



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
19600 E. EIGHT MILE RD. • HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225-1139

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Telephone 313.343.2570 Fax 313. 343.2507

Dear Resident,

It has been brought to the attention of this department rats have been seen in your area. Please check the areas surrounding your home to make sure you are not providing harborage or food for them. Rats spread disease, breed and multiply at an alarming rate. They will eat most anything. Like most living things, they need food and shelter to survive. By eliminating these items, rodents can be kept in check and eliminated.

The following checklist will help eliminate rodents from breeding in your area.

Keep your yard free of trash.

Use trash cans with tight fitting lids.

Keep yard free of high weeds, brush/branch piles and building materials.

Make sure debris does not collect under wooden decks and porches or along side garage.

Pick up fallen fruit and vegetables from gardens daily.

Clean up dog feces and leftover uneaten food daily.

Firewood must be stored a minimum of eighteen inches above the ground.

If you compost, turn pile daily. Food scraps should not be put in compost piles. This will only invite rats.

Feeding the birds and squirrels on a regular basis can cause rodent problems.

Lastly, rat bait (poison) can be purchased at your local store. **EXTREME CAUTION** should be exercised when using these products. Always follow manufacturer's instructions. These products **MUST** be kept away from children and pets.

Professional exterminators can be hired to address this situation, if need be. Please contact our department if we can provide additional information.