All Retail Food Establishments must have effective means of pest control. When an operator uses glue traps as a means of trapping and ridding the building of rodents or other pests, certain steps must be taken for dependable pest control and ensured food safety.

The following violations may be considered for inappropriate placement of glue traps:

- Rodents are in the establishment (actual rodent or visible droppings)
- Food is stored in an area where there is a possible source of contamination
- Food Contact Surfaces are not clean
- Non-Food Contact Surfaces are not clean
- The floors are not clean

**Uncontained rodent bait should never be used in any establishment.**

**Rodent Bait**

Rodent bait shall be contained in a covered, tamper-resistant bait station.

*LAC, Title 51. Part XXIII. Chapter 39. Poisonous or Toxic Materials. 3905. Use. F.*

*Rodent bait is not contained in a covered, tamper-resistant station.*
Don’t Depend on Traps Alone

Take Time to Clean, Repair, and Organize
• Fill holes and gaps with industrial materials such as concrete and metal
• Keep the premise and dumpster area clean
• Eliminate excessive vegetation and pooling of water
• Create spaces that are easy to access for cleaning; get rid of clutter
• Remove Food Sources - Protect Food, Utensils, and Single Service Items in sealed storage containers
• Trap and Kill rodents where they are; don’t attract rodents to currently unaffected areas with food/baits
• Destroy any adulterated food or single service items

Why this Building? Food · Water · Shelter
• Structural deficiencies in the building allow pests inside
• Nearby environment is hospitable to life; Allows for nesting
• Arrivals in incoming shipments
• Excessive clutter in the establishment creates a harborages
• Food and water sources are plentiful

Remember: Rats can enter a building through a hole ½ inch in size. Mice can enter a space ¼ inch in size.

PREVENTION IS KEY

*Approximate measurements
Know Your Rodents

The FDA classifies Rodents as a Category I Pest, the most serious, because these vectors potentially carry Foodborne Pathogens and Diseases including but not limited to:

- E. coli
- Shigellosis
- Hanta Virus
- Leptospirosis
- Salmonellosis
- Dysentery

**Reproduction**

**Rats:**
Able to reproduce at 12 weeks of age  
Gestation Time – approximately 3 weeks  
Can deliver 8 to 12 rats at a time  
May have 50 to 60 babies each year

**Mice:**
Able to reproduce at 6 to 8 weeks of age  
Gestation Time – approximately 3 weeks  
Can deliver 4 to 7 mice at a time  
May have 40 to 60 babies each year

Rodents tend to have poor vision but an excellent sense of smell. Relying on smell for food, safety, and direction rodents track urine and will memorize their environment with muscle memory according to Ecolab.

Whiskers and hair are highly sensitive which is why rodents tend to travel along walls or pipes.

Rodents, especially rats, can learn to be wary of new food and chemicals. Traps tend to catch the younger, less careful rodents first.

Rodents urinate and defecate essentially EVERYWHERE they go. Cleaning and sanitizing are necessary.