



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

“Building Pride in Providence”

Rodent Prevention Tips

Tips on Keeping Rodents Away

- Keep property clean and free of debris/trash/bulky items.
- Seal all holes around pipes, heating ducts and under cabinets.
- Clean all hidden areas under stoves and refrigerators on a regular basis.
- Keep yard clean and maintained regularly.
- Store trash properly in bags in carts and have collected weekly.
- Store recycling properly NOT in bags in carts and have collected weekly.
- Remove weeds and debris near buildings and in yards.
- Do not leave pet food outside.
- Keep grass and shrubbery well-trimmed.
- Place bird food in a feeder, not on the ground, and clean up spillage daily.
- Clean up animal waste 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, and are cautious of new items or new food.
- Rats can jump up to three feet and climb wires and pipe very well. Keep doors and windows screened with half-inch mesh hardware cloth.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR PROPERTY IS PROPERLY MAINTAINED TO HELP EVERYONE ENJOY PROVIDENCE!