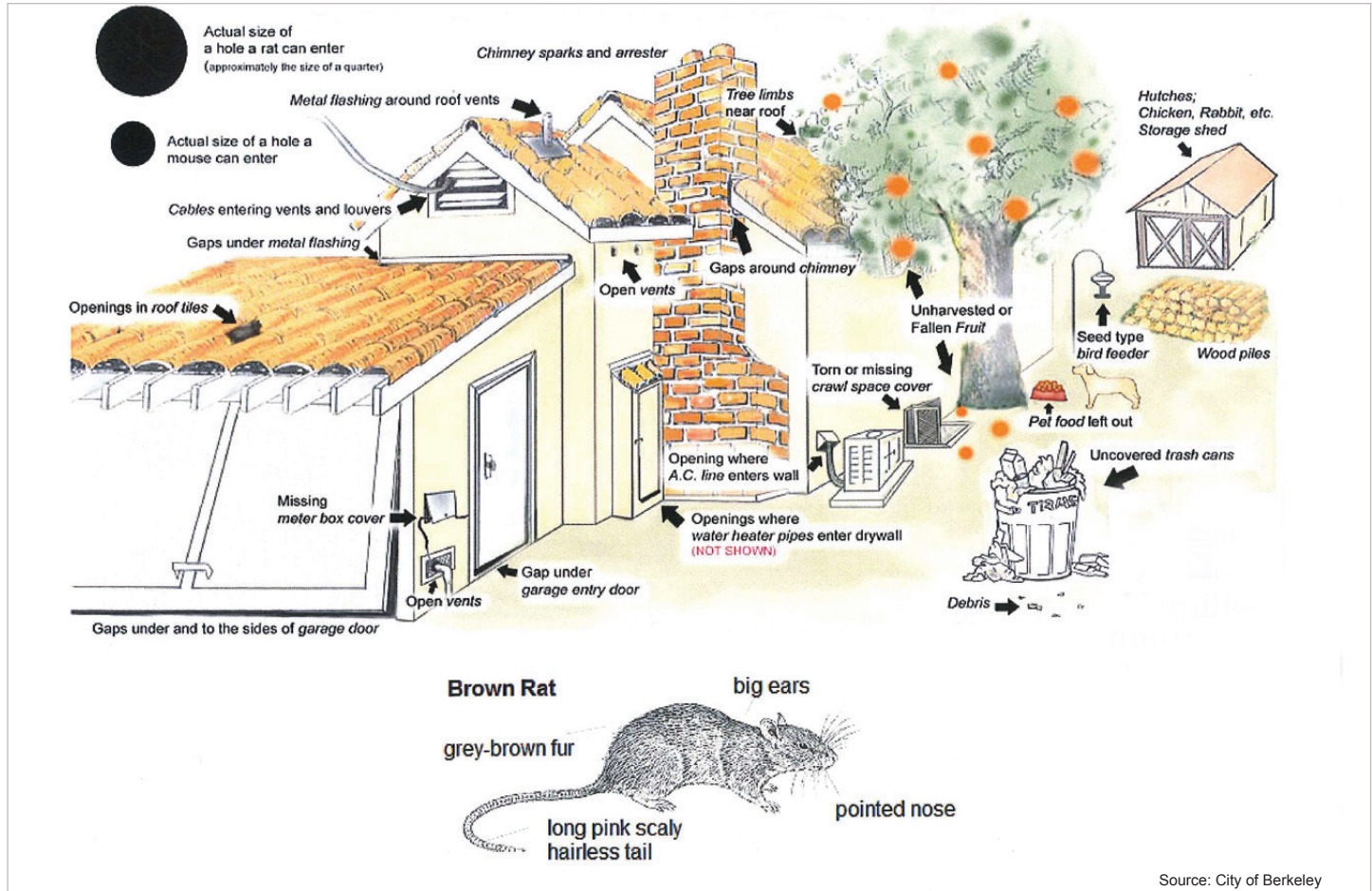


# Rodent and Wild Life Control in the City of Hamilton

## Rodent Control

Cities provide excellent homes for pests such as rats to survive and thrive. Rodents like rats need three things to survive; food, water and shelter. Take away these things and they won't find your property inviting.

