

RAT PREVENTION TIPS

Rat Management Training July 15, 2015

By Caroline Bragdon cbragdon@health.nyc.gov

Compiled by: Charlie at Challenge PestChallenge@gmail.com



What the NYC Dept Of Health (DOH, DOHMH) looks for...

- Adequate garbage cans (covered). Means no bags on floor. No excuses! They expect enough cans to store 72-hours worth of trash.
- Rat Droppings. Must be removed DAILY. Schedule it. Inside, outside, everywhere on your property.
- Damaged sidewalk or curb where garbage placed outside for sanitation pick up. Landlord responsibility even for curb in regards to Ratburrows.
- Holes in foundation walls (exterior) and sidewalks.
- Trampled foliage forming pathways from Rats along building foundation.
- Rub/Smudge marks (body oils from Rat/Mice skin). Ratburrows anywhere on property, even the curb. Especially in earthen spaces. *Anywhere!*
- Gnaw marks on wood or wires.
- Exposed or improperly placed rodenticides (poison). Anything not in Bait Stations.
- They open Bait Stations to study what methods being used, to check if adequate and accurate etc.

Designing a Pest Management Plan for property owners/managers...

- Establish roles (who will do what).
- Inspect outside for droppings/burrows.
- Educate residents.
- Clean garbage areas daily, manage trash properly,
- Plug up holes, Seal up cracks, vents.

- Screen windows and Seal doors.
- Work with a pest professional to apply pesticides.

Where to inspect...

- Common areas.
- Entry ways.
- Basement.
- Dumpster. Yards/Green spaces/Planters. Trash Chutes.
- Compactor Room.
- Anywhere there has been a complaint.

Treatment Schedules...

- For a severe rodent infestation, 4-6 weekly visits are required.
- Pest professional should inspect entire area of infestation on every visit.
- Return visits are for monitoring knockdown.
- Pest professional should install Tamper-Resistant bait stations in areas of infestation.
- In areas with active rat burrows, these should be treated on a weekly basis until all are inactive.
- A 90% knockdown is ideal to prevent rebound.

Suggestions from DOH...

- Power Wash areas rodents attracted to (garbage "juice") and to remove rodent urine/feces etc. Use a 10% bleach solution.
- Seal door gaps with "Sealeze" (brand) door sweeps. It's not rubber so rodents can't chew through it. Can be bought in bulk.
- Use "Xcluder" (brand) stainless steel mesh (wrap) for pipes.
- Snap Traps are ok for bldg staff to place. Just not poisons. No poisons or bait of any kind are allowed in NYC to be used by bldg staff. Only a DEC licensed exterminator may place such in rental properties.
- Tenants "Log Book" for anyone to record their sightings of rodents. And proof that exterminator addressed it (Report from exterminator or Bldg Mgmt detailing what they found upon review of complaint, how resolved etc.).
- Place garbage for sanitation pick up closer to the pickup time if possible. Leaving it outside at curb all night invites rats to the area.

- Prevent Pigeon & Cat feeders from leaving food outside which inevitably attracts rats.

From: Caroline Bragdon (cbragdon@health.nyc.gov)
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2015 11:44 AM
To: Challenge Exterminating Service
Subject: RE: Rat Academy seminar yesterday 7/15/15

Hi Charlie – these notes are excellent! Thanks for sharing them - I like this for a cheat sheet as take home messages. I am glad the seminar was useful.

Caroline Bragdon, MPH

Director of Neighborhood Interventions

Veterinary and Pest Control Services New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

125 Worth Street, Room 214, Box CN32P

Phone: 646-632-6549

Cell: 646-957-0247

e-mail: cbragdon@health.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/rats

From: Challenge Exterminating Service [mailto:PestChallenge@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 5:50 PM
To: Caroline Bragdon
Subject: Rat Academy seminar yesterday 7/15/15

Hi Caroline, first of all thank you for your clear and informative Rat Academy seminar yesterday.