

RODENT PREVENTION

- Keep unit clean
- Seal holes around pipes, heating ducts and under cabinets
- Clean under stoves and refrigerators on a regular basis
- Keep yard clean, cut grass
- Store garbage in metal or heavy plastic containers with tight-fitting lids
- Remove debris
- 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, clean spillage daily
- Clean animal waste frequently
- Seal openings to the house, including above ground level
- Repair breaks in the sewer line
- Clean vacant lots

DID YOU KNOW?

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

- Slightly heavy set, light brown almost black
- Droppings are capsule shaped, 3/4 " long
Generally live for one year at which time they can have six to twelve "pups" per litter, up to seven times a year. Burrow in the ground, under buildings and rubbish; usually living well within 150" of food and water source.
- Require roughly one ounce of food a day and a half ounce of water. They feed habitually on familiar food, preferring meats and grains, and are cautious of new items or new food.
- Jumps up to three feet and climb wires and pipe very well.
- May carry the following diseases:
 - Leptospirosis
 - Salmonellosis
 - Rat bite fever
 - The plague

ENGLISH



PEST MANAGEMENT

CONTACT

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FUNCTIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

- Rapidly respond to rodent and trash complaints
- Emergency trapping and rodent baiting
- Monitors and treats rodent activity on city property
- Review construction plans and rodent control specifications
- Inspect and monitor all permitted construction sites in the City of Boston for rodent activity
- Enforce the State Sanitary Code
- Site Cleanliness Enforcement

DOCUMENTING RODENT SIGHTINGS

Upon receiving a complaint a Health Inspector will conduct an inspection of the property and adjacent area. The inspector will attempt to identify the food source and the exact area of infestation.

VIOLATION

If an infestation is found abatement notices will be written and served upon the property owner/manager. A compliance inspection will be conducted within 7-10 business days after the initial inspection.

HEARINGS

If the violation(s) 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 as to the conditions of the property, the violations cited and the date and time of the re-inspection.

The property owner/manager will also be given an opportunity to discuss the conditions of the property, what has been 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.

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 of which can only be purchased by a licensed pest control operator. 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-Section 31 and Ch. 9, Section 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.