

RATS AND RODENTS: IMPORTANT INFORMATION



NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERN

There has been an increase in rat sightings in your neighborhood and we need your help. Rats are not beneficial to the environment and carry diseases, some of which are deadly to humans and pets. Rats can also spread these harmful diseases onto food supplies (garden vegetables and water supplies). In an effort to eliminate rats and the public health concerns they create, we need your help in eliminating their sources of food and places for rats to live and reproduce. They will eat just about anything. They can get into any openings larger than a quarter inch. They will live anywhere close to food sources and water.

DOING YOUR PART

- *Keep your property clean. Store garbage and trash in tightly covered bins.*
- *Do not leave pet food, bird feed or other food items outside or in areas accessible to rats.*
- *Keep landscaped areas around your home and property free of tall weeds. Trim shrubs that are close to the ground. Avoid storing yard waste on your property for longer than a week.*
- *Seal/fill all cracks, holes or openings greater than a quarter inch around in the foundation of your building, garage, sheds, etc. Seal under doors and around windows.*



TRAPS & BAITS

BBHD recommends hiring a licensed Exterminator or Pest Control Applicator. If you choose to use traps, chemicals or baits, PLEASE follow directions. Poisons must be placed in bait boxes to prevent access from children or pets.



EXTERMINATE

BBHD strongly encourages you contact your neighbors to collectively hire a licensed exterminator to treat your entire neighborhood. This will be most effective and reduce the overall costs to each property owner.



PREVENTION

Extermination can be very effective at eliminating rats, but they will return unless you continue to do your part and avoid creating an environment that invites rats. Keep your property clean, well maintained, and free of bulky waste and debris.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



BRISTOL-BURLINGTON HEALTH DISTRICT

240 Stafford Avenue, Bristol, Connecticut 06010-4617
Tel. (860) 584-7682 • Fax (860) 584-3814 • www.bbhd.org

Healthy People



Healthy Communities