



Integrated Pest Control Solutions

County of San Diego, Department of Agriculture, Weights & Measures
Integrated Pest Control Program
Providing Safe and Effective Pest Management using the least toxic methods
ipc.awm@sdcounty.ca.gov



The Rodents Among Us: Identifying Species and Implementing IPM Solutions

Rodents can carry diseases, contaminate food supplies, and cause structural damage, making them a significant concern for San Diego county residents. Found in urban, suburban, and rural areas, learning to recognize signs of rodent activity can help protect your home and community.

Common Rodents in San Diego county



Roof Rats

Characteristics: Roof rats are agile climbers and are typically found in attics, trees, and other above-ground areas

Habitat: Favor warm, dry areas above ground and are often drawn to fruit trees and garden areas

Signs: Droppings, gnaw marks on wires, and nests in high places



Deer Mice

Characteristics: Often found in rural or semi-rural areas such as the desert and mountainous regions

Habitat: They are commonly found outdoors but may enter garages, barns, or sheds

Signs: Small droppings, nests made of plant material, and occasional sightings around rural homes or structures



Norway Rats

Characteristics: Larger and less common than roof rats, Norway rats prefer to burrow underground or in low spaces

Habitat: Norway rats create extensive burrows outdoors, often near buildings, in wood piles, or under concrete slabs

Signs: Large droppings, burrows around foundations, and gnaw marks near ground-level opening



House Mice

Characteristics: Small, agile, and among the most troublesome rodents; often living alongside humans in both urban and rural settings

Habitat: Found in homes, commercial buildings, and agricultural areas, house mice seek food, warmth, and shelter indoors

Signs: Tiny droppings, gnawed food packages, and shredded paper or fabric nests inside walls or hidden spaces



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IPM Solutions for Rodent Control

- **Prevention** – Seal entry points around doors, windows, pipes, and foundations, remove food sources, and eliminate nesting sites by trimming vegetation around buildings.
- **Monitoring** - Regularly check for signs of rodent activity, such as droppings, gnaw marks, and nests. Early detection allows for quicker intervention.
- **Control Measures** - Use traps to control rodents to reduce risks to non-target animals and children, and seek profession help when needed.
- **Evaluation** - Once control measures are in place, evaluate their effectiveness regularly.

Want to learn more about Rodents?



[County of San Diego Vector Control](#)



[CDC – How to Seal Up to Prevent Rodents](#)

AWM's Integrated Pest Control (IPC) Program contributes to a safe and healthy work environment by providing safe and effective structural pest control at County facilities. IPC also conducts various weeds control activities to preserve road visibility and clearance, reduce fire danger, enhance drainage to prevent flooding, and help protect the region's biodiversity.

FY 24/25		Quarter 1		Quarter 2		Quarter 3		Quarter 4	
Type of Pesticide		Quantity	Treatment Description	Quantity	Treatment Description	Quantity	Treatment Description	Quantity	Treatment Description
Herbicides									
	Dry	2.5 lbs.	468 acres						
	Liquid	412 gallons							
Insecticides									
	Dry	16 lbs.	485 application						
	Liquid	6 gallons							
Rodenticide									
	Dry	236 lbs.	600 stations						
Non-Chemical									
	Traps	3,405	160 facilities						

Table 1. Amount of pesticides applied by IPC per quarter.