



## Why control rats

- Rats can spread and directly transmit disease to humans;
- They can carry parasites such as ticks, worms, lice and fleas which can pass onto domestic animals and humans;
- Droppings, urine and hair can cause contamination of food and surfaces; and
- Doors, pipes, electrical wiring, and insulation may all be damaged.

## Signs of rat activity

- Grease trail rat runs
- Signs of gnawing
- Rustling sounds
- Pet excitement
- Rat nests

## How to effectively use rat bait

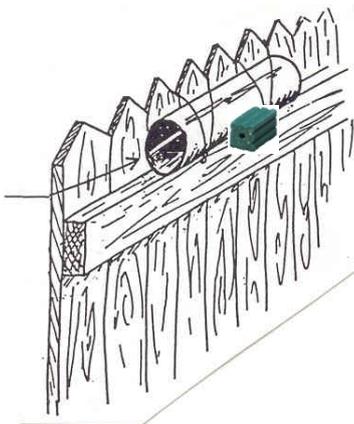
The bait that you have been supplied with is an anticoagulant poison which causes internal bleeding. It is a primary rodenticide meaning it is fast acting and does not require repeat feedings to cause death. As such the bait must only be accessible to rats and not to other animals or people.

Place baits in sheltered locations out of the sun or rain using either of the bait station methods illustrated below. Ensure pets and children do not have access to the baits. Rats are suspicious and wary of change. The bait may need to sit a few days for it to become familiar rat feed. To prevent the return of rats, trim foliage overhanging near roofs and seal eaves, remove wood/junk piles, car wrecks, overgrown vegetation and dropped fruit. Baiting is only effective if other food sources and cover are eliminated.

## Controlling with rat bait

Be mindful of wildlife and be certain you are targeting rats (and not possums which are native fauna protected by law). Possum droppings are larger and differ in shape from rat droppings. To see the difference, or if you think you may have a possum problem, see *Fauna Notes Possums – Damage Prevention Control* (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions).

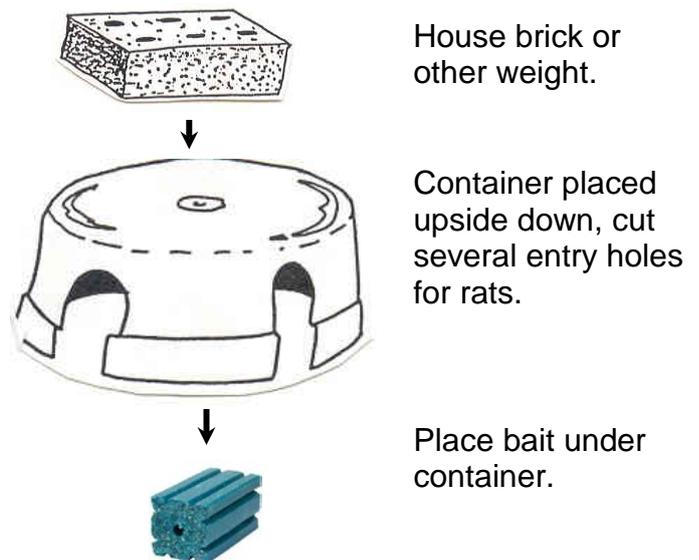
### METHOD 1



#### If rats are seen running along the fence

- Use plastic PVC Pipe approx. 450mm length and 75mm diameter.
- Place bait in middle of pipe

### METHOD 2



House brick or other weight.

Container placed upside down, cut several entry holes for rats.

Place bait under container.



### Precautions using rat bait

- Refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) supplied. Do not ingest or inhale as rat bait is poisonous;
- Do not place baits in areas where they will be exposed to rain or sun or accessible to children or pets;
- Monitor bait stations;
- Be vigilant of dead and/or affected rats and dispose of them to ensure no secondary poisoning of other animals;
- This bait is individually wrapped and is not required to be unwrapped to be effective, however, where possible keep handling to a minimum; and
- Where rat bait comes into contact with skin, wash skin thoroughly with soap and water.

### Poisoning

- The rat bait supplied is **Liphatech Maki Block weather proof rodenticide, active ingredient Bromadiolone: 50mg/kg**. Refer to Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for more information.
- Symptoms of poisoning may include weakness, breathlessness, nose bleed, blood in saliva, urine and/or faeces, pale gums and tongue.
- If poisoning occurs, seek medical assistance immediately. The Poisons Information Centre can be contacted on 13 11 26. If swallowed, and if more than 15 minutes from a hospital, induce vomiting, preferably using Ipecac Syrup APF. Vitamin K1 (Phytomenadione) is an antidote.

### Alternatives to rat bait supplied by the City

- Other rat bait;
- Various aromatic proprietary products to deter rats;
- Structural modifications (e.g. seal access points, cut trees away from roof);
- 50:50 mixture of dry cement powder and corn flour placed in a shallow dish;
- Snap traps (use bacon tied on with piece of wire), rat zapper traps, cage traps, bucket traps; and
- contact a pest control professional.

Alternatives to rat bait have their applications in different situations and may take a combination of methods to combat rats. Where applicable, follow manufacturer specifications. The RSPCA has published information on the most humane way to kill pest rats and mice.

You may also wish to Contact the City's Environmental Health Services on 9273 3500.

### Further information

- Safety Data Sheet (SDS) Liphatech Maki Block Weather Proof Rodenticide
- Facts on Rats, Department of Health WA
- RSPCA "What is the most humane way to kill pest rats and mice"
- Protect your health – keep rats under control, Department of Health WA
- Fauna Notes Possums – Damage Prevention Control, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions