

Stop that pest!

Pest identification and control for regulators



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Training Objectives

- Provide an education overview of pests commonly found in retail food establishments.
- Learn how to identify evidence of pest activity during an inspection.
- Examine different opportunities to use the MA Food Code to document violations.
- Learn about different pest prevention and abatement efforts to ensure long-term compliance.



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The Big 'Why'?



Foodborne and
zoonotic diseases



Risks to workers
and customers



Damage to
buildings



PR nightmares



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PROBLEM SOLVERS

Rodents and failed restaurant

by: Carisa Scott

Posted: Sep 21, 2017 / 09:15 PM MDT

Updated: Sep 21, 2017 / 10:03 PM MDT

5:23

5G

'Abundance of rodent waste'
among reasons for
suspending Boston store's
permit

WCVB 5 abc

Updated: 8:57 AM EDT Oct 24, 2023

Infinite Scroll Enabled



Phil Tenser

Digital Media Manager

BOSTON — A Boston store with a history of rodent-related health violations was ordered to close again after an inspection found "an abundance of rodent waste" throughout the facility and other unsanitary conditions.

Inspectors noted that the owner of Punjab Mini Mart, on Tremont Street in Roxbury, has faced past citations involving an ongoing rodent problem. According to a [public report](#) from Friday's inspection, numerous signs of the

Post
Upd

wcvb.com

lead to port Card Fs



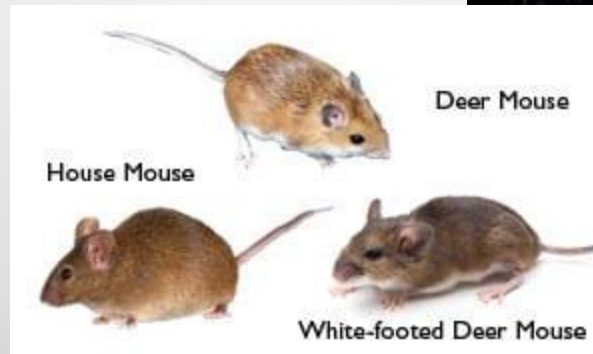
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Rodents

- Norway Rat
 - *Rattus norvegicus*
- Roof Rat
 - *Rattus rattus*
- Mice
 - House mouse
 - White footed mouse
 - Deer mouse



