

Development Services Building Inspection

311 Vernon Street Roseville, California 95678-2649

City of Roseville Code Enforcement Program

Do You Have Rats?

Rats have very poor eyesight, so they rely on their senses of smell, taste, hearing and touch. Rats are creatures of habit. Once they find a comfortable place where there is readily available food, they will stay there. When a rat finds its perfect home, it will only travel 150 feet from its home in search of food and water.

Roseville Municipal Code 10.54.020 (D) (1) (b) states:

It is a public nuisance for any person owning, leasing, occupying or having charge or possession of any property in the City to maintain such property in such a manner that any one or more of the conditions or activities exists:

- D. Property Inadequately Maintained:
 - 1. Property which is inadequately maintained, such that it contains overgrown, diseased, dead or decayed trees, weeds or other vegetation which:
 - b. Are likely to harbor rats, vermin and other nuisances.

Here are some things that you can do to prevent rat infestation:

- Trim and remove dense brush, ivy, shrubs, weeds, trees and other growth.
- Dumpsters and trash cans should be closed at all times.
- Remove all sources of food and water.
- Seal animal food in airtight containers.
- Pick up fallen fruits and nuts.
- Make sure to seal possible entry points for rats and mice. Especially check screens covering crawl spaces, roof vents, and attics. (mice can fit through openings ¼ inch in size, rats can fit through openings ½ inch in size).
- Repair damaged ventilation screens. Weather-strip doors so they close tightly.
- Stack firewood and other materials 18 inches above the ground and away from structures.
- Once rats or mice have been killed, remove their shelter.

If you already have a rat infestation problem, you can get low cost rat poisoning from the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District. (1-800-429-1022). Traps are another way that you can take care of this problem.

The City of Roseville is confident that a rat infestation problem can be solved if the residents in the community take the actions recommended above.

This article is a part of the on-going educational effort of the Code Enforcement Program of the City of Roseville. Please call (916) 774-5332 if you have any questions.