

Learn how to prevent rats at your facility



Rats can cause damage and safety issues by gnawing and burrowing, contaminating food, and reducing our quality of life.

The Region of Peel is committed to a pro-active approach to rat control to reduce their population in our community. This will take effort from the entire community, including local businesses.

How to identify evidence of rats:

- Look for rat burrow holes or nests. They are typically found near waste containers, wood piles or cluttered areas.
- Look for rat droppings. They are commonly found close to waste areas or sources of food.
- Look for gnaw marks on wood and plastic waste bins.

Eliminate food and water sources

- Keep all waste stored in containers with tight-fitting lids.
- Waste collection areas and bins should be cleaned often.
- Maintain a clean property, remove litter often.
- Consider turning off and draining any containers that hold water.
- Do not feed wildlife.

Eliminate potential shelter

- Keep grass short and trim shrubs and plantings.

Eliminate points of entry

- Seal all holes and cracks in foundations, walls, floors and windows. Use door sweeps and stainless mesh materials for sealing holes and gaps.
- Rats will move inside if building doors and utility lines are not sealed and protected.

For more information on how to keep rats off your property visit
[peelregion.ca/rat-subsidy-program](https://www.peelregion.ca/rat-subsidy-program)

Integrated Pest Management

The Region of Peel suggests following an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan to address rat issues. This approach focusses on preventing and eliminating infestations at the source using a variety of tactics including education and professional treatment. IPM is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management. A pro-active approach for controlling rats at ICI properties is both smart and cost-effective.

Perform regular inspections:

Identifying rat activity and addressing the issue early saves significant time and money for property management.

Deny rats entry:

Performing proper on-going maintenance is an effective, simple and cost-effective approach to keeping rats out of ICI buildings.

Maintain a clean property:

If food is not available, rats will abandon a property and move to new areas with easy access to food. Keep your property, clean and free of sources of food, water, and shelter. Maintain a litter free environment, particularly in areas where staff or clients may eat (around picnic tables for example).

ICI rat extermination programs:

If rat activity is identified and prevention methods are not able to address the issue, contact a licensed professional pest control vendor. Some business sectors are required by regulation to have pest control.