Rodents

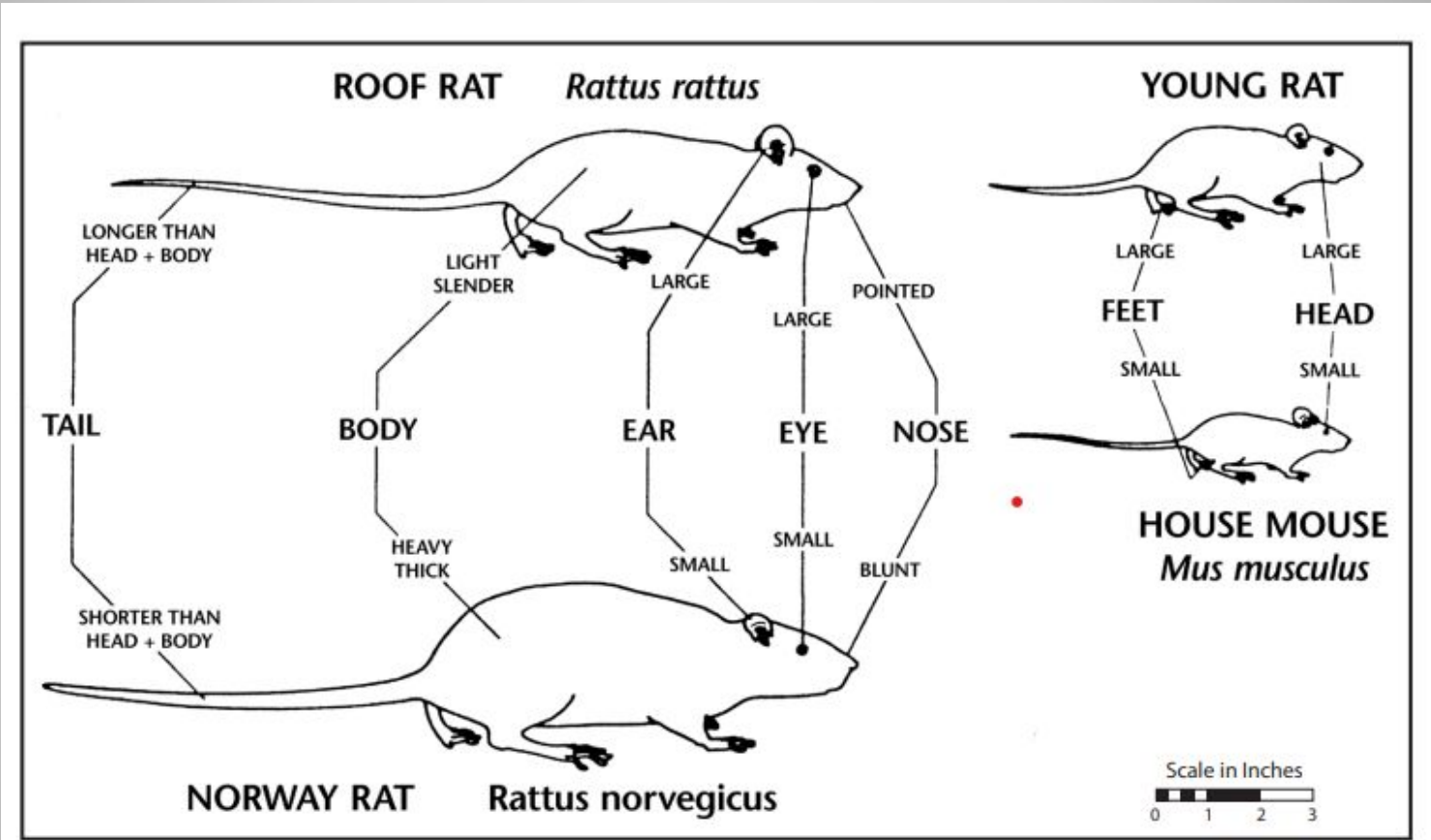


Photo provided from Texas A&M Extension



Rats



