



City of Clawson

425 N. Main Street / Clawson, Michigan 48017
(248) 435-4500 FAX (248) 435-0515

RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONTROL RODENT POPULATION

We have reports of rodent sightings in Clawson and we have some items that will help keep them from nesting on your property. These are recommendations that you can follow to make sure rats are not stopping on your property to find a food source, or worse yet, digging holes to live and reproduce on your property:

- Place trash bags that are stored outside in cans and make sure that your garbage cans are closed securely with a lid at ALL times to keep rats out.
- Make sure that your trash is taken to the curb every week, so that it is not overflowing or sitting in one place for an extended period of time.
- Do not leave pet food in dishes or bowls outside overnight.
- Promptly clean up pet feces each day.
- If you have a vegetable garden, pick your ripe vegetables as soon as possible and do not leave spoiled vegetables on the ground.
- Bird feeders attract rats because they love bird seed. If you choose to feed the birds, use a proper feeder and please keep them at least 4 feet above ground and use spill-proof feeders preferably on a pole rather than a tree branch.
- Try to dump any contained rain water from toys, pots, or lawn items to prevent a water source
- Keep grass, weeds, and vegetation controlled around the base of foundations for easier inspection.
- Avoid any materials stacked or piled directly on the ground which is attractive to rats.
- Do not leave trash can lids on the ground.
- Maintain any wood or brush piles at a minimum of 18 inches off the ground.
- Maintain compost piles at 18 inches above ground or use an enclosed compost bin.
- Remove old sheds or dog houses.
- Seal any openings in garages or homes to prevent rats from entering. Rats only need ½ inch opening to get into a home or garage.
- Seal holes and cracks in cement porch foundations and watch for burrows around cement slabs and outside structures such as sheds and around and under decks.

If you see rats on or around your property, please call Barbara Chambers at (248) 435-4500 ext. 113. She has been trained to identify burrows or nests and she can make suggestions to get rid of the rats. The City also utilizes the services of Abell Pest Control to safely eliminate the rats and Barb can give you their information for a review and consultation if rats are present on your property. Abell uses products that are safe for other animals and are designed not to hurt pets or children. Using other unauthorized products or poisons can cause illness or death to other animals and this is why we are encouraging you to work with the City to eliminate this problem.