

Brian Lee

From: Keith Kridler <kridler@suddenlink.net>
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2017 6:55 AM
To: 'Susan Lousberg'
Cc: Brian Lee Sr.
Subject: Roof Rat prevention at county building TWC rents

Below link is proven research based information on Roof Rats. Cut down brush and under growth around back of building. Rake up leaves and fallen pecans and acorns. Seal all cracks and holes that are ½" or larger. Especially at the roof line of the building. That means that every ridge on every roof sheet front and back of the building behind the rain gutters needs to be sealed with wire mesh or permanently sealed with Steel Wool a commercial grade of stainless steel, steel wool. Every piece of rubber stripping along the sides of the building needs to be replaced with metal mesh and or sealed along the tops of the side sheets back in behind the wall end caps. Cut down the one pecan tree, trim back the other tree limbs that are dropping nuts, acorns and or fruit from the hackberries onto the roof building.

Rats are carrying in pecans and acorns into the attic area. They create stashes of food. They may have brought in several weeks or several months supply of food and have this food in the attic and or down behind the walls between the outside metal walls and or the wood walls. All of the limbs on nearby trees need to be cut back further. Rats are coming up the outside walls, entering the building up near the roof lines behind those rain gutters. You have a large colony of roof rats living inside the building. Those were babies and teen agers that I trapped yesterday inside the attic. You do not have a squirrel problem. There can be 6 to 30 breeding adults inside right now. I am guessing 10 or so full adults. Teen agers, like the one I caught yesterday begin breeding at 3 to 4 months of age. Females can have four litters a year in this area.

When you remove the rain gutters you will want to remove a few of the back wall sheets, starting at the south west corner of the building. I expect that area to be where the dominant adults are living, between the metal sheets, in the air gap between the stud wall insulation and the sheet rock/outside walls. I expect that you will need to remove the old fiberglass wall insulation in that area.

I could set up some of the "Game Camera's" in the attic at a food station up there, but I already can see you have a major problem. Terminex guys they sent were clueless. You cannot spray Fox Urine in and around the property, up in the attic, to repel either Norway or Roof Rats. Keith Kridler

<http://icwdm.org/handbook/rodents/RoofRats.asp>



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