

CHESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

§603. CONTROL OF VECTORS.

603.1. PURPOSE. This section provides Rules and Regulations for the protection of the public health by controlling or preventing the spread of vectorborne diseases by eradication of vectors, by vector-proofing of structures, and by maintenance of buildings and properties in a condition not conducive to vector harborage.

603.2. DEFINITIONS. For the purposes of these Rules and Regulations, the following definitions apply:

603.2.1. "Bat-proofing": Construction to seal all actual or potential openings in the exterior of a building in order to prevent the ingress of bats into a building from the exterior.

603.2.2. "Building": Any structure capable of providing harborage for rats or other vectors, whether public or private, regardless of intended purpose, or relative state of dilapidation or destruction, or whether or not construction is complete.

603.2.3. "Eradication": The elimination or control of vectors by any or all accepted measures. These measures include, but are not limited to, removal of food, water, and harborage, poisoning, trapping, or any other recognized and legal methods approved by the Director.

603.2.4. "Garbage": Putrescible solid wastes resulting from animal, grain, fruit or vegetable matter.

603.2.5. "Harborage": Condition which provides shelter or protection for vectors, favoring their multiplication and continued existence.

603.2.6. "Infestation": The presence of any vector in numbers great enough to present a condition detrimental to the public health.

603.2.7. "Invertebrate Vector": An arthropod capable of transmitting a pathogen to man, or capable of causing food to become unclean, unwholesome, spoiled, adulterated, or unsafe for human consumption.

603.2.8. "Pest Control Operator": A commercial pesticide applicator certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to apply restricted use pesticides for household and health related pest control.

603.2.9. "Premises": A lot, plot, or parcel of land, including the buildings and structures thereon.

603.2.10. "Ratproofing": Construction to prevent the ingress of rats into a building, consisting of

sealing all actual or potential openings into a building with materials impervious to rodent gnawing.

603.2.11. "Refuse": Nonputrescible waste generally regarded and classified as rubbish, trash, junk, and similar designations.

603.2.12. "Vector": Any organism, including but not limited to, rats, bats, mice, cockroaches, fleas, flies, mites, mosquitoes, and ticks, which is capable of transmitting a pathogen to man, or capable of causing food to become unclean, unwholesome, spoiled, adulterated, or unsafe for human consumption.

603.3. GENERAL VECTOR CONTROL.

603.3.1. Whenever there is evidence of a vector infestation on any premises, so as to present a condition detrimental to the public health, then it shall be required that vector eradication measures be instituted and maintained until the premises are vector free.

603.3.2. Whenever an extensive vector infestation exists on any premises, so as to present a condition detrimental to the public health, then it shall be required that a pest control operator be obtained in order to institute satisfactory vector eradication measures.

603.4. RAT CONTROL.

603.4.1. It is hereby required that all premises shall be maintained in a condition not conducive to rat harborage or to afford rats a food source.

603.4.2. Whenever there is evidence of rats harboring on any premises, then it shall be required that rat eradication measures be instituted and maintained until the premises are rat free.

603.4.3. Requirement of Rat-proofing: It is hereby required that all buildings shall be rat-proofed, free of rats, and maintained in a rat-proofed and rat free condition.

603.4.4. Closing of Facilities: Whenever conditions establish extensive rat harborage at an occupied building, the Director is empowered, after due notification in accordance with Chapter 100, Subsection 100.5, to close said building until rat eradication measures have been instituted and the building made rat-proof.

603.4.5. Destruction of Facilities: Whenever conditions establish extensive rat harborage at a building and corrective measures in accordance with Subsection 603.4.1. through 603.4.4. have not been instituted within sixty (60) days from notification, the Director is empowered to institute emergency measures, including, but not limited to, the destruction of said building in accordance with the powers and duties conferred upon the Director under the authority of Section 12(d) of the "Local Health Administration Law" (16 P.S. subsection 12012 (d)).

603.4.6. Food for Animals: All food or feed intended for the feeding of farm animals, pets, or other animals shall be stored under rat-proof containment.

603.4.7. It is hereby required that all garbage upon which rats may feed shall be placed and stored, until collected, in leak-proof, non-absorbent, corrosion-resistant containers which shall be kept covered with tight-fitting lids when filled or stored.

603.4.8. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, leave, dump, or permit to accumulate any garbage or refuse on any premises, alley, street, or roadway so that same shall or may afford food or harborage for rats.

603.4.9. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit to accumulate on any premises or alley any lumber, boxes, barrels, firewood, or similar materials, so that same shall or may afford harborage for rats, unless same shall be placed on open racks that are elevated not less than eighteen (18) inches above the ground, and not less than twelve (12) inches from the interior or exterior walls of any building.

603.5. REQUIREMENTS OF BAT-PROOFING.

Whenever a building is affording harborage for bats so as to present a condition detrimental to the public health or occupants, then it shall be required that said building shall be free of bats, bat-proofed, and maintained in a bat-proofed and bat-free condition.

603.6. CONTROL OF INVERTEBRATE VECTORS.

603.6.1. It is hereby required that all premises shall be maintained in a condition not conducive to the breeding of invertebrate vectors or to afford such vectors harborage.

603.6.2. Whenever there is evidence of an invertebrate vector infestation on any premises, then it shall be required that vector eradication measures be instituted and conditions affording such vectors harborage be abated.

EFFECTIVE: 9/15/89 (close of business).

CERTIFICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF CHESTER ss

I, John P. Maher, M.D., Secretary of the Chester County Board of Health, hereby do certify the within to be a true and correct copy. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this day of , .

John P. Maher, M.D., M.P.H.

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