Rodent Control Updates and Practices

Alicia Privett, Environmental Health Coordinator

Colin Zeigler, Environmental Health Manager



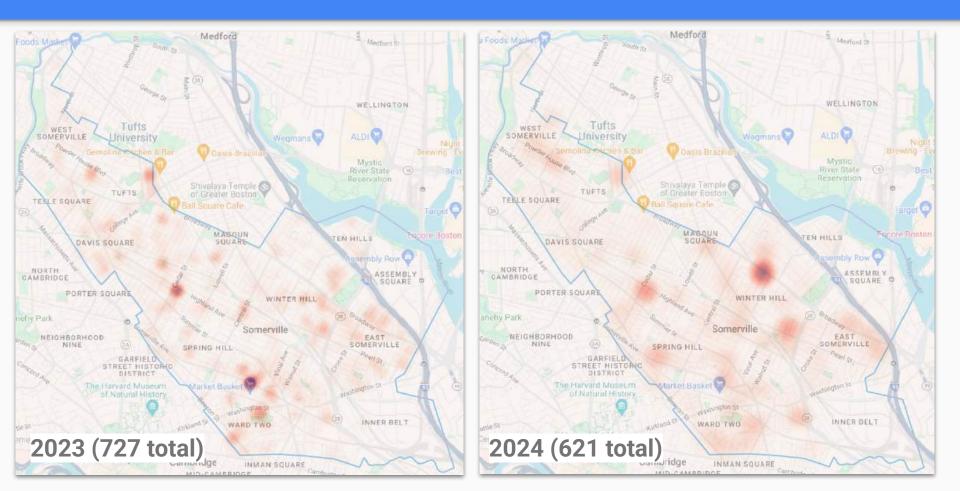
2024 Data Report Out

- We will go over:
 - Rat reports through 311
 - Rodent Assistance Program Visits
 - Colin and Alicia site visits
 - Rodent and Pest Control Violations
 - Residential Trash Violations
 - Commercial Trash Violations
 - Overgrowth Violations

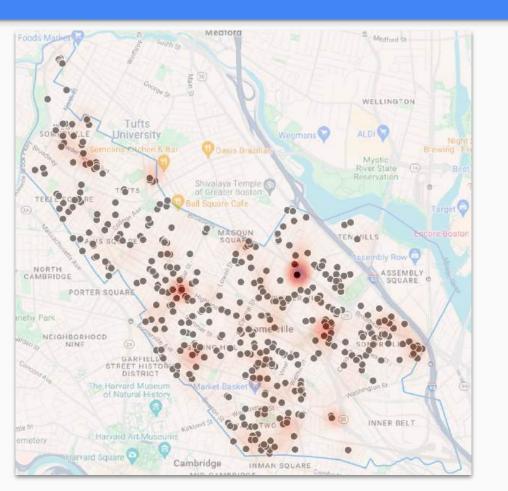
Rat Reports Through 311

Year	# of calls	Difference	Percent change
2016	523	290	124.46%
2017	577	54	10.33%
2018	717	140	24.26%
2019	923	206	28.73%
2020	1162	239	25.89%
2021*	1029	-133	-11.45%
2022	915	-114	-11.08%
2023	727	-188	-20.55%
2024	621	-106	-14.58%

Rat Reports through 311

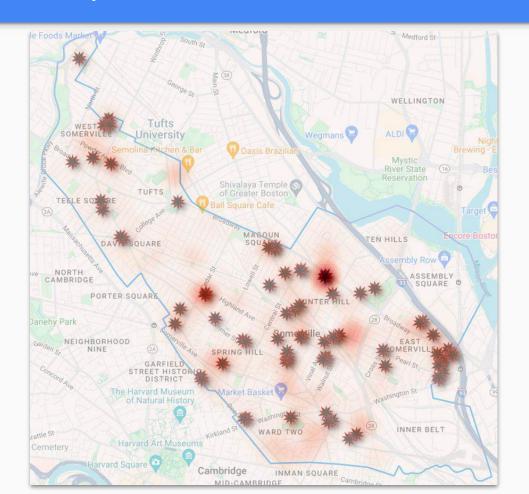


Residential Rodent Assistance Program Visits

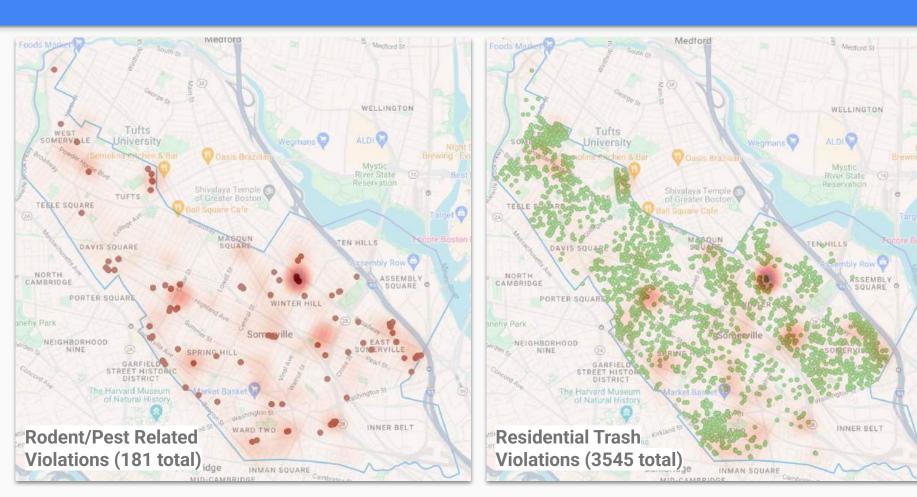


- Serviced **484** unique properties in **2024**.
 - 1,936 total visits.
- 538 unique properties serviced in 2023.
 - 1,614 total visits.
- While the total unique properties serviced has decreased, the total number of visits overall increased.
- This approach focuses on the quality of service for each property over the quantity of properties.

