Where do rats live?
- Near food sources, in and around garbage cans, and trash piles
- Under overgrown bushes, vines, tall grasses and rocks
- Around pet food dishes, bird feeders and vegetable gardens
- In abandoned cars, appliances and furniture
- Under storage sheds
- Under air conditioning units
- Under firewood

Rodent Control Safety Tips
- Never touch rats, objects they have contaminated, or rat poison.
- Always wear disposable gloves when handling rats, rat bait or when cleaning rat soiled areas.
- Avoid stirring up and breathing dust in these areas.
- Wear a mask to avoid breathing dust particles contaminated by rats.
- To eliminate dust, use a disinfectant to dampen soiled nesting material and droppings before sweeping.
- Wash your hands afterwards.

Some diseases transmitted by rodents
- Rat bite fever (Bacillus moniliformis)
- Salmonellosis (S. typhimurium)
- Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome
- Plague (especially bubonic)
- Leptospirosis
- Fungus causing ringworm

Useful Links
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)
  www.cdc.gov
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  www.epa.gov
- Rhode Island Department of Health
  www.health.ri.gov

Rodent Problems: WE CAN HELP!!
Contact our office for an appointment. We offer FREE rat/rodent bait stations.
City Environmental Inspectors are licensed through the Department of Environmental Management (DEM)

For additional information or to request assistance, please visit:
http://www.pawtucketri.com/departments/zoning

or contact:
CITY OF PAWTUCKET
Division of Zoning and Code Enforcement
Pawtucket City Hall
137 Roosevelt Avenue
Pawtucket, RI 02860
Tel. (401) 728-0500 or
Fax (401) 722-3356
Rats are generally most active at night. They leave telltale signs including:

- **Burrow(s):** Hole(s) in the ground
- **Gnawing:** Bite or nibble
- **Droppings:** Fecal matter
- **Tracks:** A mark or succession of marks left by rats
- **Smears:** Sticky, greasy, or dirty substance on surfaces

**How can I get rid of rats?**

Rats, like people, need a place to live and food to eat. If you eliminate their shelter and food, rat populations can be controlled.

**Eliminate food sources:**
- Eliminate water sources
- Place bird food in a feeder, not on the ground and clean up spillage daily
- Use approved trash cans with tight-fitting lids and keep trash cans covered
- Clean up fallen fruits, berries and nuts from the ground
- Avoid leaving food out for pets
- Clean up animal waste frequently

**Remove shelter:**
- A dilapidated shed or automobile is an invitation to rats. Repair or remove them
- Seal any openings to the house, even above ground level
- Keep doors and windows screened
- Store lumber, firewood or other materials off the ground

**Trap them:**
- Glue traps or glue boards are preferred for indoors use
- An alternative to glue traps is spring-loaded traps. They are effective indoors where poisons may pose a threat to people or pets
- Traps may be baited with peanut butter or with partially cooked bacon
- Mice may be trapped by binding nesting materials to spring-loaded traps
- Follow the directions on the trap package for proper placement and use

**Poison them:**

An effective rat poisoning program requires a fresh, dry supply of bait that is readily available. To kill rats in the shortest time possible, first eliminate all other sources of food, forcing the rats to accept the poison as their only food.

**Poison Rat Baits:**
- Use any properly labeled, EPA approved poison rat bait. These may be bought from your local hardware or garden shop
- For safety and maximum effectiveness, be sure to follow label directions carefully and wear gloves when using any poison
- Always be careful to place rat bait/traps out of the reach of children and pets
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Together We Can Control Rats
Eliminate Food & Harborage

Seal Up! Trap Up! Clean Up!