Rat or Mouse?



Cockroaches

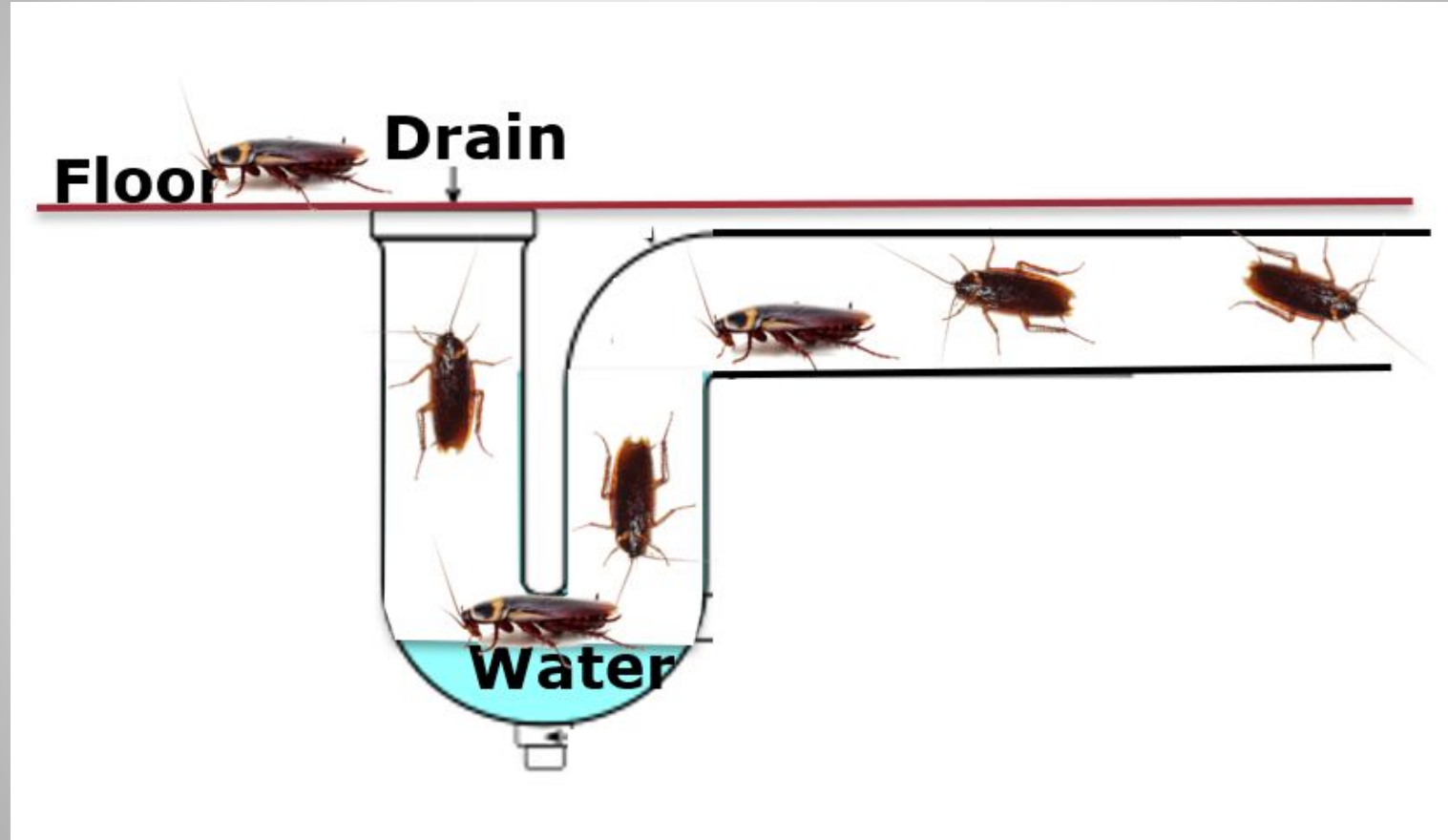
Three major species of concern:

