

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

AS FALL'S WEATHER APPROACHES



Norway Sewer Rat

Don't let them in

BOH-CLEAN, TRAP AND SEAL UP!

As the days get colder wildlife is looking for warmth. Here are some guidelines to keep wildlife, mice, squirrels, Norway sewer rats, raccoons and such, from becoming a nuisance on your property:

1. Keep all animal feed in tight lid containers.
2. Keep trash bags in sealed containers and do not put trash out till day of. Keep recycled goods clean without residue.
3. Remove harborage areas. Sadly, the days of collecting leaves and yard debris on our property are now a calling card for a warm bed for rats. When the leaves decompose, they produce gas which in turn, provides heat for cold winter nights.
4. Clean up after your pets, rodents are attracted to fecal matter.
5. Elevate wood piles off the ground.



Bird Feeders, as much as we love looking at our feathered friends, attract rats and other unwanted pests.



Rodents will look to live under your shed, in your yard harborage and your basement for warmth

More tips to keep them out!

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Uncontained compost, especially ones with food scraps, are a magnet for rats. Check your compost for burrow holes. To play it safe, keep compost in a secured bin.



Check your yard for holes, look under your shed and make sure the foundation of your dwelling is sealed. Mint sprays are a deterrent around the border of your foundation and in any rodent holes.



Sanitation is key, make sure your dumpster lids and doors are closed at all times! Inspect for bite marks and rodent activity. Do not let bags pile up and create an overflow.

It is illegal to throw uncontained poison on the ground. Hire a professional exterminator to reduce secondhand poisoning.

Below are other resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/rodents/index.html>

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/problem-animal-control-agents>

<https://nattleboro.com>

**Thank you to Plainville Health Department for content*