



Inspection and Follow-Up Action Checklist For Detecting and Preventing Rats

This inspection form can be used by property owners, superintendents, property managers and tenants to assist in detecting rats and tracking actions taken to reduce their presence.

Property/Building Name: _____

Area Inspected: _____

Date of Inspection: _____ Inspector: _____

PRESENCE OF RATS AND RAT ACTIVITY OUTSIDE BUILDING(S)

**Look for active signs of rats all around your property. Include tree pits and sidewalks.
Mark an X where a condition is found:**

Area Inspected	Burrows	Droppings	Rat runs or tracks	Live or dead rats	Holes/Gnaw Marks	Follow-up Actions
						<p>If boxes are checked, hire a Pest Management Professional (Exterminator). Make sure they develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A service agreement ✓ A staged baiting plan to address the infestation ✓ Provide progress reports ✓ Make recommendations for property repairs, landscaping and other improvements

WAYS RATS MAY ENTER

**Look for ways that rats may enter the building, property, or burrow through the building foundation or sidewalks.
Mark an X where a condition is found:**

Area Inspected	Doors	gaps > ¼ inch	Cables/pipe gaps > ¼ inch	Foundation /wall cracks or holes	Windows/vents unscreened	Sidewalk cracks or holes	Follow-up Actions
							<p>If boxes are checked, purchase and install or repair the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Door sweeps, pest brushes or metal kick plates. ✓ Escutcheon plates ("pipe collars") ✓ New screens. ✓ Repair air vents. ✓ Durable sealant for sealing cement or concrete cracks.

WAYS RATS MAY FEED

Use this checklist to make sure that garbage is being handled in ways that discourage rats from finding food.

Garbage Handling	Yes	No	Follow-up Actions If "No" boxes are checked, implement the following changes: ✓ Purchase new rat resistant garbage containers with tight fitting lids ✓ Maintain a large supply of heavy duty plastic garbage bags ✓ Instruct all building occupants on proper garbage handling ✓ Instruct maintenance staff to bring garbage to street as close to pickup time as possible ✓ Feed pets indoors. Clean up all uneaten food. ✓ Post signs to not feed birds or other animals.
Garbage containers are rat resistant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Garbage containers have tight fitting lids	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Garbage containers are intact without cracks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Enough containers exist to store all garbage between pickups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Heavy duty bags are used to line garbage containers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Heavy duty bags are used to bring garbage to street	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Garbage is brought to street no more than 3 hours before pickup	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other Food Sources	Yes	No	
Pet food kept inside, or stored in sealed metal containers outside	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Building occupants instructed to not feed pigeons, cats or squirrels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

WAYS RATS SEEK AND FIND SHELTER

Use this checklist to inspect for landscaping and other conditions that enable rats to hide, nest, and travel freely.

Landscaping Practices	Yes	No	Follow-up Actions If "No" boxes are checked, instruct building maintenance staff and landscaping or gardening contractors to implement the following changes: ✓ Mow or trim grass or weeds regularly to no greater than 3 inches. Rats prefer traveling through high weeds and grass. ✓ Replace ivy with an alternative ground cover ✓ Replace bushes that grow close to the ground ✓ Prune bushes to ensure a clearance between the ground and first branches to 12 inches ✓ Discard unneeded material from yards ✓ Move storage bins and other objects at least 2 feet away from exterior walls
Weeds and grass kept to a height at or below 3 inches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Shrubs and bushes trimmed up for a clearance of at least 12 inches between the ground and first branches and leaves	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ground cover is limited to grass, with no ivy or other vines that provide easy cover for rat burrows	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Storage and Clutter	Yes	No	
Stored or stacked material is kept at least 2 feet from exterior walls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
No clutter exists in side, rear or front yards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	