



A good way to control a rodent problem is to get rid of any potential food or shelter.

Here are some tips to prevent and control an infestation....



How to Prevent a Rodent Problem

The information provided is based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations and guidelines.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Vector Control and Code Enforcement
503-988-3464
www.mchealth.org/vector

**Multnomah County
Health Department
Vector Control and
Code Enforcement**
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Don't Feed Them

- Keep garbage in metal containers with tight fitting lids and empty often.
- Keep dog, cat, and other animal food in metal cans. Do not leave pet food in the bowl more than an hour.
- Remove bird and wildlife feeders.
- Compost should be contained in bins made of hard plastic with air holes no more than 1/4 inch in diameter. Foods may increase an infestation.
- Fallen fruits and nuts, including the pits of fruit trees, should be picked up daily.
- Keep your food stored in glass jars or rodent-proof containers.
- Keep pet droppings from accumulating.

Reappearing Hole in the Yard

A smooth-looking hole in your yard that reappears when filled could indicate a sewer line break and a rat problem. Call the City of Portland Maintenance Bureau at 503-823-1700 to investigate. If the line is broken, it must be repaired. If not, rats will be a *continuous* problem.

Using Poisons

Poisons (rodenticides) can be used outside and tamper-resistant bait stations reduce the chances of poisoning other animals. Caution should be used when using poisons. Always read and follow directions on the label or you may choose to enlist the service of a pest control company.

Don't Give Them a Home

- Keep debris cleared.
- Remove abandoned automobiles, furniture, and appliances.
- Cap disconnected rain drains.
- Firewood and lumber should be stored away from walls and 18 inches off the ground.
- Keep yards free from overgrown brush, weeds, and tall grass. Keep plants away from foundation of house.
- Communicate and work with neighbors to prevent future rodent problems.

