



The Three Most Significant Dangers You Must Know and Avoid in Protecting Your Home and Family From Rodents!

With increasing population, urban sprawl and farmed land, mice and rats commonly seek protective shelter in homes, attics, basements, garages, barns, outbuildings, cabins, automobiles, boats and recreational vehicles. They are also active in commercial buildings, especially restaurants and storage facilities.

Rodents self-regulate their population, however, with access to available shelter, food and water they can become prolific - and quickly. For example, a single pair of mice can be responsible for as many as 15,000 offspring in a single year. Rats in the US alone now equal 50% of the human population.

1. Rodents are a serious health risk

Mice and Rats carry over 35 known diseases including some that can be fatal. These diseases range anywhere from allergies, fevers, Lyme disease, food poisoning like Salmonella, intestinal parasites, all the way to Hantavirus, which is an often fatal infection of the lungs.

We are vulnerable to these in many different ways. Potential exposure includes:

- Ingesting food or water unknowingly contaminated by rodents (droppings, urine, hair, dander etc.) Rodents leave tens of thousands of droppings per year and a single pair of rats can shed over 1 million hairs annually.
- Physical contact with rodents or droppings especially when dealing improperly with the hideous task of disposing of dead or injured rodents and their mess when cleaning traps, glue boards and bait stations.
- Bite wounds – There are up to 300,000 known rodent bites that occur annually, with over 85% happening while sleeping and mostly to children.
- Diseases from rodents are also spread indirectly to humans by way of ticks, mites, and fleas that transmit the infection to humans after feeding on infected rodents. This risk can be elevated if you have pets or live on a farm.
- Even just breathing in germs that may be present in rodent urine or droppings that have entered into the air. Even the smallest amount of mouse urine can trigger allergies, particularly in children.

2. Rodents are extremely destructive – even deadly!

We live in a time when approximately 5 million people die of starvation annually and yet mice and rats destroy enough food each and every year to feed over 200 million people.



Rats & mice cause billions of dollars of loss in home and personal property damage when they seek food and shelter in and around your home or living environment.

- Rodents destroy structural components of buildings foundations, doors, molding, insulation, plumbing, and sewer lines.
- They can chew through walls, into garbage cans, automobiles, RV's, art, collectables, and nearly any area or object in and around your home.
- Insulation damage alone may amount to a loss of several thousand dollars in only a few years
- Rodents LOVE electrical wiring, often stripping wires bare to eat the casing. This can be extremely dangerous and is considered a serious potential fire hazard.

In fact, in the past 10 years there have been on average 1.6 million house fires annually. In that time period over 194,000 people have been injured and almost 37,000 people have died. The alarming statistic: **Rodents are suspected of starting 8% of all fires by chewing through electrical wiring.**

Most people like mice about as much as having to speak in public or going to the dentist, and for good reason. By allowing rodents to go unchecked and stay in your home you are literally putting the safety of you and your family at great risk.

The challenge is that most solutions have their own set of problems.

3. Use of rodent traps, baits and poisons pose a serious risk to you, your family, pets and wildlife.

So here is the conundrum. We know that mice and rats can be filthy, unhealthy and destructive creatures, but when you look to the market for products to rid yourself of them, most options available come with their own serious health risks and dangers. This places you, your children, your pets, wildlife and even the environment in serious jeopardy.

Most solutions fall into one of the following categories:

- Baits (rodenticides)
- Traps (deadly and inhumane) and Glueboards
- Ultrasonic devices

Let's look at each option individually:

Baits or "Rodenticides" is the method that 90% of people turn to. The challenge is that they are POISONS. The rodent eats the bait and it eventually kills them. Here are some of the potential dangers or side effects:



- Anticoagulant rodent poisons work by causing internal bleeding in rats and mice. This type of poison usually takes two to six days to kill a rodent. In addition to being inhumane the result is that the mouse or rat will end up dying in an isolated spot like in your attic, behind the dryer, refrigerator or wall, in your couch or automobile or behind boxes in the garage, leaving you with a decomposing carcass and terrible odor to deal with.
- Non-anticoagulant rodent poisons can kill rodents within a few hours but still leave you with the same issue of locating and disposing the carcass.
- The real danger is leaving bait traps or containers with rodent poison in areas occupied by children, which can lead to disastrous results.
- Some rodent poison comes in the shape of pellets, which to curious children looks like candy. Even worse, the rodent poison tastes sweet, giving children more reason to try it.
- Incidents involving children eating rodent poison have increased 40% over the past ten years!
- Curious pets that find the bait that you thought was well hidden will face the same painful internal bleeding and consequences if they eat the poison.
- Wildlife can eat the rodents that contain these poisons, which are present in all of the top 3 selling brands. Owls, hawks and Golden Eagles have all died from this. Other species affected include mountain lions, bobcats, hawks, coyotes, skunks, raccoons, squirrel, deer, 27 avian species, and 17 mammalian species.

