



Rats and Mice

Rats and Mice have adapted to living in close proximity to humans. Rodents damage or contaminate food products; whether in fields, production facilities, stores, warehouses and homes costing in excess of two billion dollars per year worldwide. This along with the damage to homes and other structures costing those living in the Northwest millions each year make rodent control necessary.

House mouse-

- Body and tail 7 inches, large ears and eyes, grey to brown in color with nearly hairless tail
- A single female produces 7 to 10 pups per litter, and produce 6 to 10 litters per year
- Can climb vertical rough surfaces and enter homes through any gap of more than 1/4 inch

Deer mouse-

- 6 to 7 inches long, bicolored fur, white feet with a sharp contrast to belly and back color
- A single female produces 4 to 7 pups per litter, 2 to 4 litters per year
- With the warm winter, deer mice are moving into homes at alarming numbers

Norway rat-

- 16 to 18 inches long, grey to brown in color, short tail, snub nose, and weighing up to one pound
- A single female produces 8 to 9 pups per litter, producing 4 to 9 litters per year
- Jumps 3 feet, can swim underwater for 30 seconds, enters homes through gaps of 1/2 inch

Roof rat-

- Tail longer than head and body, up to 16 inches long, eyes and ears large with pointed nose
- A single female produces 4 to 8 pups per litter, producing 3 to 4 litters per year
- Travels horizontal and vertical wires needing a gap of just 1/2 inch to gain entry to homes.
 - Worldwide, rats and mice spread over 35 diseases, which spread through contact with urine, feces, saliva, bites, odor or insects living on the rodents
 - Rats feed on just about anything humans feed on and travel up to 300 feet for food, and are cautious around new things they contact
 - Mice travel up to 30 feet to find food, setting up nests within 4 to 6 feet of food sources

Control Measures –

1. Everything begins with a professional and thorough inspection, finding rodent trails, access points and conducive conditions. This inspection will include the interior and exterior, and an honest appraisal of the customer's view of the issue.
2. From the findings of the inspection a written recommendation is provided to establish clear expectations for everyone involved and a successful management plan.
3. A meeting between the customer and the technical advisor should take place to review the findings and recommendations in step two and agreement reached for a control and maintenance program.
4. Once a control program is agreed upon, the implementation of control measures follow the four levels of control;
 - ✓ Access denial and exclusion to refuse rodents entry
 - ✓ Habitat and harborage modification, making the location undesirable
 - ✓ Physical and mechanical modifications to keep them out
 - ✓ Judicious use of bait in locked and secured bait stations and traps for removal
5. Following treatment, all work will be documented and a free follow-up service planned.

For more information, please call Fikes Pest Control at (800) 900-1083