



CITY OF VINCENT

# RODENT CONTROL

Rodents are common in urban areas due to the food and shelter provided by human activity. As rodents can cause many issues, it is important that residents regularly take steps to manage rodent activity.

Before using rodenticides, there are several things you can do to control rats and mice. Firstly:

- Keep your place clean and tidy — ensure food is stored in containers, clean up garden waste and rubbish, and secure compost heaps.
- Pick up fallen fruits.
- Seal holes and other potential entry points in buildings and enclosures.
- Use traps – a wide variety of traps are available. Position them carefully to avoid harming non-target species.
- Some suggestions for attracting rats into traps – pumpkin seed, nuts, dried fruit, roasted oats (roast them in a pan until they have a great nutty smell) and bacon.

## Rodenticides

Rodenticides, or 'rat poison', are often used to kill rodents including mice and rats. Most are highly toxic Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs), which can harm native wildlife through secondary poisoning. SGARs are lethal to both rodents and the animals that eat them.



If baits are being used, the City of Vincent recommends First-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (FGARs). Rodents must consume FGARs multiple times to consume a lethal dose of poison. FGARs break down faster in rodents, reducing the risk of secondary poisoning to other wildlife.

The City of Vincent acknowledges the importance of rodent control and the risks that second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides pose to pets and native wildlife. The City encourages residents to explore alternative rodent control methods.

Residents are also encouraged to refer to the Department of Health's website for further information [healthywa.wa.gov.au](http://healthywa.wa.gov.au)

For general information on rodent control, please contact the City's Public Health team at **9273 6000** or [mail@vincent.wa.gov.au](mailto:mail@vincent.wa.gov.au)

## FAQs

### What are rodenticides?

Rodenticides are poisons used in baits to control rodents, including mice and rats. Anticoagulant rodenticides work by preventing blood from clotting and are available in two types, or classes, second generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) and first-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (FGARs). SGARs are more potent than FGARs and can lead to secondary poisoning, making them harmful to native wildlife. For this reason, FGARs are recommended when using baits to control rodents.

### How do you know if a bait is a SGAR or FGAR?

Most SGARs are clearly labelled as POISON and FGARs have a CAUTION label. Checking the active ingredients can also help to determine whether a product is as an SGAR or FGAR. Active ingredients commonly found in SGARs include:

- Brodifacoum
- Bromadiolone
- Difenacoum
- Flocoumafen
- Difethialone

### What are the less toxic ingredients in FGARs?

- Warfarin
- Coumatetralyl
- Chlorophacinone

### What can I do instead of using rodenticides?

Rodenticides should be used as a last resort to control rodents. Before putting any pets and wildlife at risk from rodenticides:

- Keep your place clean and tidy
- Seal holes and other entry points in buildings
- Use traps