- German cockroaches
- American cockroaches
- Oriental cockroaches



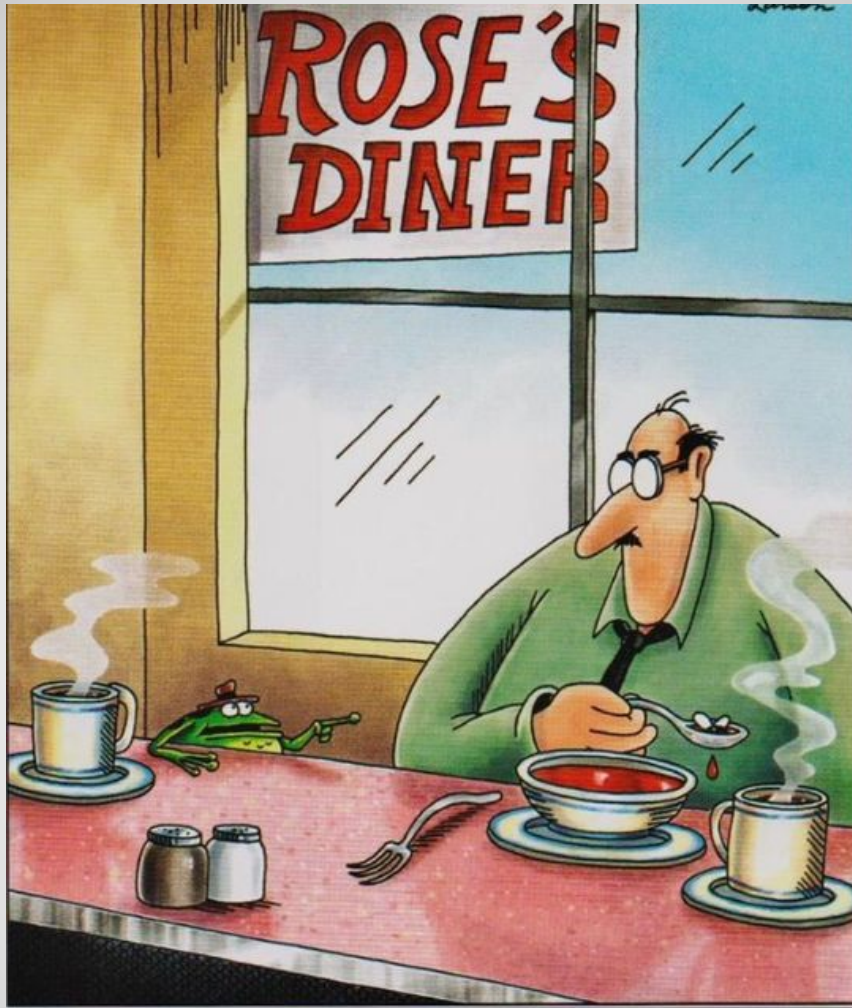


Cockroaches



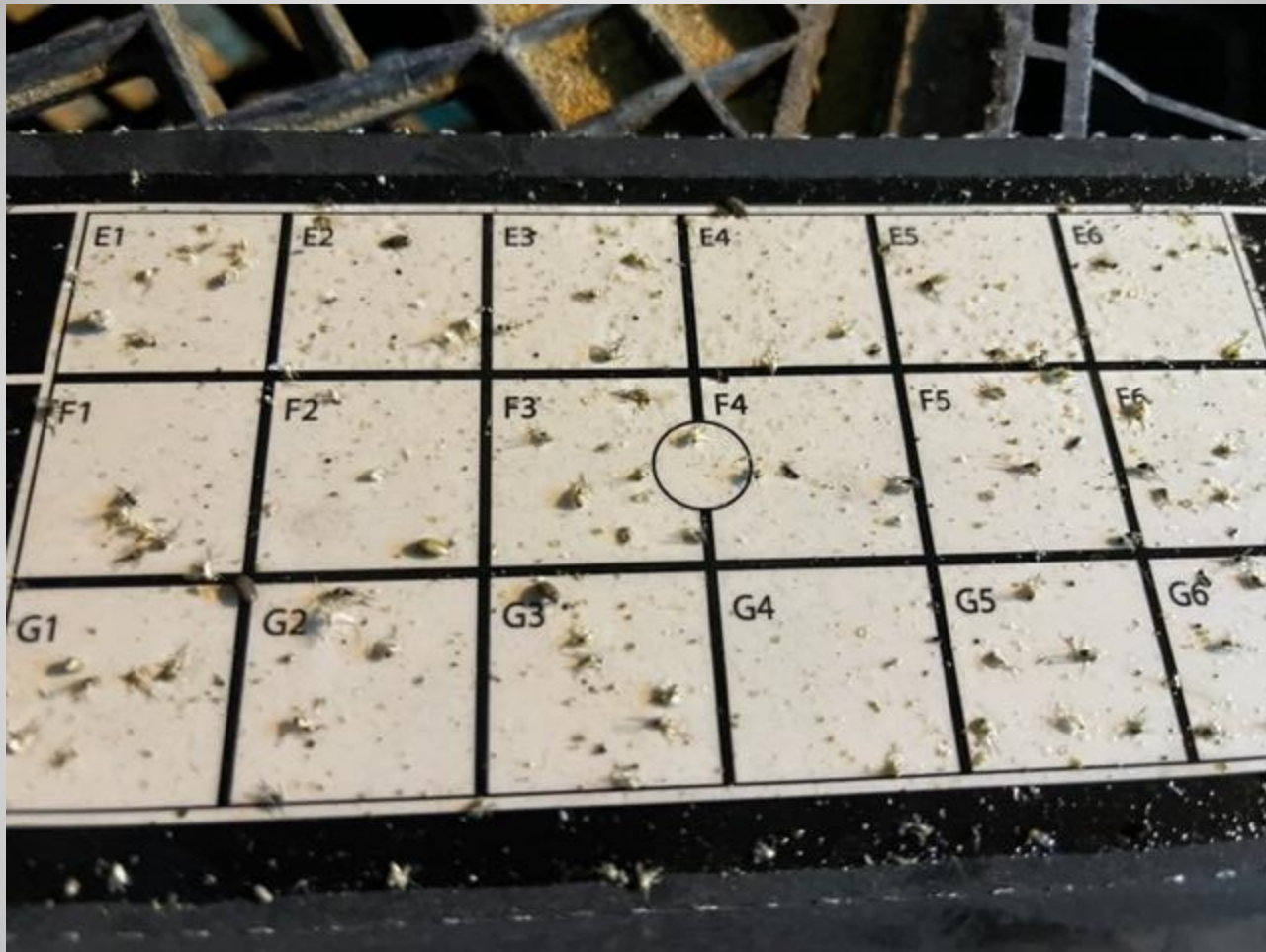
Graphic provided by Rich Pollack





"I beg your pardon, but you're not planning to just throw that fly away, are you?"