### Common Rodent Entry & Harborage Locations



### What are some tips to help deal with and prevent rodent infestations?

- Clean up around your home, and get rid of nesting sites
- Store garbage in rodent-proof containers with tight-fitting lids
- Reduce clutter to prevent hiding spots (wood piles, old tires, etc.)
- Cut tall grasses and weeds around your home
- Remove sources of food (fallen fruit, pet food left outdoors, bird feeders, grass seed, nearby vegetable gardens, etc.)
- Secure composters to prevent rodents from entering and keep the composter clean
- Clean up fallen seeds from around bird feeders

### What should you do if you have seen rats on your property or near your home?

- Snap traps are easy to use and effectively kill rodents
- Baited traps (peanut butter, chocolate, hot dog, etc.) should be placed in areas with rodent activity, but do not set the trap until the bait has been taken at least once (pre-baiting). Use care when handling a trap. Hold the trap by the edges away from the trigger
- Place traps along walls in areas where pests are active. Place the trigger side against the wall
- Keep children and pets away from traps and chemical products

## Rodent and Wild Life Control *in the City of Hamilton*

- Health Canada approved chemical products are available for rat control. Follow manufacturer instructions carefully
- Talk to a licensed pest control company about the use of chemical pest control solutions

### How do I prevent rodents from entering my home?

- Inspect your property often to find out where pests might live, travel and feed
- Look for waste droppings, burrows, chewed food, gnaw marks on walls and surfaces
- Clean up droppings as soon as they are observed
- Seal any holes outside of the home that are larger than ½ inch with metal sheeting
- Use heavy gauge wire mesh to cover vents
- Stuff steel wool around pipes before caulking or plastering

If you are unable to control through the methods listed above, we suggest calling a professional pest control company.

### Is it alright to Feed Wildlife?

No feeding wildlife will do more harm than good for them and us.

People who feed Wildlife usually do so with the best intentions. However feeding wild animals can result in negative consequence for both humans and wildlife.

- Feeding wildlife may attract “unwanted” animals and rodents to your property and neighbourhood
- Animals will learn to associate humans with food and they can become more aggressive and will not forage for their natural food source
- Human food is unhealthy for them and may cause disease, injury and even death
- Feeding animals near roads increases their risk of being hit by vehicles

Don't Harm Wildlife with your kindness....help them remain healthy, safe and free.

### Are there fines for feeding wildlife?

If you feed wildlife, fines of up to \$10,000 for your first time and up to \$25,000 for a subsequent conviction are possible.



Hamilton

*For more information contact and/or to file a complaint contact;*

#### **Municipal Law Enforcement Section**

Parking and By-law Services Division  
 Planning and Economic Development Department  
 Hamilton City Centre, 77 James Street North  
 Main Floor, Suite 250  
 Hamilton, Ontario, L8R 2K3

#### **Monday - Friday**

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 Phone: 905.546.2782  
 After Business Hours: 905.546.2489  
 Email: [mle@hamilton.ca](mailto:mle@hamilton.ca)  
 Website: [www.hamilton.ca/mle](http://www.hamilton.ca/mle)

*For pest complaint;*

#### **Hamilton Public Health Services**

Vector Borne Disease Program  
 110 King Street West, 2nd Floor  
 Hamilton, ON L8P 4S6  
 Tel: (905) 546-2489 Fax: (905) 546-2787

*For feeding of wildlife;*

#### **Animal Services**

247 Dartnall Road  
 Hamilton, Ontario L8W 3V9  
 located at the rear of the SPCA Building  
 Phone: 905-574-3433