

# PROVINCETOWN HAS A RAT PROBLEM.

We need  
*your* help to  
control it!

## Don't feed rats!

- Don't leave any kind of food outside.
- Get rid of bird feeders. Bird feed is a major food source for rats.
- Don't feed wild animals. Feeding wild animals disrupts the natural food chain and attracts rats.
- Always store trash and recycling in covered containers with no holes or cracks, especially when leaving out for pickup.
- Stop outdoor composting if there are rats in your neighborhood, or use rat-resistant tumbler composters.
- Regularly pick up dropped fruit from trees.
- Believe your neighbors if they report seeing rats. Rats are nocturnal, very elusive, and very fast. You may have them on your property and not be aware of it.

## Don't give them shelter!

- Clean up debris and brush piles on your property.
- Seal all holes to your home, shed, garages, etc. (Rats can squeeze into holes as small as one-half inch.)
- Clear vegetation and plants along building foundations.
- Clear ivy around burrows.
- Trim tree limbs so that they are at least four feet away from your home.
- Stack firewood eighteen inches off the ground and away from buildings.



**Dead rats must be disposed of in the trash (preferably double-bagged).**



**Updated town regulations for rat control are in effect as of 12/1/19.**  
See other side to learn more about them.

# How To Avoid Fines

(\$100 for first offense, as of 12/1/19)

- Your trash and recycling must be in a container with a tight lid on top. Any container with a secure lid can be used as a recycling container by writing “RECYCLING” on two sides.
- Your property address must be clearly written on your trash and recycling containers.

Regulations can be found on [www.provincetown-ma.gov](http://www.provincetown-ma.gov) > Departments > Health Department > Bylaws and Regulations > *Section 1000. Solid Waste Recycling Regulations*



## Have a complaint about a trash or recycling violation, or other activity that encourages or shelters rats?

Email a picture of the offense, a description of the circumstances, and your name and contact information to:

**Aaron Hobart, Code Compliance Officer: [ahobart@provincetown-ma.gov](mailto:ahobart@provincetown-ma.gov)**

The Town does not accept anonymous complaints, per Select Board Policy 2013-10-15.



If you would like to hire a professional to manage pests on your property, EcoGeek is offering a 10% discount on their ecologically-friendly pest management services to Provincetown residents. Call 508-280-1108 or email: [EcoGeekPest@gmail.com](mailto:EcoGeekPest@gmail.com), and mention coupon code “EcoGeek.”

## DON'T WANT RATS?

Use tips on other side.

## Whatever you do, DON'T poison rats!

Rat poison *also* poisons the animals that eat rats!