

It's Our Responsibility

The Pest Control Act identifies the responsibility for controlling and destroying rats resides with every person who owns or operates land or buildings.



- **P**REVENTION
- **A**CCESS
- **I**DENTIFICATION
- **R**EPORTING

P.A.I.R. with PREP on Zero Tolerance

Contact PREP today for more information on provincial rat eradication.



www.prep.sarm.ca

For PCO Forms, Posters, and Baits
Contact your RMO
Call SARM toll free:

1.800.667.3604

Growing Forward 2 

A federal-provincial-territorial initiative



P.A.I.R.



Zero Tolerance St**R**ATegy

You Play an Important Role

Provincial rat eradication is a team effort among:

- Local governments;
- Pest control officers (PCOs);
- Landowners; and
- Producers.

The P.A.I.R. Strategy outlines four key activities: prevention, access, identification, and reporting.



Prevention

Prevention refers to clean up and preventative baiting. Remember to:

- Properly dispose of harborage, rubbish, and debris; cut tall grass
- Burn and bury old grain
- Rotate location of grain bag storage from year to year
- Minimize water and food source access; rat proof your buildings
- Clean up spilled grain and garden waste
- Practice prevention baiting: it's a good neighbor policy

Access

Access to areas of inspection is important for keeping rats under control. Allowing PCOs on your property to conduct inspections while providing safe and open access is key. PCOs are required to inspect all occupied and vacant sites for rats under PREP.

Identification

Help identify vacant and occupied agricultural sites or problem areas to your municipality or pest control officer. Old buildings, buried landfills, private dumping areas, etc. can be potential breeding grounds.

To identify signs of a rat infestation, look for:

- Burrows found under foundations, scrap piles or feed stacks, which are kept free of loose dirt, cobwebs, and dust, located within 100 feet of food and water sources.
- Well-beaten trails or 'rat runs' between nests and food and water sources.
- Oily smudge marks along walls and uprights such as the main joists of roofing beams or the sides of grain bags.

- Rat droppings or 'scats' are capsule shaped (with blunted ends) approx. 20 mm in diameter.
- Signs of gnawing around doors, windows, cracks, knot holes, exposed edges of boards, and concrete.
- Rat tracks, which are unique from other rodents. The front imprint is four-toed while the back print is five-toed.



Reporting

Rats are nocturnal; if you see rats in daylight, it is a likely sign of an infestation. Report rat sightings to your local government office as soon as possible.

PCOs often work alone. Be sure to report any possible hazards your PCO might encounter when inspecting, such as abandoned wells or dangerous animals.