

Work Plan: Environmental Rodent Control Impacts

Define the Problem

Research Applicable Policy and
Laws

Investigate Possible Solutions

Investigate how to Best
Implement Solutions

Report

1. Define the Problem (Info packet #14-17)

Rodent-control methods to avoid

Be informed and say no to harmful rodent control methods

REASONS TO SAY NO TO RODENTICIDES:

- ✗ CAUSE SLOW, PAINFUL DEATHS IN RODENTS AND PREDATORS WHO EAT THEM
- ✗ HARM OTHER ANIMALS WHO MAY EAT THE BAIT, INCLUDING OUR PETS
- ✗ MAY LEAVE TOXIC RESIDUES IN OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS

REASONS TO SAY NO TO GLUE TRAPS:

- ✗ ANIMALS DIE BY SUFFOCATION, DEHYDRATION OR EXPOSURE – WITH NO WAY TO GET FREE
- ✗ CATCHES OTHER ANIMALS LIKE BIRDS, CHIPMUNKS, SQUIRRELS, AND CATS, CAUSING AVOIDABLE SUFFERING



2. Applicable Policy and Laws (Provincial)



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL PESTICIDES
ACT (INFO PACKET #4)

3. Investigate Possible Solutions

By-Law (B.C.; Info Packet #1-2)

Policy (City of Pickering; Info packet #5-7)

Pilot (City of Clarington; Info packet, # 8-9)

Pilot (City of London, Info packet #10)

- **By-Law:**
- **Model – Province of British Columbia (#1-2)**

- **History/Process**
 - **2020** – Over 20 B.C. municipalities pass motions to eliminate rodenticide use on all municipal properties
 - **2021** – Ministerial order to ban certain active ingredients for 18-months to allow staff to research and review alternatives
 - **2023** – B.C. introduces permanent regulations to restrict the use of certain active ingredients with exemptions
- **By-Law**
 - All inclusive sale/use restrictions
 - Offence, Fines, and Enforcement
- **Legality**
 - **Ontario Municipal Act Sections 10 (2) and 11 (2)** authorize municipalities to enact by-laws respecting health, safety, animals
 - **Ontario Pesticides Act Section 7.1 (5)** only explicitly renders by-laws inoperative for "...a pesticide that may be used for a cosmetic purpose."

British Columbia


B.C. permanently bans use of rat poison

Province says rodenticides have harmful impacts on other wildlife

CBC News · Posted: Oct 28, 2022 6:14 PM EDT | Last Updated: October 28, 2022



The province of B.C. is banning the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARS). (AFP/Getty Images)

X    [544 comments](#)

The province of B.C. has decided to make a temporary ban on the use of rat poison permanent.

Last July, the government imposed an 18-month ban on the use of rodenticides over concerns the poison is inadvertently killing owls, among other wildlife.

The permanent regulatory changes announced Friday will ban the widespread sale and use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARS), which the province says risk the secondary poisoning of animals who consume poisoned rodents.

• Policy: Model – City of Pickering (#5-7)

▪ History/Process

- **June 2023** - Resolution #238/23 directs staff to develop a policy banning the use of rodenticides on all City of Pickering properties and a communications strategy for educating residents and business on the harmful impacts of rodenticides and the availability of humane, ecologically sustainable alternatives.
- Initial resolution required that the Mayor write, on behalf of Council, to the provincial Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) requesting that the Province of Ontario introduce a Province wide ban on the use of rodenticides, to increase protection for wildlife species.
- **December 2023** - Council adopts policy prepared by facilities management, endorsed by community services director, and recommend by chief administrative officer

▪ Policy

- To reduce the impact of the City's Pest Management Program on wildlife, it is the Policy of the City of Pickering that:
 - The use of Anticoagulant Rodenticide or other Regulated Substances for rodent pest management is prohibited on all City-owned properties, except where expressly authorized as a last resort option by the Director, Community Services; and
 - The use of Anticoagulant Rodenticide or other Regulated Substances for rodent pest management is discouraged on private property
- Establishes definitions, roles, responsibilities, and procedures including monitoring by any retained service provider
- Prohibits rodent bait traps using regulated substances and glue boards in population control methods
- Includes Education Campaign

Pickering becomes Ontario's first city to pass Animal Poisoning Prevention Policy

By Ojasvini Parashar • Global News
Posted July 7, 2023 2:16 pm • 3 min read



Pickering city council has voted to take steps in reducing their use of rodenticide. Frazer Snowden/Global News



The City of Pickering on Monday, June 26 became the first city in Ontario to act against rodenticides by passing an Animal Poisoning Prevention Policy. The city council unanimously approved the policy moved by Coun. Maurice Brenner.

As per several delegates, incidents of poisoning have increased in Pickering and across the Durham region in the last decade.