Drain Flies



Psychodidae
spp.



Phorid Flies

Phorid flies, family Phoridae
Megaselia scalaris, the scuttle fly

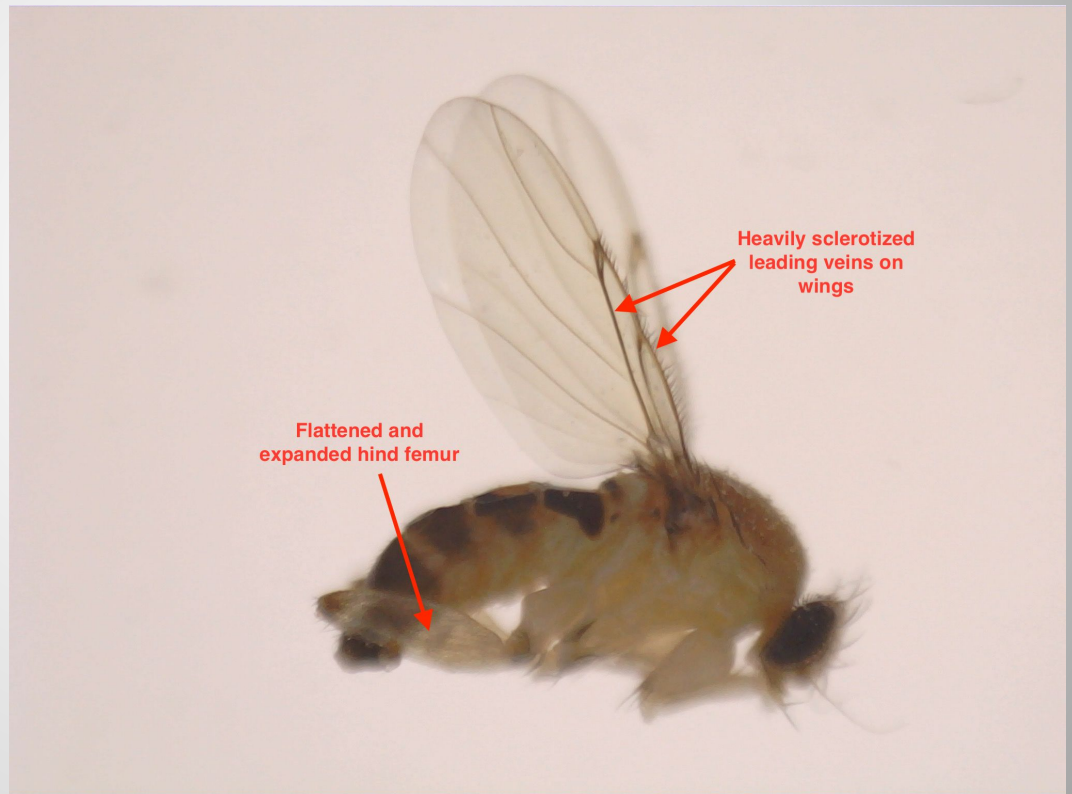


Image courtesy of Dr.
Richard Pollack



Fruit Flies

- *Drosophila spp.*
 - Generally smaller than phorid flies but there is confusion when comparing dark-eyed fruit flies.



House Flies



Tools of the Trade

- A good flashlight
- Inspection mirror
- Sample cups
- Microscope
- Your phone camera!



