

**No matter how many times an exterminator visits, if you don't take precautions to keep your home pest-free, you will continue to have vermin in your apartment. Here's what you should do:**

## KEEP YOUR HOME CLEAN AND DRY, ESPECIALLY THE KITCHEN

- Keep food in sealed containers.
- Keep counters and sinks free from food residue.
- Reduce clutter.
- Recycle piles of newspapers, paper bags, and cardboard.
- Don't leave pet food out overnight.
- Don't leave dirty dishes in the sink.

## MANAGE GARBAGE

- Keep garbage in sealed bags or containers.
- Rinse recyclables before throwing them out in designated bins.
- Take garbage and recycling out of your apartment every day.
- Do not feed the birds on development grounds.

### In Buildings with Compactors:

- Bag and tie garbage before sending it down the chute.
- Leave larger bulk items at designated areas.
- Do not overstuff chutes.
- Place recyclables in designated bins, not down the chute.
- Do not leave bagged garbage on the floor in compactor rooms or in front of buildings.
- Do not throw liquids or sharp items down the chute.
- Clean up any items you dropped after placing bags in the chute.

## COOPERATE WITH PROPERTY MANAGEMENT STAFF AND PEST MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS

- Report pests, water leaks, holes, and other conditions that attract pests to NYCHA's Customer Contact Center (CCC) and contact the CCC to schedule an exterminator visit.
- Make sure you or an adult (age 18 or older) are home for the appointment to allow pest management professionals access to your apartment for pest inspections and services.
- Let pest management professionals know if there are children or pets in the home.
- Follow the pest management professionals' advice on preventing pests.

## ONLY USE SAFE PEST CONTROL METHODS IN YOUR HOME

- Use only pesticides that have manufacturer labels and are marked for consumer use. Make sure to read and follow label instructions.
- Use bait stations and gel for cockroaches and ants.
- Use traps for mice.
- Use fly traps for flies.
- Never use *illegal* pesticides like Tres Pasitos, Chinese chalk, or Tempo.
- Never use foggers, bombs, or loose rodent bait.