• Pilot Program: Model – City of Clarington (#8-9)

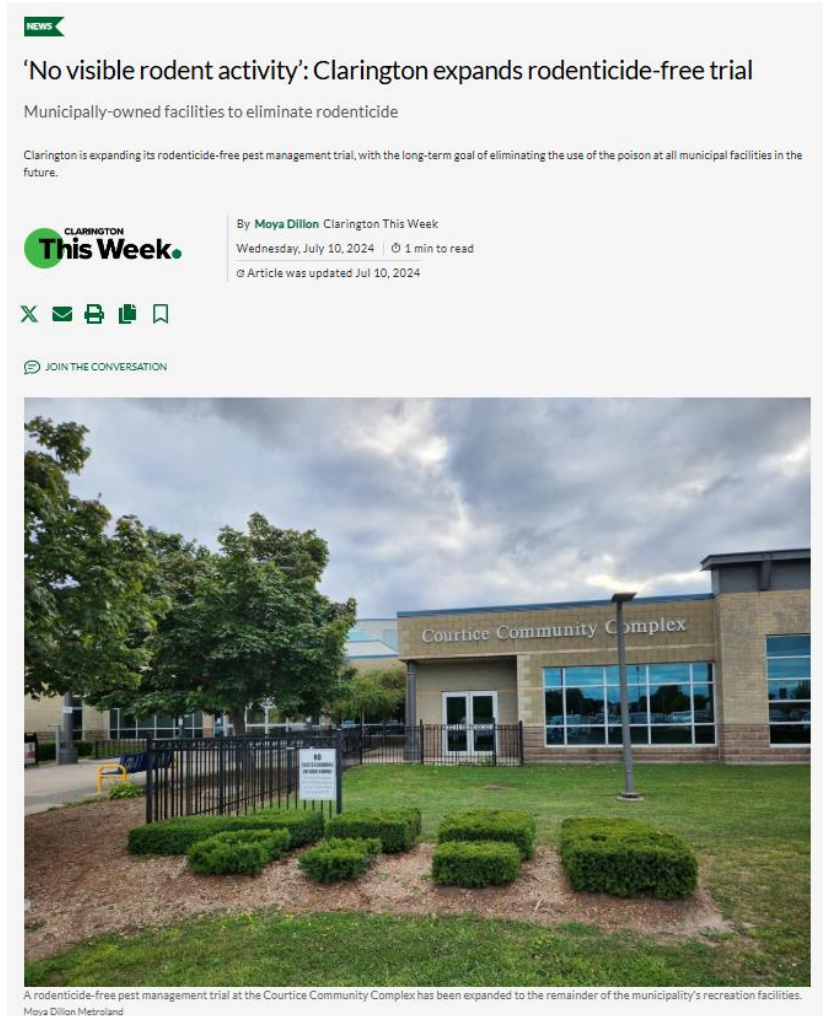
■ History/Process

- **October 2023** – Council declines to adopt Resolution #GG-160-23, comparable to the Pickering policy, refers to staff to report regarding feasibility.
- **December 2023** – Staff report recommends a trial at Courtice Community Complex, replacing rodenticides (interior and exterior) with rodent traps, catch tin traps, and snap exterior traps
- **June 2024** – Staff report recommends expansion of the rodenticide-free program to all municipally operated recreation facilities and that staff continue to develop an administrative pest management directive with the objective to reduce the use of anti-coagulant rodenticides on all municipal properties (Carried via consent agenda).

■ Trial Details

- **Initial proposal:** A rodenticide-free trial program from January to May 2024. In conjunction with pest control contractor, staff will arrange for the removal of all rodenticide bait traps in and around the facility. They will be replaced with rodent traps, catch tin traps, and snap exterior traps.
- **Expanded proposal:** As the trial program documented no visible rodent activity, staff will direct the contractor to remove all

rodenticide bait traps at the six remaining recreation facilities. Data will continue to be collected and will help inform future expansion to remaining municipally owned properties.



Pilot Program:

Model – City of London (#10)

- History/Process
 - May 2024** – Joint report of the Animal Welfare and Environmental Stewardship and Action Community Advisory Committees.
 - Facilities management indicated openness to receive community feedback for when the next contract cycle is up (est. March 2025) and expressed interest in

Program Overview

In August 2023, the London Environmental Network launched the **Responsible Pest Management Micropilot Program** in partnership with Bird Friendly London. The goal of this program is to raise awareness of the negative effects that rodenticides have on wildlife and the environment by providing educational resources and tools to homeowners and businesses to pursue alternative and more responsible methods of rodent pest management.



- Trial Details
 - 5 individual residences and 5 businesses were selected from an application process**
 - Participants committed to eliminating the use of rodenticides, scheduled inspections with a local service provider, attended educational webinars, and developed an action plan to implement humane pest control practices
 - Participants received an educational lawn sign to promote

4.

Investigate How to Best Implement Solutions (Discussion)

By-Law (B.C.; Info Packet #1-2)

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