

## GENERAL ADVISORY NOTICE

# Rat Activity in Your Neighbourhood



Rodents can be controlled where neighbours work cooperatively to limit food and harbourage



Cnr Gilmore Ave &  
Sulphur Rd  
Kwinana WA 6167

Environmental Health  
Services  
Phone: (08) 9439 0200  
Fax: (08) 9439 0222  
Website:  
[www.kwinana.wa.gov.au](http://www.kwinana.wa.gov.au)

Dear Resident,

City of Kwinana Environmental Health Services has recently received reports regarding rodent activity in your neighbourhood. This brochure has been sent to you and your neighbours by the City in response to these concerns

### What Can I Do?

The following are some examples of steps that you can take to minimise the likelihood of your property harbouring rodents:

- Regularly remove garden waste and other disused material from your yard;
- Remove fallen fruits and nuts from trees to reduce food sources for rats (this also assists with fly prevention);
- Keep pet food dishes clean and only feed pets enough food for the day;
- Store pet food in rodent proof containers;
- Ensure any compost heaps/bins are covered or kept free of holes to reduce the access of scraps by rodents;
- Install rat baiting stations around your yard and monitor them to ensure that an adequate bait supply is maintained at all times;
- Set traps in areas of harbourage;
- Block any potential access points/holes around your home, such as around air conditioning services or electrical conduit entries into the roof cavity (please ensure that you do not seal up 'weep-holes' or other ventilation bricks required to remove moisture from your home cavities);
- Alternatively, a licensed pest control operator may assist by completing a pest control treatment.



**NOTE:** If the problem in your area persists, one of the City's Environmental Health Officers may visit your property to discuss rodent activity further with you.

## Using Rodent Baits Safely

Rodent baits can be purchased from supermarkets and hardware stores. Alternatively, traps may be used.

All rodent baits and traps must be used in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.



Here are some tips on successfully using rodent baits:

- You must place rodent baits in an area that is safe from children or pets coming into contact with the bait or consuming the bait.
- Rodents baits should be placed in an area where evidence of rodent activity has been observed.
- Limit hand contact with the bait as much as possible.
- Ensure that the baits are checked daily and replenished as necessary. Some rodent baits require the rodents to consume the product for five to six days to be effective (where baits are only taken for a short period, the rodent may become ill and then recover).
- For sachets such as Contrac®, the contents of the sachet should be placed into a shallow dish or container.
- When rodent baits are placed in the roof cavity, ensure that they are placed close enough to the manhole to be regularly checked and replenished.
- Ensure that as far as possible other potential food or water sources are eliminated.
- Unless the rodent bait instructions state that the bait is water proof or weather proof, you must ensure that the baits are placed in an area that is protected from moisture or rain, as moisture will adversely affect the rodent bait. Waterproof wax blocks are available from most hardware stores.

Remember, generally, rat and mouse activity occurs in an area where:

1. there is sufficient harbourage for them to make nests that are protected from the weather; and/or
2. there is a convenient source of food within the vicinity.

The *Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1911* and City's Local Laws require owners and/or occupiers to take effective measures at all times to eradicate rodents in or on the premises. For further information or guidance on pest control, please contact the City's Environmental Health Services on 9439 0200.