

**TOWN OF MASHPEE
BOARD OF HEALTH**

RODENT CONTROL REGULATION

SECTION 4.0:

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4.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this regulation is to prevent the spread of infectious and contagious diseases by rats, mice, and other rodents. This regulation requires property owners to take appropriate containment/ extermination measures to prevent rodent infestations that could adversely impact public health.

4.2 AUTHORITY

The Mashpee Board of Health hereby adopts the following regulation in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 111, Sections 31 and 127A.

4.3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this regulation, the following words shall have the following meanings:

Licensed Massachusetts Extermination Company – A company with operators licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to perform rodent control, including baiting with pesticides specific to rodents in accordance with the Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau.

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4.4 APPLICABILITY

This regulation shall apply to all properties within the Town of Mashpee.

4.5 REGULATION

(1) Prior to the issuance of any permit for demolition or razing of any building/structure, a Board of Health agent shall perform an inspection of the building/ structure and the parcel upon which it is located for evidence of the presence or infestation of rodents. If such evidence is observed by the agent, an executed contract from a licensed Massachusetts Extermination Company must be submitted by the property owner to the Board of Health at least thirty (30) days prior to the issuance of a demolition permit. If no such evidence of rodents is identified, this requirement to engage the services of an exterminator shall be waived.

(2) If such extermination action is deemed necessary by the Board of Health agent, the property owner will be responsible for engaging a licensed Massachusetts Extermination Company, at the owner's expense, to: 1) rid the building/structure to be razed or demolished and the remainder of the subject property of rodents and/or rodent-related nuisances, and 2) maintain appropriate rodent control measures until the building/structure is determined to be rodent-free.

(3) No building/structure shall be demolished or razed until the Board of Health or its agent/ designee certifies compliance with this regulation.

(4) Emergency Exemption– In the case of fire or natural disaster or other incident whereby a building/structure is rendered unsafe or deemed to constitute an imminent threat to public health and/or welfare, the Board of Health may order immediate or expedited demolition and/or removal of the building/structure without compliance herewith as an exemption to this regulation.

4.5 ENFORCEMENT

The Mashpee Board of Health, pursuant to the provision of M.G.L. Chapter 111, Sections 31 and 127A hereby authorizes the Board of Health, its authorized agents/ designees, and/or the Building Inspector to assure compliance with and to enforce this regulation.

4.6 SEVERABILITY

If any provisions of this regulation or the application thereof are held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity shall be limited to said invalid provision and the remainder of the regulation shall remain valid and effective. Any part of this regulation subsequently invalidated by state law shall automatically be brought into conformity with the

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new or amended law and shall be deemed effective immediately, without recourse to a public hearing.

4.8 PENALTIES

(1) A person who violates this regulation shall be punished by a fine of Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars per violation.

4.9 EFFECTIVE DATE

This regulation will take effect upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Per Order Of,
Mashpee Board of Health

Burton Kaplan, Chairman
Kalliope Egloff, Co-Chairman
Lucy B. Burton, Clerk