

# Rodent Control Factsheet

## Factors that support rodent activity

- Insufficient garbage containers/dumpster and 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).
- Overgrown shrubs and plants, tall grass, brush piles, tall weeds, etc. providing shelter.
- 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. 96-gallon garbage containers are available for purchase at the Sanitation Dept. Feel free to contact the **Sanitation and Streets Division at 414-302-8800** 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. Keep your property in good repair so rodents cannot get in cracks and holes. Keep all bushes and plants trimmed. Ground cover provides shelter for rats.
- If you have pets, pick up waste every day. Per City 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 City ordinance any feed that falls to the ground **MUST** be cleaned up every 24 hours. Bird food is a food source for rats. If you have rat activity, please cease feeding the birds.
- Monitor your yard for the presence of rodents, i.e. burrows (see photo to the right) or rodent trails or sightings.
- Do not feed wild animals.
- We promote gardens; however they serve as a source of food for rats. We suggest trimming back produce plants, and keeping them off the ground. Also, pick produce before it is ripe.



Please contact the **Department of Public Works (302-8800)**, **Building Inspection (302-8400)** or the **Health Department (302-8600)** if you notice problem properties or rodent activity in your neighborhood. Please leave your name, phone number, and address when filing a complaint in case an inspector needs more detailed information.