



Rodent Control and Exclusion

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Who We Are





Our Work

(Integrated Pest Management)



Mosquito control



Mosquitofish



Insect and tick ID



Rodent inspections



Yellowjacket control



Community education



Disease surveillance

**There is no charge for individual services;
services are paid for by tax revenues**

Common Rodents in Woodside

Roof rats, woodrats, and deer mice



Roof Rats

- Non-native
- Most common rat on the Peninsula
- Agile climbers
- Neophobic



Woodrats/Packrats

- Native wild rats
- Curious ‘collectors’
- Typically live in middens, in historically natural areas



iNaturalist - selwynq – [CC BY-NC](#)



iNaturalist – cbdawson [CC-BY-NC](#)



Deer mice

- Native
- Typically exist outdoors in natural areas
- Can be found in buildings, including infrequently-used sheds and other buildings
- Sin Nombre virus (hantavirus) reservoir (use caution when entering/cleaning sheds, etc.)



Causes for concern

- Rats and mice can spread diseases
- Fleas, mites, etc.
- Can cause respiratory issues in people
- Rodents can cause damage, including gnawing electrical wires
- If cleaning rodent droppings, use caution – deer mice feces can spread disease



Rats are part of our ecosystem

Complete eradication is impossible

Controlling population is possible

Focus on keeping them out of homes





Rodent Inspections

- Conducted by a certified vector control technician
- Exterior only (may include garages, outbuildings)
- Result in a report with details specific to the property

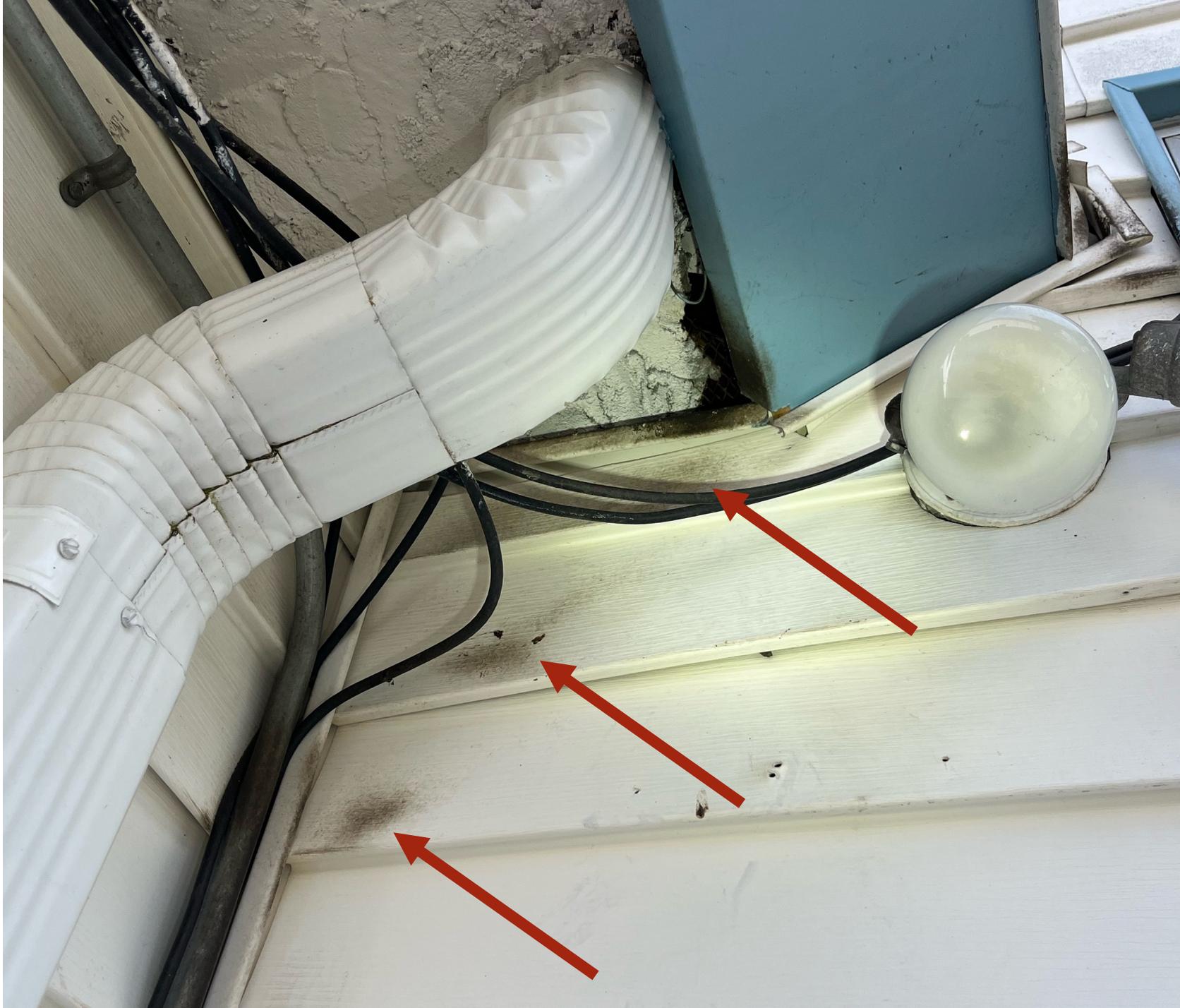
*District staff do not conduct rodent proofing or trapping.