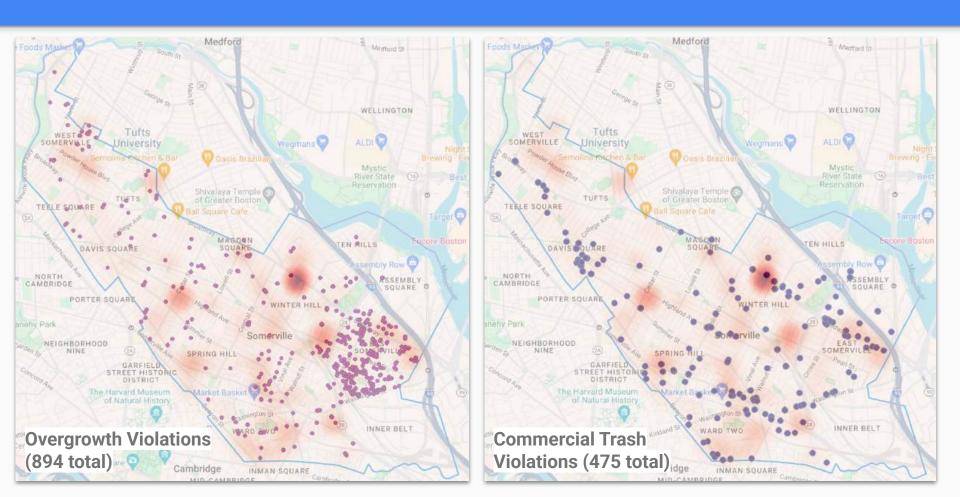
Alicia and Colin Community Site Visits



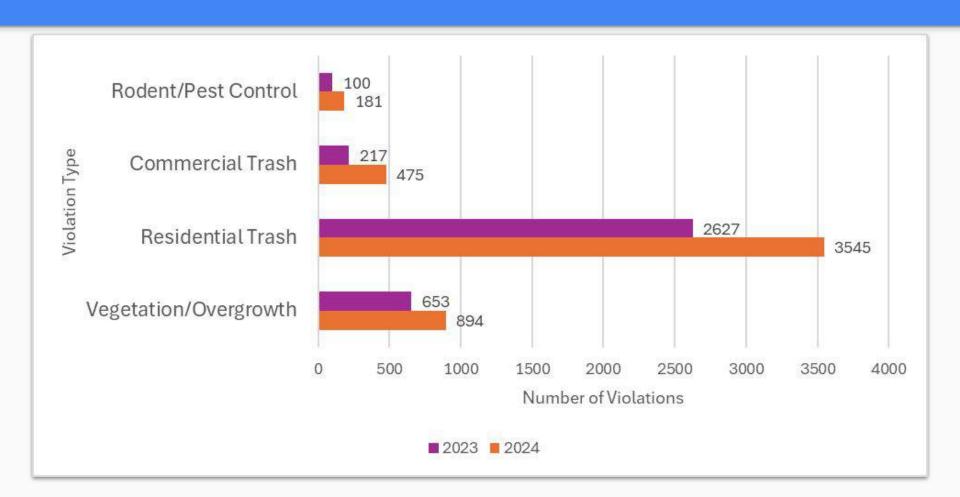
Rodent Related Violations 2024



Rodent Related Violations 2024



Rodent Related Violations 2024



Communications for 2025

- Annual rodent awareness mailer x2! (Spring and Fall)
- Additional social media posts
- Rat walks coming summer 2025!
- Collaborating with SOIA on rat workshops.

Ongoing Projects and Practices

Rodent Fertility Control Study Updates



- In an effort to reduce the number of rats in the Cities of Cambridge and Somerville are now conducting several field trials to test the impact of a non-toxic hormonal fertility control product called Evolve.
- Current Somerville test site is at Somerville High School.
 - Regular feeding (even in the winter snow!)
 - Starting data analysis between sites.
 - SHS has used the most bait out of all the test sites so far.

Rodent Fertility Control Study Updates

Interested in getting involved? There are two ways to participate in this study.

Enroll your property: The study team is also seeking residents and property owners in the Lincoln Park area of Somerville to participate in the study. By enrolling in the study, you agree to have bait stations (containing the fertility control product) placed on your property at no cost. To enroll, please contact aprivett@somervillema.gov



Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs)

DPW and ISD have agreed to no longer use SGARs on public property and as a part of our Residential Assistance Program. This commitment was made in April of 2024.

Private use is regulated at the state level.

Contact us

- 311 (617-666-3311)
- ISDrodentcontrol@somervillema.gov
- Colin Zeigler: <u>czeigler@somervillema.gov</u>
- Alicia Privett: <u>aprivett@somervillema.gov</u>