

## AT HOMES AND BUSINESSES

When people alter the landscape, the balance of the ecosystem may tip in favor of pest species that thrive in human-disturbed landscapes.



Natural predators feed on rodents, thus helping to control their populations.



When we use poisons, we can inadvertently harm, or even kill, wildlife and our pets.



Use alternatives to poison.

## RESOURCES

**Poison Free Malibu**  
PoisonFreeMalibu.org

**California Wildlife Center**  
CAwildlife.org

**Earth Island Project**  
RaptorsAreTheSolution.org

**Safe Rodent Control**  
SafeRodentControl.org

**Household Hazardous Waste**  
CleanLA.com

## REACH US



23825 Stuart Ranch Rd  
Malibu, CA 90265



310-456-2489



MalibuCity.org/PoisonFree  
MalibuCity.org/EarthFriendly



**CITY OF MALIBU**  
Community Services Department  
Environmental Sustainability Department

## CITY OF MALIBU

**PROTECT  
WILDLIFE  
TOGETHER**



**Rodent Control and  
Our Environment**



## Rodent Poisons

Each day wildlife is in danger of being poisoned by homeowners, local businesses, and professional exterminators. The poison comes from commonly used pesticides, the most dangerous of which are called **anticoagulant rodenticides**.

These poisons target rats, mice, gophers and squirrels, but also can kill **hawks, owls, bobcats, coyotes, and mountain lions**. Domestic animals like dogs and cats are also vulnerable to these poisons.

Primary poisoning happens when the targeted animal consumes the rodenticide bait. Secondary poisoning occurs when a predator consumes the poisoned rodents, which allows the poison to work its way up the food chain.

**Remember: Poisons should always be properly disposed of as Household Hazardous Waste. Find a collection event at [CleanLA.com](http://CleanLA.com)**

# SOLUTIONS

CLEAN UP  
SEAL UP  
TRAP UP



## MALIBU'S COMMITMENT

The City adopted a resolution urging Malibu businesses to no longer use or sell anticoagulant rodenticides, and urged all local property owners to cease purchasing or using these chemicals on their properties.

In 2016, the City adopted an Earth Friendly Management Policy and discontinued the use of all rodenticides, and removed traps from city-owned parks, roads, and property. In 2021, the California Coastal Commission will review the City's proposal to ban pesticides within City limits.



## PEST CONTROL ALTERNATIVES

The "chemicals only" approach to pest control is only a temporary fix. **Integrated Pest Management** is a better long-term solution.

- Rodent-proof your home instead of using poisons.
- Install owl perches and nesting boxes to encourage natural predation.
- Use mechanical traps such as capture, snap or electronic; baits are not preferable.

You can minimize sources of food, water, and shelter that rodents seek out to survive.

**Preventative action is critical!**



## PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

- Seal cracks and crevices that may lead into your home, garage, attic, and crawl space.
- Use 1/4 inch metal mesh (not chicken wire) to seal off entry points, and steel wool for smaller holes.
- Keep trash and recycling areas clean and use tight-fitting lids on waste containers.
- Maintain landscaping - keep a 2-foot space between bushes; remove tree limbs within 3 feet of structures; keep grass under 2 inches
- Thin or remove climbing hedges from buildings.
- Don't leave pet food outdoors.
- Remove bird feeders and baths.



## NO SAFE POISONS

Many non-targeted animals are affected by indiscriminate poisoning.

Replacing anti-coagulant rat poisons with another poison will not eliminate the risk to wildlife. No poisons available on the market in the U.S. have zero risk of unintended consequences for wildlife.