

Now that you have eliminated entrance into your yard and/or your home, it is time to get rid of them.

- **Trapping**

1. Use plenty of traps. You may need more than you think. Usually the rat population is larger than expected.
2. Choose the correct trap. A mouse trap will not capture a rat.
3. Place traps in areas of high-activity (darkened corner, behind appliances, along walls, and wherever rat feces are found).
4. Place traps approximately 15 to 20 feet apart.
5. Position traps to maximize likelihood of rats to come across it in their natural travels.
6. Placement of unset traps in a new location for a week or two before setting them will increase the chance of trapping. Rats are leery of new objects in their environment.
7. Set out, unset rat traps can be buried in grain, sawdust, or similar materials within an empty cardboard box or pie pan. Place the rat bait in small pieces near it and above it with the hidden trap below. Once the rats start taking the bait, set the traps. This will acclimate the rats to the traps, once acclimated, set enough traps to kill a large percentage of the population before the rodents become "trap shy". This is called mass trapping, trapping them at a higher rate than they can repopulate and become shy of the trap.

- **Types of Traps**

Rat Snap Traps:

Advantages: relatively inexpensive and will instantly kill a rat

Disadvantages: The spring on the rat snap trap is very strong (it could break a finger); keep it out of reach of children and your pets.



Glue Traps:

- Advantages:
1. Rat glue traps are safer to use than snap traps unless the snap traps are placed in protective bait stations.
 2. Rats are less likely to become "trap shy". The glue boards have a lower profile so the rat is less suspicious of the new object.
 3. Less costly than snap traps.
 4. Glue traps can be used inside in a variety of places.

- Disadvantages:
1. Glue traps need to be kept in a dry and dust free area.
 2. **It may be considered inhumane to the rat as the rat may not die immediately.**



ADVANTAGES OF USING RAT TRAPS

1. Poison rodent baits may be dangerous to children and pets.
2. For smaller infestations, rat traps provide quick results.
3. Easier to locate the dead rat for easy disposal.

DISADVANTAGES OF USING RAT TRAPS

1. If the infestation is large and severe, trapping can be very time consuming and labor intensive.
2. Trapping rat programs are not as cost effective as rodent bait programs.
3. Some rat traps such as the snap traps can injure people, pets, children, or wildlife if they encounter the trap.
4. **Some rat traps such as glue boards are not considered humane.**

When to use Rat Traps

- **Use rat traps when poison baits may pose a potential hazard to children, pets or wildlife.**
- **Use rats traps where rodent baits are not allowed due to the possibility of food contamination.**
- **Use rat traps when rodents exhibit bait shyness.**
- **Use rat traps when dead rodents may create odors.**

After trapping the rat

- **Wear gloves when disposing the rat. On a daily basis, check the traps and replace the traps if needed.**
- **If you are concerned with any health threats from the dead rodent, use a household disinfectant.**