

SUMMARY AND COMPARISON OF MAJOR ELEMENTS BETWEEN EXISTING RODENT CONTROL REGULATIONS AND PROPOSED RODENT CONTROL REGULATIONS

Existing BKCBH Ordinance 1999-14	Proposed 2025 Ordinance Amendment	Notes
Does not follow the current organization and formatting of contemporary EH regulations.	Will be organized in sections similar to other recently adopted EH regulations.	Most new sections will contain standard template language shared with other EH regs. Examples are Administration, Enforcement, Appeals, Immunity and Severability.
Does not speak to human behavior that causes or exacerbates rodent infestations.	Will address some of these behaviors- in particular, indiscriminate bird feeding.	Bird feeding is still allowed under new language provided it's with " <i>...a feeder or device that prevents other species, such as rodents or raccoons, from accessing the contents.</i> "
Does not address or speak to rodent activity on farms.	Includes passage about feeding livestock & poultry	Controlling rodent activity on farms is difficult which is acknowledged in the new version of these regs. Responsibility for infestations still lies with the owner.
Does not address home composting as a potential source of rodent attraction.	Establishes basic standards for home composting.	Increasing numbers of Kitsap households are predicted to practice home food composting in the future. New Regs will require they do so in a manner that doesn't attract rodents.
Does not address wildlife feeding which can attract rodents.	Prohibits the feeding of wildlife, particularly raccoons.	National attention focused on Kitsap County recently due to one viral video of a Poulsbo raccoon infestation, caused by the human feeding of the raccoons.
Does not speak to trash cans or more particularly poorly maintained dumpster enclosures and trash compactors as a potential rodent attractant.	Requires trash cans, dumpster enclosures and trash compactors be maintained to prevent rodent attraction.	Trash compactors are frequently sources of rodent attraction. The construction of the seals on these devices are prone to failure and allow access to rodents. Dumpster areas are easier to keep rodent free with proper cleaning & maintenance.
States traps and poisons are methods of controlling rodent infestations.	Contains language discouraging (but not outlawing) the use of poisons as a rodent control measure.	Secondary poisoning (or non-target poisoning) is a concern due to harmful effects on wildlife & pets.

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Does not contain a Definitions section.	Added a Definitions section.	Content of the Definitions section is all new and important to establish common language and nomenclature for enforcement purposes.
Enforcement section refers to a separate Ordinance (1996-9) for enforcement procedures.	Enforcement procedures will be fully incorporated into Enforcement section.	Enforcement section will contain language common with other EH Regs.