



CHERRY GROVE HAS A RAT PROBLEM ... and we need your help!

Rats are nocturnal, elusive and fast.

You may have them on your property and not know it.

As you may know, in late 2019 CGCAI contracted with a pest control service to help us reduce the rat population in Cherry Grove. It was effective and continues, but keeping the problem in check requires continual vigilance. Property owners, renters and businesses must all help.

Here's how:

Don't feed the rats!

- **Don't leave food outside.**
- **Be aware that bird feeders can be an important source of food for rats.**
 - Seeds that spill on the ground attract them.
- **Don't feed the deer. Or other wildlife.**
 - Leaving vegetables on the ground may seem kind to them, but the rats like it, too.
- **Be sure your garbage and recycling cans have tight-closing lids.**
 - Use garbage cans – do not leave your garbage in plastic bags. Animals will tear them open and strew trash. Great for the rats; not so nice for the rest of us.
 - Use “animal stopper” garbage cans. These have snap locks that keep the lids from being pried open.
 - *Goodies* has 30-gallon size for sale for \$50. Tax-free, all proceeds go to CGCAI.
- **Composting attracts rats. Use a rat-resistant tumble style composter.**

Don't give them shelter.

- **Try to keep debris, brush, and woodpiles cleaned up**
 - Rats will hide in them, and especially like to burrow near a septic system where the soil can be warmer.
- **Seal holes on your property, especially near your house.**
 - They will burrow in a small space
 - They will also chew through electrical wiring, plastic, and wood.

TOGETHER WE CAN GET THIS DONE!!

