



# 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
<b>Herbicides</b>								
	<b>Dry</b>	2.5 lbs.	467.85 acres					
	<b>Liquid</b>	412 gallons						
<b>Insecticides</b>								
	<b>Dry</b>	16 lbs.	485 application					
	<b>Liquid</b>	gallons						
<b>Rodenticide</b>								
	<b>Dry</b>	236 lbs.	600 stations					
<b>Non-Chemical</b>								
	<b>Traps</b>	3,405	160 facilities					

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