



# Rodent Prevention Tips

IISR INSTITUTE FOR Local Self-Reliance

Neighborhood Soil Rebuilders

For more info, visit: [ilsr.org/composting-ohrats](https://ilsr.org/composting-ohrats)

## ✓ Do



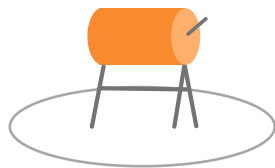
Post signs on materials acceptable and not acceptable for composting.



Keep dry amendments and carbon sources on hand at all times (to promptly mix with food scraps, help manage wet materials, and to control odors).



Incorporate food scraps into composting piles immediately and cover with a biofilter.



Maintain at least 3 ft open space around each composting component (e.g., pile, carbon storage, tool shed).



Make sure active composting piles are on a surface or have a barrier that prevents rodent burrows underneath.



Fix compost systems as needed and seal all cracks and holes.



Be active! Turn, move, poke piles regularly.



Trim plants to 1 ft off ground to eliminate hiding spaces.



Ensure any lids fit tightly and latches function properly.

## ✗ Don't



Don't provide rats with protein by feeding birds or cats, or leaving pet waste on site. Dog poop can be a protein source for rats.



Don't compost with eggs, dairy, meat, fish, bones, fat, oil, grease, or cooked food.



Don't store food scraps on-site or leave food scraps exposed in your piles.



Don't give rats hiding places: remove clutter, weeds and dense vegetation.



Don't leave drains and aeration pipes unsealed. Cover with steel hardware cloth.