Signs of rodents

- Live or dead rodents
- Noises/odors
- Gnawing damage
- Damage to fruit or gardens
- Droppings
- Tracks
- Rub marks





Where can they fit?



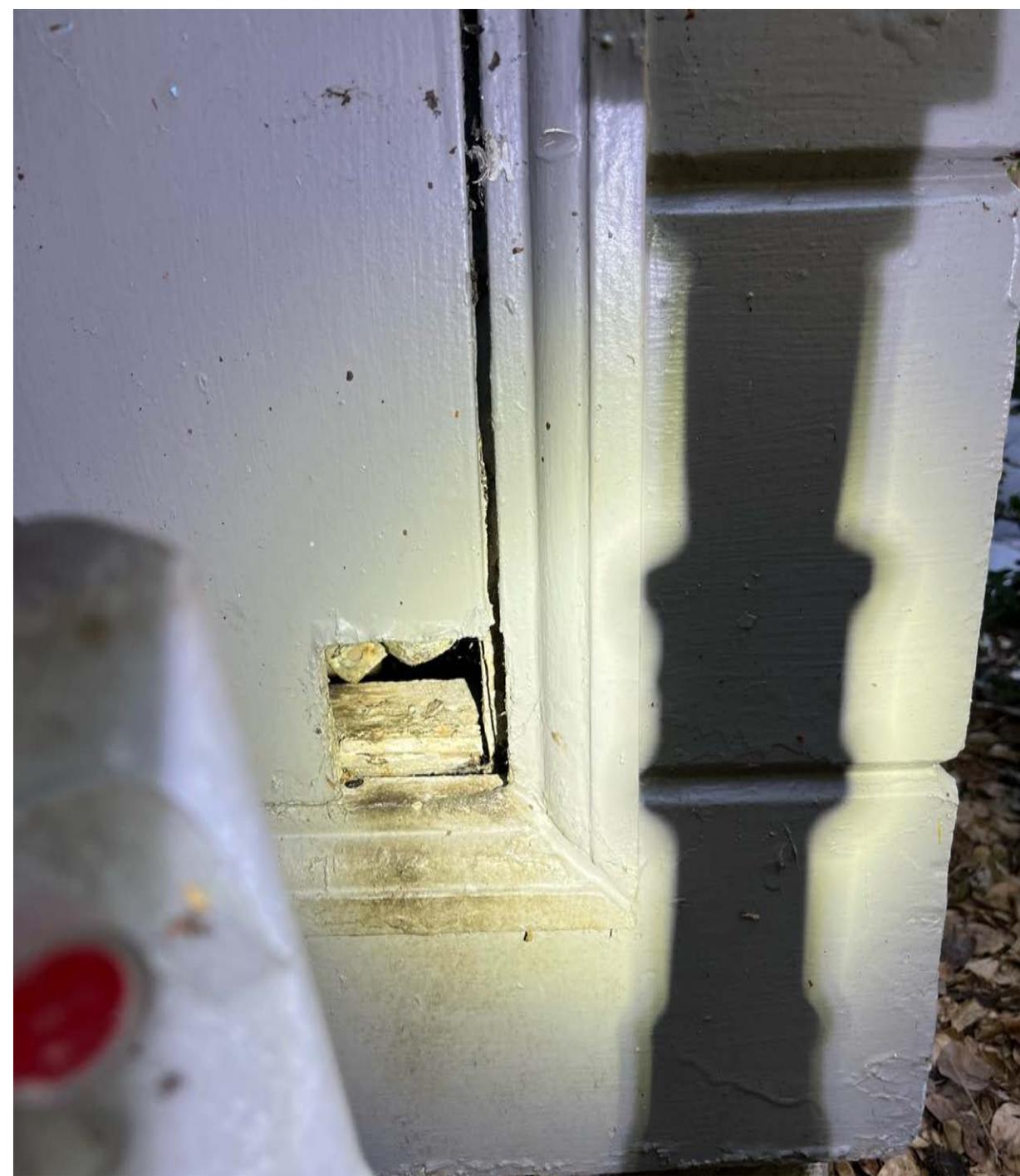
What can they chew?





