

# ATTENTION- IVORY CROSSING RAT INFESTATION!!

Ivory Crossings Neighborhood is experiencing alarmingly high activity for rats. We are pleading that as neighbors we work together and with professionals to eradicate this Major Issue.

## Is there really a rat infestation?

Neighbors throughout Ivory are reporting frequent and growing numbers of rats on their property. The map below shows “hot spots” for rats in the neighborhood; this is not just a canal issue. To give you an idea of the severity of the situation, a pest technician that is currently working with several neighbors said, **“I have never seen a residential neighborhood this bad.”** One Ivory Crossing resident was told their bait box should last them 6-8 months... the bait was empty after just 1 week. One hot spot from **one property is killing over 50 rats per week and still losing the battle!**

## I haven't seen any rats, maybe it's not an issue where I'm at?

Again, taking a look at the map will confirm that there is rat activity **throughout the East side of 3200 W. and spreading.** But, why is it that not all are seeing rats? To give you a little “rat research,” rats are nocturnal animals and like to dig burrows or tunnels to transport. Rats dig tunnels under concrete, fences, grass, driveways, etc. Although rats are nocturnal, multiple residents have seen rats during the daytime which experts indicate points to a severe infestation as rats are having to compete for food. Some residents that are using bait boxes have reported although they haven't seen live rats, their bait boxes are being used and emptied at unprecedented rates. Rats can reproduce every 21-25 days. **A population can swell from 2 rats to 1,250 in one year.**

## What impacts do rats have to a community?

Rats carry many diseases and are a major health hazard. In addition to health impacts, rats cause a tremendous amount of damage. They dig burrows and destroy property.. Rats are also currently causing emotional distress to neighbors, especially those in hot spot areas. Many do not feel comfortable enjoying the comforts of their own backyard because of fear of rats.

## Ew!! What can I do?!

As a community, we are calling all residents to work together and with professionals to eradicate rats. Here are just a few ways that we can start:

- Do NOT feed ducks on the canal- **This is attracting rats. Rats then eat ducklings.**
- Remove open food sources left outside- **Chicken feed, bird feed, fallen fruit, pet food, etc.**
- Keep bushes trimmed/managed-**Overgrown bushes are a hotspot for rat nests.**
- Purchase commercial bait boxes and only use GLOVES when picking them up-**Buffo's pest control has agreed to provide a neighborhood discount. \$45 for initial box and \$5 to refill each time. If you want to be included text Natalie at 801-326-9878.**
- Attend HOA meetings** to contribute your voice and concerns.