



Customer Bulletin

Is Your Family Protected?



Rattus rattus - actual size

AMAZING CHARACTERISTICS

RATS: In a year, one pair of rats can produce about 20 offspring. As they move through a building, they leave behind 20-50 fecal droppings per day. With each of those offspring interbreeding, and if left unchecked, the number of rats and their residue will multiply geometrically with alarming results!

Additionally, RATS can:

- Gain entrance through any opening that is larger than 1/2 inch square
- Jump vertically as much as 36 inches or horizontally 48 inches from a flat surface
- Climb brick and other rough exterior walls, plus vines, shrubs, and trees, as well as travel along telephone or power lines to gain access to upper stories
- Swim as far as 1/2 mile in open water, dive through water plumbing traps, and travel in sewer lines
- Chew on electrical wires, and thereby are capable of starting fires

MICE: In a year, one pair of mice can produce about 42-60 offspring. As they move through a building, they leave behind 40-100 fecal droppings per day. With each of those offspring interbreeding, and if left unchecked, the number of mice and their residue will multiply geometrically with alarmingly results!

Additionally, MICE can:

- Climb and run up almost any textured wall
- Jump a vertical distance of 12 inches from the floor onto an elevated flat surface
- Jump from a height of 8 feet to the floor without injury
- Squeeze through an opening slightly larger than 1/4 inch in diameter
- Chew on electrical wires, and thereby are capable of starting fires

RODENTS ARE DANGEROUS TO YOUR HEALTH

Following are some vital facts on the results of an ever-increasing population of voracious rats and mice. If not controlled, rodents gathering nesting materials will destroy fabrics, furniture, and food plus, by their filthy habits and habitats, be the source of many serious if not life threatening diseases. Some of the most common are:

Salmonella (food poisoning)

Rodents frequent sewers and other filthy areas where these dangerous bacteria are present. They then go to visit or live in your otherwise spotlessly clean home. As a result there exists a potential for the spread of salmonella to the foods you eat.

Rickettsial pox

Rash, fever, and headache are symptoms of this disease which is very similar to chicken pox. The causative agent of the disease is transmitted by mites from infested mice.

Hantavirus

This disease comes primarily from deer mice. It comes from a virus transmitted when mouse feces or urine is ingested or inhaled by children or adults.

Rat Bite Fever

This infectious bacteria resides in the mouth of both rats and mice. It causes a fever in many of the 50,000 people who are bitten each year in the US.

Rats and mice have been implicated in as many as 55 different diseases, representing a diverse range of pathogens (specific causative agents of disease).

Pathogen	Number of Rodent-Borne Diseases*
Virus	17
Rickettsial	9
Bacterial	20
Protozoan	3
Cestodes	3
Trematodes	1
Nematodes	3

*From Robert Corrigan's *Rodent Control A Practical Guide For Pest Management Professionals* Published by GIE Media, 2001.



Providing you with valuable information for your protection...

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Entrance Points

- Any opening as small as 1/4" to 1/2" square will allow entry and infestation by rodents. As an example, most garage doors have a gap between the door and the threshold. Roofs and vents are other areas subject to unwanted rodent points of entry.

Chewed Electrical Wires

- Rodents will chew most anything. About 40% of home fires of unknown origin are attributed to rodents chewing through electrical wire insulation.

Unexplained Damage

- In gathering materials for nesting, rodents will chew off carpet and fringes, upholstery, drapes and all kinds of fabrics. In addition, rodents may chew through screen doors to gain access to the warmth of a structure. Unexplained damage can mean that rodents have taken up harborage.

Rodent Droppings

- As shown in the photo at right, rodent droppings (fecal matter) are from 1/4" to 1/2" long. Rodents also leave behind in their urine residue chemicals that attract other rodents. In this way rodents new to the area are attracted to entrances used by rodents in the past.

Droppings - actual size



WHAT YOU CAN DO

The first step in controlling rodents is to not attract them to your home or business.

In particular:

- Trash cans must have tight fitting lids
- Indoor and outdoor areas must be kept free from debris
- Pet food must not be left out at night
- Stored dry pet food must be in a strong metal container with a tight fitting lid
- Fallen fruit cannot be left on the ground overnight
- Shrubs and trees must be trimmed back to prevent rodent access to your structure
- Snail infestations are an attractant to roof rats, and should be eliminated



WHAT WESTERN EXTERMINATOR COMPANY CAN DO FOR YOU

- We will survey your property and report to you any conditions that are conducive to attracting rodents.
- If rodents are found outside a structure, we will trap them and/or place tamper-resistant bait stations at strategic outdoor locations to eradicate the infestation.
- We will inspect your structure and report to you any entrance points that might allow rodent infestation. In most cases, we can also perform the corrective repair work.
- If rodents enter a structure, we will set traps to eradicate the infestation. Subsequently we will remove any carcasses, clean up the traps and re-set them as may be necessary until all rodent activity is eliminated.

WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN KEEP RODENTS OUT OF YOUR HOME AND BUSINESS

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