



Why are there rodent issues?

- Garbage and recycling items not in approved containers and/or lying on the ground.
- Garbage and recycling containers without lids or that have holes in them allowing rodent access.
- Insufficient garbage containers or dumpster- capacity resulting in overflowed containers that do not close and cause garbage to fall on the ground.
- Uncontained garbage/recycling being placed outside before designated date and time (i.e. too many hours and/or days in advance).
- Brush, junk or other debris in the yard
- Dog feces accumulating in yards and tree lawns.
- Bird feeders and bird food on the ground.
- Feeding wild animals.



Tips for preventing rodents

- Keep trash in approved containers and off the ground.
- Have sufficient trash containers to hold at least two weeks' worth of garbage. The Village of West Milwaukee Department of Public Works (DPW) has approved trash containers available for purchase: 96-gallon containers for \$50. Feel free to contact the DPW at 414-645-6238 for more information, or with any additional questions you may have regarding approved trash containers.
- Keep your yard free of trash, debris, high grass or accumulations of building supplies and other materials.
- Organizing and/or elevating stored items helps discourage harborage and allows you to inspect under and around them more easily.
- If you have pets, pick up waste every day. Per Village ordinance, animal waste must be picked up at least once every 24 hours. Pet waste should be double bagged and placed in an approved trash receptacle.
- If you have bird feeders in your yard, per Village ordinance feed for wild birds shall be placed in a covered hopper, gravity type feeder. The platform of the feeders shall be of reasonable size and surrounded by a ledge to deter food from blowing off. The feeder shall be placed on top of a rodent-proof pole which extends at least 3.5 feet above the ground, and shall be placed at least six feet from the nearest climbable object, or the feeder may be suspended from a tree, if protected by rodent guards. Feed for birds shall not be placed on the ground where it is accessible to rodents.
- Monitor your yard for the presence of rodents, i.e. burrows or rodent trails or sightings.
- Keep your property in good repair so rodents cannot get in cracks and holes.
- Do not feed wild animals.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
West Allis Health Department

Please contact the Department of Public Works (645-6238), Building Inspection (645-1530 ext. 129) or the Health Department (302-8600) if you notice problem properties or rodent activity in your neighborhood.