

Know the rat

- Size:** Up to 15 inches, nose to tail.
- Color:** Varies from dark gray to light tan. Naked tail, small ears and eyes.
- Signs:** Gnawing, droppings, runways, rub marks. Burrows found near buildings, under concrete, debris, landscape plants, and in compost piles.
- Diet:** Rats normally prefer grains, but will eat nearly everything!
- Activity:** All year, but especially in the fall. Rats are excellent climbers and swimmers.

Photo credit iStock



Norway Rat *Rattus norvegicus*

The problem

Rats contaminate food, cause structural damage from gnawing, carry and spread disease, and can bite people.

Solve the problem

Sanitation is rat control. Remove food, water, and shelter. Exclude them from buildings where they enter. Remove ground covering vegetation.

Traps are better than toxic baits. Traps kill immediately, allow removal of the rat and prevent poisoning of children, pets, and wildlife. Leave traps unset until bait has been taken at least once and then set.



G. Bloom

G. Bloom



MK Malinoski,
University of Maryland

Active Indoors and Outdoors all year long.

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

