



Green Bay's west side homeowners dealing with rat infestations

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Posted: Sep 14, 2017



Rats are not a new problem to Green Bay, but the neighborhoods on the west side of the city have been overwhelmed with the rodents burrowing into their property.

With acres of land being cleared close to Lambeau Field for new developments, rats are being displaced and are running off to other homes.

One woman said she and her husband have killed nine rats at their son's house in just one month.

"We're at his house and his flowers looked a little sad," Mary Anne Stiegler of Green Bay said. "So I watered them, and here comes three big rats about the size of a big kitten."

On Thursday evening, the Fisk Addition Neighborhood Association held a meeting for homeowners and brought in the experts, from exterminators to city officials.

The president of the Fisk Addition Neighborhood Association, Joy Glass, said the problem has been ongoing for three years but became severe over the past few months.

"About two weeks ago, I reached a breaking point," Glass said. "I just noticed that everybody was, the level of anger was just rising so high."

Exterminators shared tips on how to eradicate the rodents.

"Being clean, being sanitary, keeping your grass cut, keeping clutter away from the house, keeping your shrubs down, not storing food or water, you know, bird food, bird baths. the only way to really get rid of them, or eliminate them, is a baiting program," Josh Erdman, owner of Erdye's Pest Control, explained.

The ultimate key to getting rats out a neighborhood is teamwork.

If one household follows the plan, but the homeowners around them don't, the rats aren't going anywhere.

Fortunately, the city of Green Bay has inspectors you can call to help you spread awareness to neighbors.

"If I get a complaint from one address, then I have to go to a bunch of surrounding addresses to make sure that everybody's on the same page, otherwise going to one address is not going to do me any good, it's not going to do them any good," Eric Crummy, a neighborhood compliance inspector with the city of Green Bay, explained.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has tips for homeowners to get rid of rodents.