

# 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.

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

## 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 contains 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.

## DPW's Rat Rubout Program

- 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.



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

