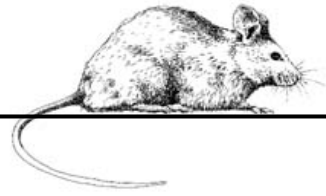


Rodent Elimination In Food Facilities



FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- Openings to outside areas should be protected against the entrance of rodents.** Install tight-fitting doors and windows. Loading dock and delivery doors should be provided with self-closing devices, where practicable, to preclude the entrance of rodents. Any openings between the floor and bottom of outer doors should be protected with rodent-proof material. Seal any openings around pipes passing through wall and cover all floor drains with grates.
- Screen doors should be self-closing.** There should be screens on openable windows. Doors, sky-lights, transoms, intake and exhaust air ducts and other openings to the outside should be tight-fitting and free of breaks. Screening material should be made of metal and not be less than sixteen mesh to the inch.
- Maintain rodent bait stations, glueboards or other control measures around the perimeter of the building and inside the facility.**
- Keep all foods in their original, sealed containers; other closed food containers; or tightly lidded bins.** Elevate all containers up off the floor on shelving. Neatly organized, well cleaned facilities discourage pest activity.
- Outside garbage containers must have tight fitting lids that are kept closed.** Loose garbage, rubbish and other debris should not be allowed to accumulate outside the building.
- Eliminate nesting areas.** This is one of the easiest and most permanent methods for reducing a rodent population both inside and outside of buildings. Use the following landscaping guidelines to reduce the number of rodents around the building:
 1. Thin all trees and shrubbery around the building. Shrubby should be thinned until the ground is visible underneath. This discourages rodents from living in the vegetation or using branches or vines to access roofs or balconies.
 2. An 18 to 24 inch-wide border that is void of all vegetation should surround building foundations. This border may be filled in with pebbled rock to prevent plant growth. Any rodents around the exterior of the building will seek shelter in a rodent bait station.
 3. Eliminate water sources around the building by improving soil drainage and repairing leaking pipes or irrigation lines.
- Contact a licensed pest control operator for assistance in eliminating rodents from all food facilities.**

