

## Where do mice live outside?

- Under wood piles or lumber that is not being used often
- Under bushes, vines and in tall grasses that are not trimmed or cut back
- Under rocks in the garden
- In cars, appliances and furniture that has been put outside and is no longer being used
- In and around trash and garbage that has been left on the ground
- In holes under buildings

## Where do mice live inside the home?

- In the insulation of walls or ceilings
- Inside the crawl spaces
- Behind or under cupboards, counters, bathtubs and shower stalls
- Near hot water heaters and furnaces
- In basements, attics and wherever things are stored in boxes, paper or cloth

## What foods brings mice into my yard and neighborhood?

- Garbage that mice can get into, like garbage cans with loose lids, plastic or paper bags, and litter
- Food for pets and birds that has not been eaten. Birdseed on the ground, pet food in pet dishes, bread crumbs, etc.
- Fruits and berries that have fallen to the ground
- Compost pile or worm bin that isn't taken care of the right way (do not put meat, fish, poultry, or dairy in the compost)
- Dog droppings

## What do mice eat when they get inside the house?

- THE SAME FOODS WE DO!
- Foods, fats, oils that have been spilled and left on counters, floors, appliances and tables
- Grains, like cereal, oats, rice and vegetables like potatoes and carrots that are in cardboard boxes and plastic bags
- Pet food in boxes or bags
- Any garbage that is not in a can with a tight lid

## Keep mice away from your home!

### Do not give food and shelter to these most unwanted guests!

- The time to act is before the signs (droppings) of a mouse appear.
- Stack fire wood 18 inches off the ground and away from all buildings.
- Birdhouses and seed should be on poles and in trays mice can't get.
- Keep garbage can lids closed tightly.
- Plant bushes so they will stay at least 3 feet from your house.
- Keep yards and alleys clean. Take junk to the dump!
- If you feed them, they will stay. Pick up fruit and vegetables in your yard.
- Do not compost any animal products (fish, meat, chicken, cheese, butter). Keep lids tight.

- Use only rodent resistant composters.
- In basements keep any food in closed containers that mice can't chew through.
- Cover all openings to your house. Mice can get into very small places.
- Do not leave your pet food outside. If your pet doesn't eat it, the mice will.
- Roof mice get into your house from tree branches that hang over the roof. Keep trees cut back and cover any openings in the eaves.

## **Keep mice out of your sewer pipes!**

**Mice can live in sewers and can follow the food in pipes up to your toilet.**

- Keep your kitchen sink rinsed clean and use garbage disposals as little as possible.
  - Rinse out your kitchen sink once or twice a month.
  - Use 1 cup of bleach (an alternative to using bleach: 1 cup of baking soda followed by 1 cup of vinegar) and rinse with boiling water.
- Never throw grease down the drain.
- Keep your toilet lid down when not in use.
- If you find a mouse in your toilet, flush it! (Hint: squirt a little dishwashing liquid under the lid into the bowl, wait a couple of minutes then flush.)