

NORWAY RATS

Norway rats are a species of rodent, they have small bulging black eyes, a blunt nose, small ears, and a heavy body. Their fur is shaggy in appearance and is usually brown and scattered with black hairs. The fur on their underside is lighter than the rest of their body; usually a gray or whitish color. Adult Norway rat bodies are between 7 and 9 ½ inches in length; their tail is shorter than their body, is usually between 6 and 8 inches in length, and is bi-colored, dark in color on the top and lighter in color on the underside. Their dark, blunt ended, rod-shaped droppings can also be a way to identify these rodents.

Norway rats are dangerous to both people and property. Norway rats can contaminate food and food prep areas with their urine, feces, and saliva. They have the need to constantly chew to keep their front incisors from overgrowing, this habit leads to damage to the structure of the building they are infesting and to the destruction of personal property. They also have the ability introduce serious diseases and bacteria people along with introducing other parasites like mites and fleas into a home or business.

Norway rat problem

Outside Norway rats burrow in things like garbage piles, woodpiles, and under concrete slabs. They move inside while looking for food, water and shelter. They often enter inside of homes and businesses in the late fall when the weather outside becomes cooler and less desirable for them to live comfortably. This species of rat are poor climbers and therefore invade the basements, crawl spaces, and ground floors of homes and commercial properties.

Get rid of Norway rats

Getting help from a pest control expert that has experience eliminating Norway rats is the most effective way to get rid of an infestation. Norway rats are difficult to find and safely eliminate on your own. The best way to safely and completely get rid of Norway rats from your home or business and prevent a re-infestation is to get help from a professional Norway rat control expert.

Prevent problems with Norway rats

The following prevention tips can help to reduce problems with Norway rats.

- Make sure that garbage is placed in outdoor trash containers that have locking lids on them. Store trash containers a distance away from the outside of your property.
- Place woodpiles a distance away from the outside of your home.
- Seal gaps in the foundation, and place door sweeps on exterior doors.
- Place items like bird feeders away from the exterior of your home.
- Place secure screens over dryer and other vents.
- Pick up uneaten pet food and store dry pet food in plastic containers with tight-fitting lids.
- Keep food found inside of your home or business in sealed containers or the refrigerator and not out in the open on counters or tables.