Rodent Poison is Killing Our Wildlife

How to Stop It

CITY OF OJAI RESOLUTION OPPOSING RODENTICIDES February 25, 2014

"The City Council urges businesses in Ojai to no longer use or sell anticoagulant rodenticides, urges all property owners to cease purchasing or using anticoagulant rodenticides on their properties in Ojai and commits the City of Ojai to not use anticoagulant rodenticides as part of its maintenance program for City-owned parks and facilities."

Raptors and Owls Reptiles Reptiles Reptiles Reptiles Recoon Reptiles Recoon Reptiles Recoon Recoon

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM? - RODENT

POISON IS KILLING OUR WILDLIFE

- ★ The household rodent poison most commonly used, anticoagulant rodenticide, is indiscriminate. It kills the targeted species – rats, mice, gophers – but also non-targeted species—hawks, owls, bobcats, coyotes, mountain lions, and others who eat the rodents. Some grim statistics (NPS, UCLA, DFW) –
- Coyotes 83% exposed to rodenticides.
- **Bobcats** 92% exposed. Complete loss of bobcats from many open space areas in the Conejo Valley.
- Mountain lions. Two in Simi Valley died from rodent poisons. P-25 was found dead at Pt. Mugu State Park, Malibu, with anticoagulants in her system. Statewide, 82 out of 104 had anticoagulants, with 78% having more than one kind.
- Owls, Hawks 92% exposed in San Diego, 79% in the Central Valley.



Healthy Griffith Park bobcat later found dying from eating prey that had consumed rodent poison.

• Anticoagulant rodenticides trigger internal hemorrhaging, causing a slow, agonizing death that can take weeks to kill the animal.





Simi Valley mountain lion before and after poisoning.

SAFE ALTERNATIVES

- **★** For Business and Residential Complexes -
- Make sure trash dumpsters are closed tightly.
- Do not overfill dumpsters.
- **Keep surrounding areas clean**. Remove and wash down any spilled foodstuffs off the ground.
- Create and **enforce** sanitation policy

Don't do this - CLOSE IT UP!



- ***** For Everyone -
- Exclude rodents from your home.
- Block entryways! Fill holes!
- Use live, snap, or electronic traps
- Hire a **rodent proofing company** to seal your house, not an exterminator.
- Do not use poison bait boxes, because
- **Bait boxes** are **not safe** the rodents go in **and out** and are eaten by wildlife.
- Don't leave pet or bird food out at night.

Watch out for these bait boxes. Rodents go in, then go out POISONED



- Remove piles of debris, vegetation and plants that feed and hide rodents, like ivy.
- Glue traps are inhumane and often kill birds and other wildlife.
- Use commercially available natural repellents and predator urine.

SEAL IT UP!



Find the entryways that rodents can use.

* Consider installing a Barn Owl nest box, but only if everyone in the neighborhood commits to not using poison, see – www.BarnOwlBox.com and www.NaturesRemedy.co.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SAF RODENT CONTROL 365 DAYS A YEAR



A barn owl family can eat 3,000 rodents a year!

GENERAL INFORMATION

- * www.UrbanCarnivores.com Comprehensive summary of the effects on wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains by a UCLA scientist working with the National Park Service.
- * <u>www.SafeRodentControl.org</u> Alternative rodent control methods.
- * EarthFriendlyManagement.com More educational material.