

# RUBBISH AND RODENTS - FAQs

Rodents such as rats and mice are opportunistic creatures and where ever humans live, they are likely to be found in the area. However, there are some things each resident can do to minimise the potential attraction and shelter of mice and rats on their property. For tips on vermin control see the [Rodent Control Fact Sheet](#).

## **I have seen rodents on my property, what can I do?**

If you have rodents in your house or yard, it is highly recommend that you start your own baiting program or contact a licensed pest controller to undertake pest control for you.

Please be advised that Council does **not** provide any pest control services for rats or mice; it is up to the residents to protect their own homes.

## **I think my neighbour's property is attracting rodents, as they have rubbish and fallen fruit in their yard - what can I do?**

Firstly, it is always recommended to talk with your neighbour and let them know you have been experiencing a vermin problem - perhaps they have been too. By chatting with your neighbour, you may also be able to determine why they have rubbish in their yard and what their plans are for its removal.



Occasionally, people run out of bin space, or may have done a spring clean resulting in a large volume of rubbish which cannot fit in the bin in one attempt - they may be planning to remove the rubbish one bag at a time. Perhaps if you have space in your bin, you could offer it to your neighbours? Additionally, Council can send vermin-control fact sheets to yourself and your neighbours to raise awareness of mice or rats being observed in the area, and give recommendations on baiting treatments.

## **What if the rubbish has been continuously accumulating and I don't feel comfortable talking to my neighbours?**

If the rubbish is general household waste, such as food waste or food and drink packaging, these items may have the otential to create foul odours and attract mice or rats. These items should always be placed in a lidded receptacle, such as the red-lid bin, which is emptied by NAWMA weekly.

## **My neighbour's property has high grass, and I am concerned that it will attract mice and snakes - what can be done?**

If your concerns are raised during fire-danger season, usually from October to March, the Fire Prevention Officer can assess the amount of vegetation and issue a fire-prevention notice to have it cut back, to eliminate a potential fire risk. During the rest of the year, a vermin fact sheet can be sent out to residents of surrounding properties to raise awareness of their responsibilities and to eliminate vermin shelter sites, such as long grass.

If this is not occurring Council's Environmental Health Officers can visit this property to discuss with the residents the best ways to store and remove rubbish from their property to mitigate any potential vermin attraction and shelter issues.