

CHICAGO BOUNDARY CARE GUIDE

PRACTICAL STEPS. SMALL HABITS. BIG DIFFERENCE.



RATS DON'T NEED MUCH.

They need food, water, and shelter—usually found at the edges of our homes and alleys.

Good boundary care keeps them moving.

EARLY PRESSURE SIGNALS

- Droppings along walls, in garages, or near bins
- Gnaw marks on wood, plastic, or utility lines
- Burrows or nesting in planters, under decks, or in overgrown areas
- Noises at night or sudden pet interest
- Trash scattered in alleys or yards

✓ PREVENTION BASICS



Secure Your Carts

Use tight-fitting lids and keep carts closed. Store in garage or secured area if possible.



Trash Bag Discipline

Tie bags securely. No loose trash in bins. Keep area around bins clean.



Bin Placement Matters

Keep carts away from fences, trees, and structures. Maintain space and visibility.



Control Cover

Trim vegetation, remove clutter, and eliminate harborage around the home and alley.



Seal & Maintain

Check for gaps, holes, and utility entry points. Seal, repair, repeat.

✗ COMMON MISTAKES



Overfeeding Birds

Bird seed, open feeders, and water dishes are all-you-can-eat buffets.



Leaving Food Out

Pet food, compost, grills, and outdoor fridges attract activity.



Ignoring Small Signs

Small issues become expensive problems. Act early.



Relying on the City

City programs help, but property-level habits make the real difference.

💡 BOUNDARY CARE MINDSET



Consistent > Perfect

Small, consistent habits beat occasional cleanups.



Inspect Often

Walk your perimeter. Look for changes. Catch issues early.



Shared Responsibility

Neighbors, tenants, and guests all impact your boundary.



Protect Your Investment

Good stewardship preserves value, saves money, and protects peace of mind.



THE BOTTOM LINE

Rats are resourceful, but preventable. Strong boundaries, clean habits, and early action keep your home—and your block—nicer for everyone.



I'M CREATING A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR CHICAGO HOMEOWNERS.

DM me if you'd like the complimentary v1 when it's ready.

Let's keep our homes nice.



BOUNDARY CARE.
BETTER NEIGHBORHOODS.
NICE PROPERTIES.



PRACTICAL STEWARDSHIP.
BETTER OUTCOMES.