

## SAMPLE LETTER REGARDING THE USE OF AR'S AND BAIT BOXES

Dear (target company, school, medical practice, property management, etc.)

My name is (insert name) and I reside in/at (insert neighborhood/town/city/county) and I (insert shop, attend, visit, frequent, live) at (insert name of your target above).

I have recently visited (insert name of place) and was surprised to see that (insert name of place) is using rodenticide bait stations to control unwelcome rodents. I feel (insert name of place) wants to do all it can to protect its (insert customers, visitors, patients, clients, residents, etc.) against nuisance rodent related issues, but worry you may have overlooked the truth about choosing these outdated methods.

Perhaps you have been mis-informed by the chemical product or pest management companies and are unaware of the real dangers rodent poison pose on the interconnected food web. Since there is no such thing as a safe poison, the far-reaching, devastating effects these ingredients are having on non-targeted victims and our environment are reaching dangerous levels. The bait stations you have placed around your building contain a deadly type of poison called anticoagulant rodenticides or AR's. Victims that consume the bait are poisoned with the anticoagulant that remains in their bodies even after they have died, which can take 2-10 days on average. Targeted nuisance rodents do not die at the bait stations themselves, instead they go back into the environment where they become easy prey for all kinds of predators as well as domesticated pets. Even small children can unintentionally fall victim to these AR's since this method is not streamlined to affect only the nuisance target and there is no way to control who ingests the bait. All victims who consume this poison are eventually weakened as they succumb to the effects of the overdose of anticoagulants. Basically, they suffer from uncontrolled bleeding from the inside out. Before an animal dies, they become delayed and disoriented making them ideal prey for predators.

It is understandable to want to eliminate rodents on your property, but there are better, wildlife-friendly ways to achieve that goal that actually tackle the issue at the root cause. Poisons only perpetuate the problem and have never actually solved them. We hope that you will reconsider the use of AR's around your property and instead focus on improving sanitation and excluding and deterring rodents using non-lethal products and the many suggested methods listed below.

Sincerely,

(insert your contact information)

# ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS To Rodenticide Poisons

## SANITATION/EXCLUSION WORK

*SOS - Seek Out Source of water, food, shelter*

- Clean up areas where there is garbage, waste, stored foods, water, or nesting material
  - Clean up fallen seed from bird feeders, chicken coops, livestock stalls
  - Use feed bags to collect grains or clean up after each feeding
  - Elevate predator proofed chicken coops by 18 inches
  - Clean up access to interior spaces that can offer easy nesting areas
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- Remove any ground cover such as IVY which offers rodents a place to hide

*Keep in mind, Rodents will eat excrement, so if you own animals, scoop and remove waste*

- Seal all holes in roofs, walls, foundation, crawl spaces, and sheds
- Seal all holes around pipes, cables, and electrical wires that enter structures
- Cap chimneys, plumbing, vents with hardware cloth
- Use wire mesh or hardware cloth under decks that extend partially into the ground



## REMEMBER TO

**never use snap/zap traps** unless they are safely contained or placed so other non-target animals do not become victims.

**If you choose Live Traps** they must be checked routinely or they are not Humane.

**Please don't use Sticky Traps or Glue Boards EVER** too many other animals get stuck in them, and these are not Humane

## HELP KEEP US SAFE



**ELIMINATE THE USE OF POISONS ON YOUR PROPERTY USE SAFE ALTERNATIVES INSTEAD**



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[aplacecalledhoperaptors.com/alternatives-to-rodenticides/](http://aplacecalledhoperaptors.com/alternatives-to-rodenticides/)  
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# ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS To Rodenticide Poisons

## SAFE NON-TOXIC ALTERNATIVES TO POISONS

**Natural Cayenne Pepper or Peppermint Oil** work as deterrents when applied in areas rodents frequent or when applied along foundations, walls, used as pathways. The Spices/Oils offend rodent senses and gum up their whiskers, which are critical for navigation.  
*Bonus: the oils smell good to humans.*

**Cayenne Pepper** can be added to compost bins, bird seed feeders, and chicken coops. Mix it directly into bird foods. Rats hate it and birds actually don't mind the hot spices!

**Essential Oil products** are plentiful and effective, and come in many combinations of scents with a mint base. Choose oils that make your own eyes water to be confident they will effectively deter rodents.

**Put up Owl Nesting Boxes** and Raptor Perches to encourage natural predators to the area.

**Snap Traps, Live Traps, Zap Traps, CO2 Traps** are methods that don't cause prolonged suffering making them a Humane alternative.

**Dry Ice** purchased at welding supply stores and even some grocery stores placed in rat burrows will create a gas similar to a CO2 Chamber which achieves death by suffocation. Seal up all exits, drop dry ice into main entrance and trap rodents inside burrow to achieve the gas exchange. This method in theory is Humane but an unregulated CO2 chamber is not.

### Fertility Control Products

(Contrapest) (Contraceptol) (Good Bites) these natural, non-hormone-based ingredients lessen rodent fertility, which helps to knock back large populations to a manageable number making it easier to apply safe, non-toxic alternatives. Like Poisons, these non-chemical products must be supplied on a routine schedule to remain effective. This is a safe alternative to poisonous bait stations with no secondary effect if ingested by small children, domesticated pets, or wildlife.

**Smart Technology** based products are connected to internet services for ease and effectiveness in Agricultural, or Municipalities where populations can easily become infestations.

**High Intensity Strobe Lights** (Evictor) disruptive enough to discourage rodents.

**Rat X or Mouse X** is specific to rodents and does not affect species other than rodents. All Rodents will slowly dehydrate which is a painful way to die therefore, *This method is not considered Humane or safe* since it is a bait and there are risks to non-targeted rodents.

**The use of Instant Potato Flakes** is a similar approach resulting in dehydration and death. These methods should be monitored in an enclosed area specific to the nuisance targeted rodent.

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