



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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PREVENT RODENT INFESTATIONS
Clean up Nesting Sites and Remove Food Sources

Prevent contact with rodents by cleaning up your home, workplace, or campsite.

Eliminate possible rodent food sources

- ✓ Keep food in thick plastic or metal containers with tight lids.
- ✓ Clean up spilled food right away and wash dishes and cooking utensils soon after use.
- ✓ Keep outside cooking areas and grills clean.
- ✓ Always put pet food away after use and do not leave pet-food or water bowls out overnight.
- ✓ Keep bird feeders away from the house and utilize squirrel guards to limit access to the feeder by squirrels and other rodents.
- ✓ Use a thick plastic or metal garbage can with a tight lid.
- ✓ Keep compost bins as far away from the house as possible (100 feet or more is best).
- ✓ Keep grains and animal feed in thick plastic or metal containers with tight lids. In the evening, uneaten animal feed should be returned to containers with lids.



If storing trash and food waste inside the home, do so in rodent-proof containers, and frequently clean the containers with soap and water. Dispose of trash and garbage on a frequent and regular basis, and pick up or eliminate clutter.



Eliminate possible nesting sites outside the home.

Elevate hay, woodpiles, and garbage cans at least 1 foot off the ground. Move woodpiles far away from the house (100 feet or more is best). Get rid of old trucks, cars, and old tires that mice and rats could use as homes. Keep grass cut short and shrubbery within 100 feet of the home well-trimmed.



Environmental Health Services

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