Mothballs are another product used by some in a desperate attempt to keep rodents out, but they, too, have their downsides.

- They are HIGHLY toxic
- They look like candy and are dangerous around small children & pets.
- The odor from them is extremely powerful and unpleasant to most people. This smell can linger for months and is next to impossible to get rid of.

Traps and Glueboards

Using traps can actually be a lot of work. Rodents are creatures of habit and prefer to follow the same runways they usually use. Traps must be placed where rodents are likely to be. You need to figure out the specific paths the rodents use and only place the traps there. But, like rodenticides, they also have their issues.

If you are “lucky” enough to catch a rodent in a spring or glue trap, you will also be unlucky enough to have to dispose of the mice. Remember mice and rats carry all sorts of diseases and parasites, and these can be transferred to you.

Dangers with traps and glueboards to be aware of:

<http://www.earth-kind.com>

Questions? Call toll-free 1(800) 583-2921



- If a mouse is caught in a trap, your child or pet may be curious enough to handle the mouse.
- There will be mouse droppings in the areas they are occupying. The last thing you want is your pet or child contracting a disease from being too curious.
- You must still dispose of the rodent (injured or dead).

Properly and safely disposing of dead or trapped rodents is no simple task if you take the advised safety steps to prevent the spread of disease and parasites.

Recommended CDC guidelines for cleaning up dead rodents

- Wear rubber, latex, or vinyl gloves when cleaning up dead rodents or nests.
- Spray the dead rodent and the surrounding area with a disinfectant or a mixture of bleach and water.
- Soak rodent and or droppings in solution for 5 minutes before wiping up with a paper towel or rag.
- Place the dead rodent or nesting materials in a plastic bag and seal tightly. Place the full bag in a second plastic bag and seal.
- Throw the bag into a covered trash bin that is regularly emptied.
- Remove gloves, and thoroughly wash hands with soap and water (or use a waterless alcohol-based hand rub when soap is not available and hands are not visibly soiled).

Ultrasonic Devices

The principal of ultrasonic devices is to create a loud noise above the range of human hearing (above 18-20 kHz) that is unpleasant to pest species. Basically the theory is that the sound drives them away.

Here are the challenges with Ultrasonic devices:

1. Animals can adapt to most situations, and in a short amount of time they become accustomed to the sound
2. Studies show ultrasonic devices will not drive rodents from your home if food, water, and shelter are available
3. Ultrasonic devices can be heard by dogs, cats, hamsters, gerbils, and other pet mammals. They have also been shown to cause hearing loss in dogs and should definitely not be used if you have pets.

Summary and Solution

As you can see there are some very serious and dangerous issues associated with having rodents in and around your home especially if you have children



and/or pets. When compounded with the efforts, dangers, costs and health risks of safe removal, it is easy to understand why so many people have such strong negative associations to rodents.

The good news is that there is a new invention that is a simple and safe solution to make it so rodents have no interest or desire to go near your property or possessions in the first place.

You can repel the rodents with a bio-based repellent. Instead of dealing with the headaches of trying to kill and properly dispose of them, why not just drive them away?

The **“Fresh Cab®” Mouse Pouch** was invented by a North Dakota mom who had rodent problems on her farm and wanted a non-toxic and easy to use solution that would also be safe to use around her children and pets.

Rodents have extremely poor eyesight and are heavily dependent on their sense of smell, especially in dark areas. The Fresh Cab pouches contain natural oils. These oils compromise the rodent’s sense of smell causing them to feel “blind,” confused and unsafe, so they avoid these areas at all costs.

The Only Plant-Based Rodent Repellent Proven Effective by the Federal EPA!

- A Natural "Christmas tree" scent that you'll find refreshing, but rodents find extremely offensive. Keeps rodents far away instead of killing them
- Safe around children, pets and wildlife
- Easier to use than traps, bait stations and glue boards
- No dead rodents to find and dispose of
- More effective and less dangerous than poisonous options
- All Natural, Biodegradable, “Green” product
- 100% Customer Satisfaction Guarantee

By simply placing the pouches in areas susceptible or prone to rodents you will be creating an effective defense shield, keeping rodents out of the space you want to protect.

For more information go to www.Earth-Kind.com or call 1-800-583-2921

BONUS: Signs you have rodents. Here are some sure fire signs to identify the possibility of rodent presence or infestation:

1. Look for droppings, they are small but not hard to find.



2. Gnawing. You can find marks on packaged food, and usually around pipes, vents or ducts
3. Foot prints and tail tracks often show up in corners and places that dust accumulates
4. Rub marks and dark greasy markings on vertical surfaces are usually a dead giveaway.
5. Aggressive pet behavior at cabinets or appliances
6. Use your ears. Often times you can even hear them scampering around or even gnawing