

## Identify & Solve

### Identify:

Droppings are typically the easiest way to identify a rat problem. Mouse droppings are smaller, like black grains of rice.

You may also see rats, hear rat squeaking as well as hissing and chattering, or find chewed-up material. Outside, there may be burrows or runways.

### How to Get Rid of Rodents

1. Remove sources of food and shelter.
2. Prevent access to your home.
3. Remove excess debris from your yard.
4. Keep compost enclosed in a bin with a tight-fitting lid.
5. Contain chicken and animal food in rat-proof containers.
6. Sweep and contain or dispose of uneaten feed after meals.
7. Eliminate rodents through trapping or professional help.

**Warning: Use of poison is not recommended and should be regarded as a last resort tactic.**

Poison can harm or kill humans, pets, birds, and other animals, as well as our environment.

### Cleaning Up After Rodents

Always take precautions to protect yourself from the potential of infectious disease. Wear gloves, clean surfaces with disinfectant, and follow all labeled instructions.

# TIP

Use the decision-maker flowchart on the back if you see rats.

## Who to Contact

### Rats in or Around Sewers or Public Property:

City of Cottage Grove  
Public Works (541) 942-3340

### Rats on Private Property (Residential or Non-Food):

City of Cottage Grove  
Public Works (541) 942-3340

### At or Near a Food-Related Business or Institution:

Lane County Public Health:  
541-682-4480

Oregon Department of Agriculture - Food Safety  
(503) 986-4720

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### Information from the CDC:

[www.cdc.gov/rodents/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/rodents/index.html)

City of Cottage Grove  
Public Works  
400 E. Main Street  
Cottage Grove, OR 97424  
(541) 942-3340  
[www.cottagegroveor.gov](http://www.cottagegroveor.gov)

# Rat Prevention & Control

*Your Guide to maintaining  
a rat-free property.*

Rat prevention and control is important in order to prevent:

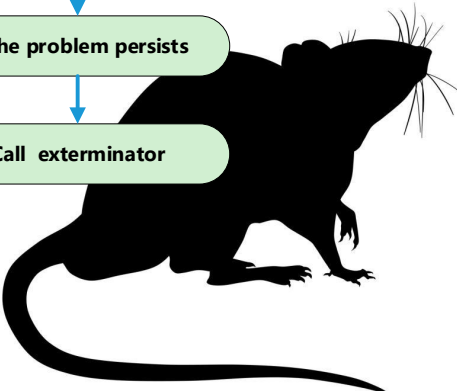
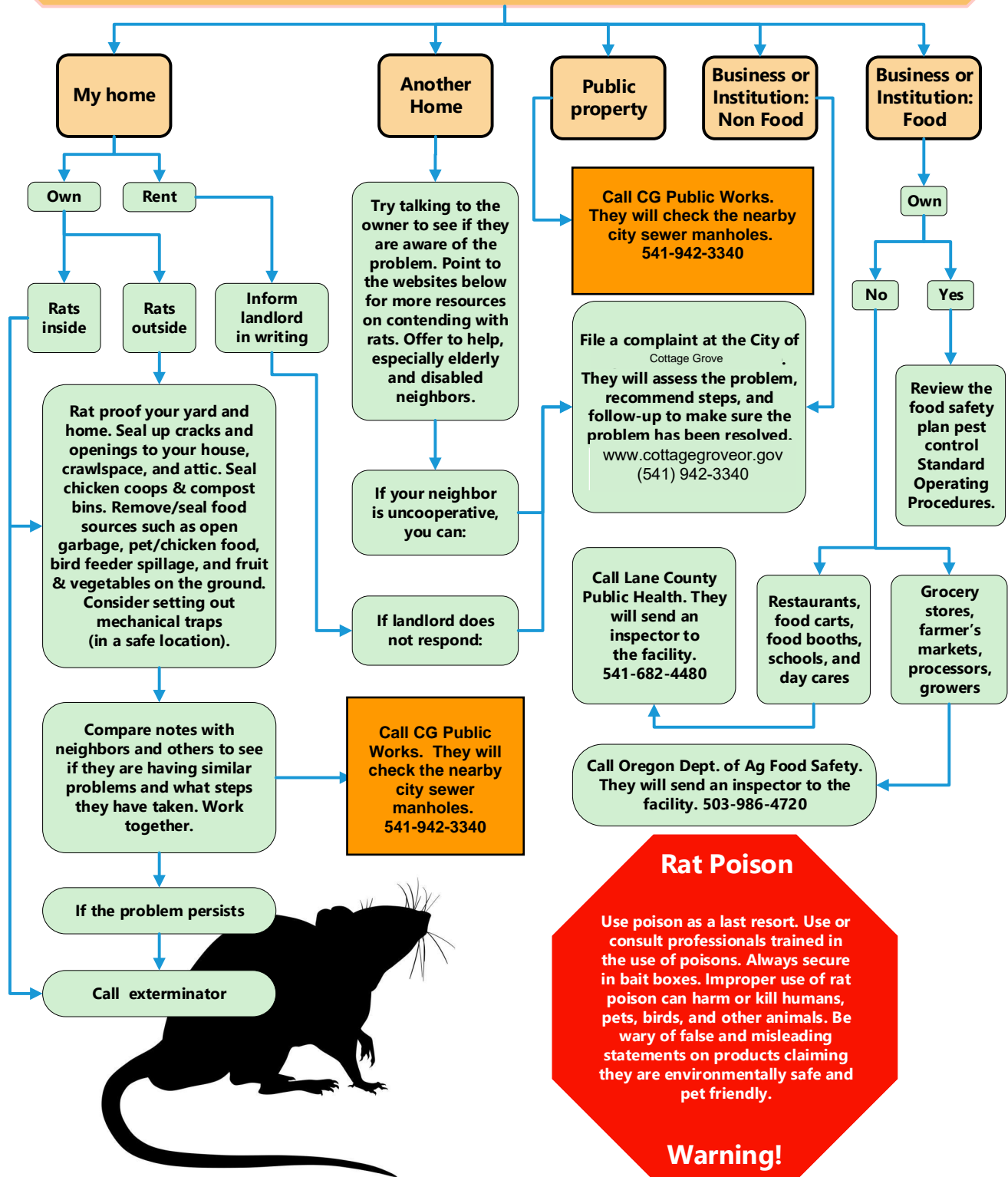
- Public health risk
- Damage to property
- Rapid rodent overpopulation



# What to do if you see rats in the City of Cottage Grove?

USE THIS DECISION TOOL TO HELP YOU DECIDE

## Where is your rat problem?



**Rat Poison**

Use poison as a last resort. Use or consult professionals trained in the use of poisons. Always secure in bait boxes. Improper use of rat poison can harm or kill humans, pets, birds, and other animals. Be wary of false and misleading statements on products claiming they are environmentally safe and pet friendly.

**Warning!**