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**ATTENTION HOME AND BUSINESS OWNERS:
RAT POISON/ BAIT AND BAIT BOXES ARE
DEADLY TO PETS AND WILDLIFE**

Rodent poison comes in various forms- pellets, granules, and blocks. Sometimes it is housed in a bait box and sometimes it is scattered. Different kinds of rodent poisons are harmful in different ways but ALL rodenticides are harmful to pets and wildlife. Rodents that are poisoned do not die, they become lethargic and are easy prey items for predators and pets. If you use any type of rodenticide- you will cause secondary poisoning (often lethal) to wildlife and/or domestic animals and pets.

Exclusion- Rats and mice can enter a home or building through 1/4" - 1/2" gaps. Without sealing off their method of entry, the rodent problem can continue to persist. **Seal off possible points of entry.** Gophers are territorial and live alone (except when with young). They will defend their territory, but if one dies, others are immediately ready to move in. Therefore, exclusion, as much as possible is very important.

Prevention- Rats and mice look for food, shelter and water. The removal of these will go a long way in preventing a rat or mouse infestation. Remove places where they nest and hide such as ivy, thick vines, dense shrubs and any debris piles. Do not feed pets outside, clean up under bird feeders, pick up fallen fruit and put fertilizers in metal containers. Keep compost away from buildings, **use secure trash bins** and keep tree branches away from buildings. Plant mostly native aromatic plants and those that deter Gophers (such as Gopher Spurge, Sour Clover and Daffodils). Water less when earthworm eating Moles are present (moist soil will make it easier for them to and the worms).

Trapping- Rats and mice can be trapped successfully using regular mouse traps, but placement is key. Please do NOT use inhumane glue traps or any form of trap outside the home to avoid killing non-targeted wildlife.

Work together- Rodent problems are a community problem. Work together as a community to find solutions. It's important that there is an agreement NOT to use any form of rodent poisons such as store bought D-Con, that can be fatal to pets and natural predators of rodents (such as hawks, owls, eagles, falcons, coyotes, foxes, raccoons, opossums, bob cats, mountain lions and more). Work together to encourage natural predators using owl boxes and raptor perches.