Once you submit a service request, a DPW pest control worker will inspect the property and look for an active rat burrow.

If a burrow is present, the worker will apply the poisonous bait to the burrow.

The pest control worker will place yellow flags in each burrow that was treated. They will also leave a hang card to let the resident know it was treated.

RAT PREVENTION

Signs of a Rat Problem

- Burrows (holes) near sidewalks, bushes and plants, along your houses foundation and in the basement.
- Chewing marks around doors, windows, plumbing, electrical outlets, and doorways.
- Dark colored fresh rat droppings in hidden areas along walls.
- Runways where rats go back and forth leaving dark, greasy track marks along baseboards and worn down in paths in the grass.

What You Can Do to Prevent Rats

- Use a durable trash can with a tight-fitting lid. Do not put trash out in plastic bags not in a can. Rats will chew through bags.
- Remove leftovers pet food and animal waste every day from your yard. Dog waste containes Vitamin K, when rats eat Vitamin K it makes them immune to rat poison.
- Remove old furniture, vehicles, and appliances from your property. Items such as these give rats a home.
- Mow tall grass and weeds. High grass/ weeds give rats a place to hide.
- Don’t let rats inside! Seal all holes and cracks in foundations, walls, floors, and around windows.

If you think you have a rat problem, please call 311 to request a visit from DPW's Rat Rubout program.

DPW's Rat Rubout Program

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For more information on the Rat Rubout program, please contact the Bureau of Solid Waste at (410) 396-5134.