

If you have any or all of the above signs of a rodent infestation, your next step would be to find, and eliminate their entrance into your home and/or yard.

- **Start your investigation at the exterior of your home. You want to look for areas that provide food, harborage, and water. For example, wood piles, piles or stacks of refuse, shrubs, birdfeeders, attics, crawl spaces, cupboards, closets, and food storage areas. As for how they enter your home, watch areas around windows, door thresholds, utility lines, rooftops, and downspouts.**



Excluding Rodents From Your Yard

- **All rubbish piles and refuse need to be eliminated**



- Landscaped areas need to be properly maintained with wood piles elevated off the ground



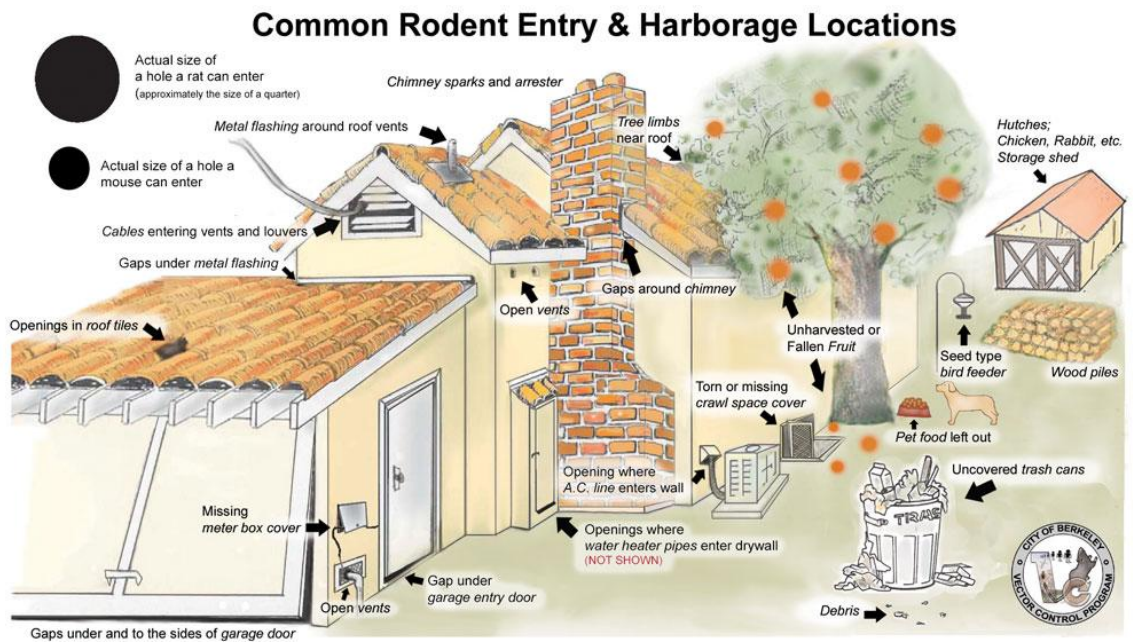
- Garbage cans and dumpsters should have tight fitting lids



- Rodents can live off of the spilled and surplus food from bird feeders and pet food



Keeping them out of your house



- Check openings under doors, add flashing or appropriate material to close the gap. Remember, rats can enter a space greater than 1/2" and mice a space greater than 1/4".
- In spaces created by utilities, gaps around chimneys, gaps under flashing and holes in roof tiles, a metal mesh (such as steel or copper wool) can be used to plug the holes.
- Larger holes, such as in attic vents, a wire mesh can be used to prohibit the entrance of rodents.