

Pest Control

Safe practices for
controlling
indoor pests



Control Pests

A key step in getting rid of pests is preventing them in the first place. Pests enter homes in search of food, water and shelter. By restricting their access to these you reduce the likelihood of pests entering the home.



Block Holes

Use screens, check weather-stripping on doors and holes in foundation larger than a dime; Use 1/4 inch steel hardware cloth to block holes



Clean

Wash dishes soon after eating, and sweep up crumbs from countertops and floors



Take Trash Out Regularly

Store trash outdoors in animal-proof garbage cans with snug lids



Sealed Containers

Keep all foods in sealed containers

Trapping, Pesticide Use & Clean-Up



Trapping is the preferred method for indoors. Wooden snap traps are cheap and effective. Peanut butter works well as bait. Place traps close to a wall where pests are most active.

Pesticides are dangerous and can trigger allergies or asthma. They should be used as a last resort. Apply with care and always follow the directions on the label. Contact the 800 number on the label if you have questions about use or disposal.



Taking proper precautions when disposing of pests.

NEVER dry sweep or vacuum a rodent infested area. ALWAYS use wet cleaning methods, wear gloves and proper protective gear. Seal dead pests in bag and dispose of them in an outdoor trash can.

What Tenants Should Do	What Landlords Should Do
Keep food stored in pest-resistant containers	Maintain functioning, leak-free plumbing and sewage; provide sanitary unity beginning of tenancy
Keep kitchen and bathroom areas clean and dry	Keep soil, yard debris, and other organic matter at least six inches from any wood siding
Deposit garbage into proper receptacles on a regular basis	Ensure garbage is collected regularly and dumpster areas are kept clean
Do not allow yard debris, soil, scrap wood or any other organic matter to be placed within six inches of exterior siding	Ensure unit is clean and pest-free at time of rental
Contact landlord as soon as you see pests	
Submit a work order	

Resources

Multnomah County Vector Control

503-988-3464
vector.nuisance@multco.us

National Pesticide Information Center

<http://npic.orst.edu/>
1-800-858-7378
npic@ace.orst.edu

Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides

541-344-5044
pesticide.org