

BE A RAT BUSTER!

If you own property, a store, or a restaurant, there are efforts you can make to keep rats away. **Clean the area thoroughly and make sure your trash is in cans or metal dumpsters and that trash is picked up in a timely manner. Clean the sidewalks surrounding your establishment to remove any food.** Watch out for rat holes, droppings and other warning signs.

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST MOUSE AND RAT BITES

Many people use glue traps to catch mice and rats. Even though glue traps use no poisons, they can still pose risks to people. Improper handling can cause a mouse or a rat caught in the trap to bite you. Here is how to use a glue trap safely:

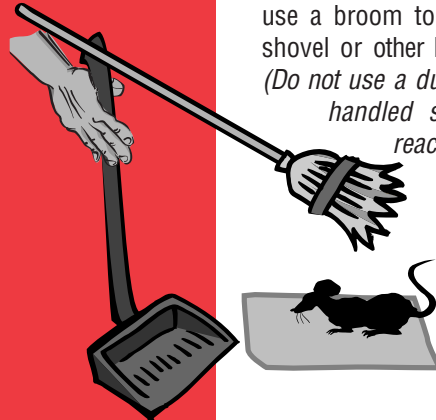
1. *Always* place traps out of the reach of children and pets or other animals.

2. *Never* touch a glue trap with your hands or try to separate the trap from a mouse or rat it has captured.

Regular gloves will NOT protect you from being bitten.



HOW TO USE A GLUE TRAP SAFELY



3. **A mouse:** If the trap has captured a mouse, use a broom to push the trap onto a dust pan or shovel. Use the dust pan or shovel to slip the trap with the mouse still on it into a plastic bag. Place the plastic bag in the garbage.

4. **A rat:** If the trap has captured a rat, use a broom to push the trap onto a shovel or other LONG-HANDLED scoop. *(Do not use a dust pan or other short-handled scoop. The rat could reach out to bite you.)* Use the shovel or long-handled scoop to slip the trap with the rat still on it into a plastic bag. Place the plastic bag in the garbage.

5. *Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.*

For more information on glue traps or any rodent related issue, call Pest Control Services at (718) 956-7102.

TO REPORT A RODENT PROBLEM OR OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEB SITE OR CALL

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DON'T BE A RAT FEEDER BE A RAT BUSTER!



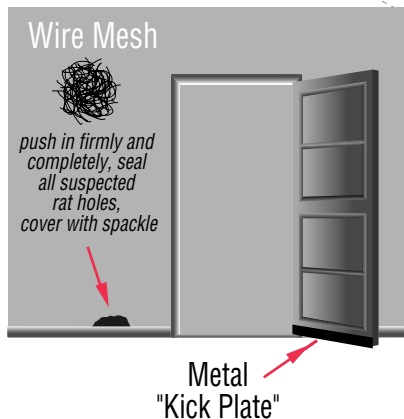
DON'T BE A RAT FEEDER!

USE THE CAN

Put your trash in a plastic or paper bag and then put it into the garbage can in your building or home. **Seal the lid on the can.** Garbage cans should be cleaned once a week with soap and water.

Make it hard for rats to get at food. **Use your refrigerator** and other sealed containers for your groceries. Sweep up at the end of the night so there are no crumbs around. **Mop the floor** at least once a week with hot water and a household cleaner. Be sure to **wash off any food and grease drippings on stoves.**

Groceries like meats, fish, fruits, vegetables, cheese, and milk should be kept in a refrigerator. Keep dry foods like rice, beans, sugar, flour, cereals, and dried fruits in tightly covered jars and metal containers. Plastic bags reduce odor that might attract rats. Raw, uncooked potatoes and onions should be hung in bags or kept in the refrigerator. **Empty liquids (except oils and fats) into the sink, not into the garbage can.**



PLUG IT UP

Rats can get into your home from the outside through holes and openings. **Look for rat holes** on floors and in out-of-the-way spaces like closets or behind the stove. **To plug a rat hole, place wire mesh (copper, stainless steel, or aluminum) in the hole, and then cover the hole with spackle or a sealant that hardens.** To block the space between the door and the floor, attach a sheet metal "kick plate" to the door with screws. Wire mesh, spackle, and "kick plates" are readily available at your local hardware store. Also, you can mix cement with crushed glass and apply it to the building exterior where there are holes.

KEEP YOUR HOME CLEAN

Rats prefer to live in cluttered spaces and usually follow their droppings to navigate. **Wipe away rat droppings with antibacterial soap. Keep your papers, clothes, and magazines off the floor** because these litter piles can become cozy nests for rats. Along with your home and neighborhood, empty lots and buildings are ideal places for rats to nest. Remove all lumber, brick piles, junk autos, tires, old equipment, and other large debris from yards or lots.

Wipe up Rat Droppings with Antibacterial Detergent. Rats use Droppings as Trail Markers to Return to Food



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KNOW YOUR ENEMY

Rats need three things to survive: **food, water, and shelter.** They learn fast and **are able to climb anywhere,** as well as jump surprisingly high and squeeze through tiny 1/4" openings. Rats can spread disease by their droppings and they can carry disease-causing pests like lice, fleas, ticks, and mites. Female rats can produce 39 babies a year. **To defeat them, we must cut off their access to food, water, and shelter.**

CALL THE EXTERMINATOR

When the exterminator arrives, **ask to check his/her license to verify certification by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.** If you have children or pets, notify the exterminator before your house is baited. Store your food and clean your home thoroughly, picking up any piles of clutter, so the exterminator can effectively bait your home. To ensure awareness of the poison placement, **walk with the exterminator around your home. Rat poison should be placed where your pets and children can't reach.**

After the exterminator leaves, check for new rat droppings. **If new droppings appear and the bait is untouched, you may need to call the exterminator again to place bait in different areas.**

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