SAN MATEO COUNTY
MOSQUITO & VECTOR
CONTROL DISTRICT







Rats and mice seek
food, water, and shelter.



**Reduce and
remove food
and shelter**

**Exclusion
(block entry
points)**

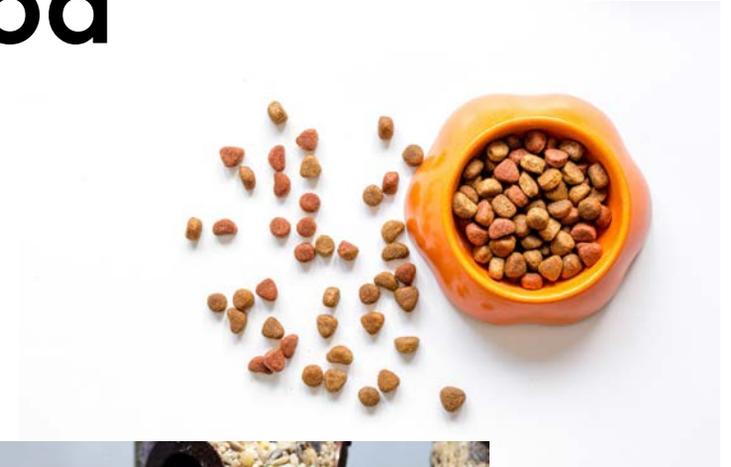
Trapping

Rodenticides



Reduce/Remove Food

- Do not leave pet food out overnight
- Pick up pet waste
- Do not feed birds/wildlife; if feeding, use trays and feeders that do not allow debris to fall to the ground
- Clean up fruit daily, pick fruit when ripe; when landscaping, choose plants that do not drop fruit/nuts
- Keep food in sealed containers
- Store garbage, compost, and recycling in properly closed containers



Reduce/Remove Shelter

- Clear piles of any kind
- Move objects away from walls and fences
- Keep landscaping tidy, without dense vegetation
- Cut trees back at least 3-4 feet from walls, roofs, and fences
- Open patio furniture and other stored items frequently



Exclusion (Blocking Entry Points)

- Seal ALL openings larger than a dime
- Doors and windows should shut tightly with no gaps
- Seal garages and sheds
- Block gaps around/under decks and porches
- Check where wires and pipes enter the home
- Don't forget roof openings and eaves!



Trapping

- Trap in tandem and/or prior to exclusion (situational)
- Both wooden and plastic traps are available
- Electric traps are an option
- Use appropriately-sized traps – mouse traps will not work for rats
- **Glue traps and live traps are NOT recommended**
- Consider pre-baiting traps to get roof rats used to them



Examples only – not an endorsement.



Trapping

- Place traps perpendicular (not parallel) to the base of walls or along rodents' usual paths
- Keep traps out of reach of children and pets
- Check frequently
- If trapping fails, pre-bait and try again
- If trapping outdoors, use a bait box to prevent harm to wildlife and pets



Rodenticides / Bait / Poison

THE LABEL IS THE LAW

- Do not use indoors – rodents may die indoors
- Use ONLY with a locked bait station
- Not a stand-alone solution
- Consider hiring a professional
- Be aware of risks to children, pets, and wildlife



Rodent 'birth control'

contrapest.

A liquid bait for the reduction of reproductive capacity in rats.

For use in tamper-resistant bait stations indoors and within 1 ft around external perimeters of agricultural farm buildings, transit systems, public and private buildings, commercial residential buildings, retail buildings, and/or other man-made structures.

Not Intended for Consumer Use

Active Ingredients:

4-Vinylcyclohexene diepoxide 0.09604%

Triptolide 0.00118%

Other Ingredients: 99.90278%

Total: 100.0000%

Keep Out of Reach of Children

CAUTION

Made in USA
EPA Reg. No. 91601-1
EPA Est. No. 91601-AZ-1

Net Contents:
1-20 fl. oz.
(30-592 ml)



- As for all pesticides, **the label is the law**; some are labeled for professional use only (not consumer use)
- Mixed results regarding effectiveness
- Need to continuously feed and can regain fertility if stop feeding

Example only – not an endorsement.



Rodents in engines/vehicles

- Known to chew engine wires
- Anecdotal solutions:
 - Keeping hood open
 - Keeping light on at all times or on motion sensor
 - Special tapes or deterrents
 - Electrical guard
- Currently no 100% effective way to prevent



Questions? Don't be shy!

We are available for individual property/home inspections to give custom advice.

www.smcmvcd.org

650-344-8592

