

## Nature's Pest Control Experts

Rats, mice and gophers play a critical role in the ecosystem as food for many animals and as seed dispersers for trees and plants. Using poison to kill rodents has the long-term effect of actually increasing the rodent population, since the poison kills off the rodents' natural predators, allowing the rodents to breed unchecked.

By using non-toxic methods, we can keep rodents out of our homes.



#### **LEARN MORE:**

Raptors Are The Solution raptors are the solution.org/

All About Owls allaboutowls.org

Hungry Owl Project hungryowl.org/

Safe Rodent Control saferodentcontrol.org/



#### **Photo Credits:**

Mike Bolte–White-tailed Kite Pamela Dimeler–Barred Owls Joe Galkowski–Great Horned Owls, Bobcat Dave Harper–Burrowing Owls, Hare Pamela Rose Hawken–Barn Owls, Northern Harrier Lisa Sebastian–Bodie the Dog





## Are You Poisoning Wildlife and Pets?

Every day, wildlife and pets are in danger of being poisoned when homeowners, businesses or exterminators choose

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to use anticoagulant rodenticides, also known as rat poisons, to control rodents.



# The Truth About Anticoagulent Rat Poison

Despite the claims of the pest control industry, there is no such thing as a "safe" rat poison.

Dozens of scientific studies have found anticoagulentrat poisons in a wide variety of wildlife, including foxes, bobcats, coyotes, mountain lions, and every species of hawk and owl. Rat poison also kills pet dogs and cats as well as scavengers like raccoons, skunks and opossums.



Rat poison leads to a slow, painful death for all animals who are exposed to it, whether they consume the poison directly or eat the flesh of a poisoned animal.

## **Death by Poison**

Rat poison is often used in bait stations, but the rodents do not die inside the stations. After eating the bait, rats and mice go back into the environment and can take more than a week to die. During that time they may return to the bait station and ingest many more times the lethal dose. Weakened from internal bleeding, poisoned rodents are a toxic ticking bomb for any animal who preys on them.

No matter who uses it—professionals or homeowners—all types of rodent poison can sicken and kill wildlife and pets.

#### 2nd-generation anticoagulants:\*

Brodifacoum Bromadiolone Difenacoum Difethialone

## 1st-generation anticoagulants:\* slower acting but no safer

Chlorophacinone Diphacinone

#### Other toxic rodenticides:

Bromethalin Cholecalciferol

(Check labels for these active ingredients.)

\* In California, with some exemptions (for medical production facilities and a few others), AB 1788 and AB 1322 prohibit use of these products. If you see them in use—or on store shelves—please report the violation to your county agricultural commissioner or the CA Department of Pesticide Regulation (see our website for more information).

### Rodent-Proof Your Home or Business: Non-Toxic Pest Control Works!

- Keep trash bins tightly closed, clean up refuse; remove pet food, spilled birdseed and fallen fruit.
- Seal cracks and crevices leading into your home.
   Use <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-inch metal mesh, not chicken wire, to block entry points.
- Trim foliage and tree limbs at least 2 feet away from sides and roof of house.
- Use snap traps or electronic zappers to catch any rodents remaining indoors.
- NEVER use glue or sticky traps—they kill songbirds and other non-target wildlife.
- Attract barn owls to your property with a nest

box—a single barn owl can catch 1,400+ rodents a year!

If you need to hire a professional, only hire exterminators who are trained in integrated pest management. IPM works to permanently exclude rats by rodent-proofing your home.

