat burrows should be baited with EPA approved rodenticide pellets, following the label directions. For questions about bait station location, please call St. Louis County Vector Control at 314-727-3097.
2. If burrows cannot be located, locked bait stations containing rodenticide blocks should be placed in areas where rat activity is located.
3. If residents prefer, they can hire a private pest control service to treat their property for them. Be sure that any professional you use is licensed, bonded and certified.