

PE²STCONTROL

DID YOU KNOW?

The City of Greater Sudbury and surrounding areas—particularly the Minnow Lake area—are currently experiencing a severe rat infestation. Rat populations thrive in environments where food, water, and warm shelter are readily available, creating ideal conditions for rapid reproduction and spread.



Most commonly found in Greater Sudbury

Norway Rat *Rattus norvegicus* also known as the brown rat or sewer rat.



A single rat can produce up to 200 offspring a year with female reaching sexual maturity in a 3-4 month period and typically live 1-2 years.



Health Risk

Rats can carry many diseases that spread directly/indirectly to people.



CAUSES OF RAT INFESTATION



Food Availability

Exposed garbage, unsecured compost, pet food left outside, birdseed, crumbs, and unsealed pantry items attract rats looking for a steady meal.



Water Sources

Rats need reliable moisture to survive, so standing water, leaky garden hoses, damp crawl spaces, or plumbing leaks draw them in.



Shelter/Nesting Sites

Tall grass, overgrown vegetation, woodpiles, yard debris, and clutter near housing foundation provide safe outdoor hiding spots before they move indoors.



Easy Entry Points

Rats can squeeze through gaps as small as a quarter (approximately 1/2 an inch), entering through cracked foundations, damaged vents, or gaps around utility lines and doors.



Seasonal Changes

Dropping outdoor temperatures in the autumn and winter push rats to seek warmer shelter inside human structures.



Displacement

Construction, demolition, or city sewer work can disturb underground rat burrows, forcing the animals above ground and into neighboring yards and buildings.

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Small changes can make a big difference.

Turn the page to see what you can do to help reduce rat activity.



COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Simple steps. Stronger neighbourhoods.

Follow these simple steps at home to help keep our neighbourhood rat-resistant.



Manage Food Sources

- Use weekly green-cart organics pickup programs rather than leaving food waste exposed.
- Store garbage in hard plastic or metal bins with tight-fitting lids.
- Avoid feeding wildlife, stray animals, or leaving pet food outside.
- Clean up fallen fruit, nuts, bird seed and garden debris immediately.



Eliminate Shelter & Water

- Keep grass short, trim dense bushes, and clear weeds or overgrown ivy near foundations.
- Remove accumulated clutter, debris, and excessive garden overgrowth from around the property.
- Store firewood and building materials off the ground.
- Fix plumbing leaks, empty birdbaths, and eliminate standing water sources.



Block Entry Points

- Seal cracks in concrete foundations and seal any wall or floor openings larger than a quarter-inch using steel mesh or steel wool.
- Ensure ground-floor windows, drains, and vents have tight metal screening.
- Do not leave exterior doors open for an extended period of time without a physical barrier.



Coordinate and Report

- Speak with neighbours because rats travel across property lines; a coordinated neighbourhood effort works best.
- Understand local municipal reporting tools or bylaws for your area



Manage Pest Problems

- Retain a local Pest Control Company with practical knowledge and experience that is able to apply that knowledge and provided adaptive solutions to best counteract persistent pests.
- Manage Pest Problems using Integrated Best Management Practices (BMP).

NEED HELP?

Our **E²** Local Pest Technicians are here to help with inspection, prevention and treatment options.
Give us a call today! 705.885.3390

e2pestcontrol.ca

PE²STCONTROL
Pest problems? We have **solutions.**