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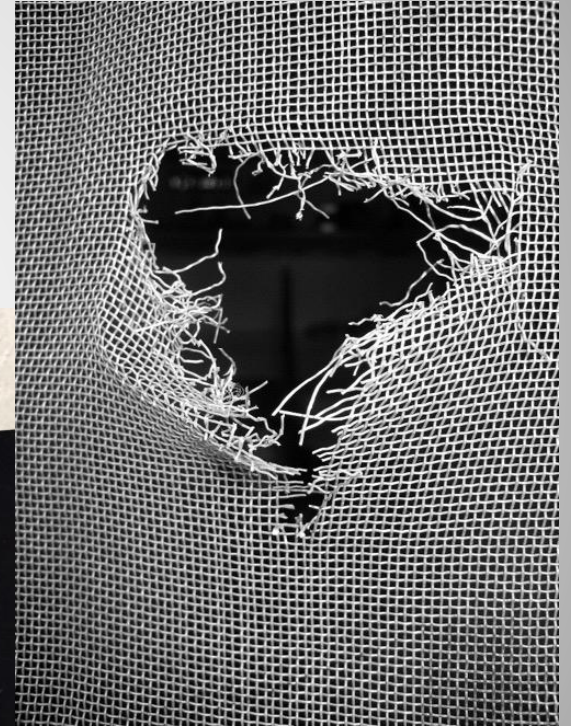
Inspection Flow



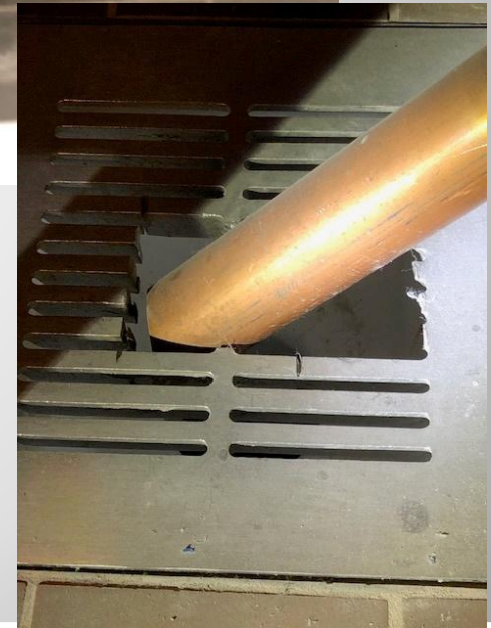
Compost



Facility Exterior



Plumbing Systems

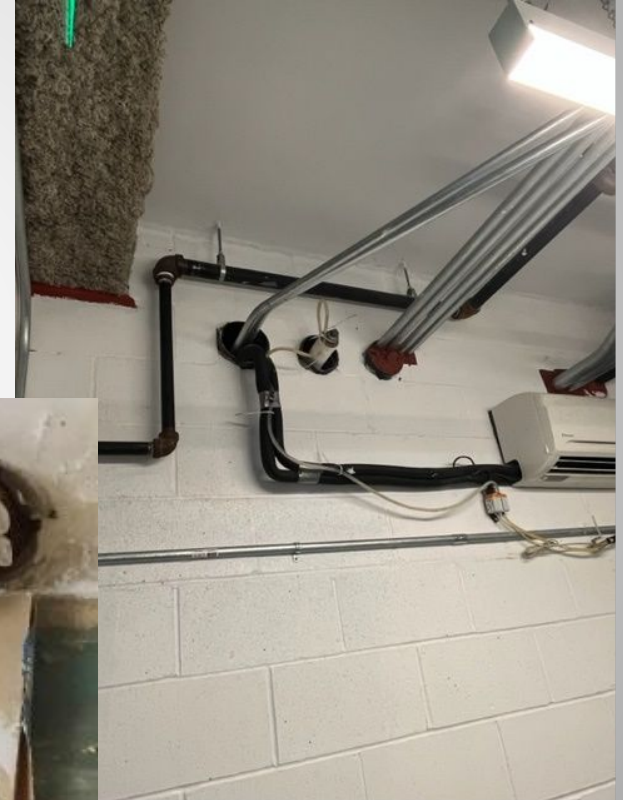


Plumbing Systems

- Pay special attention to this during plan reviews



Walls and Ceilings



Walls and Ceilings



Sanitation



Food Storage



Check for existing efforts



Don't forget mechanical spaces!



Weather Advantages



Pest Control Operators

- Not all companies are equal!
- Review inspections
- Examine the types of traps and monitoring devices used:
 - Glue boards
 - Snap traps
 - Rodent control stations
 - Light traps



Pest Control Operators, cont.



Writing Violations

Be clear.

Be specific.

Don't assume.



Citations and Follow-Up

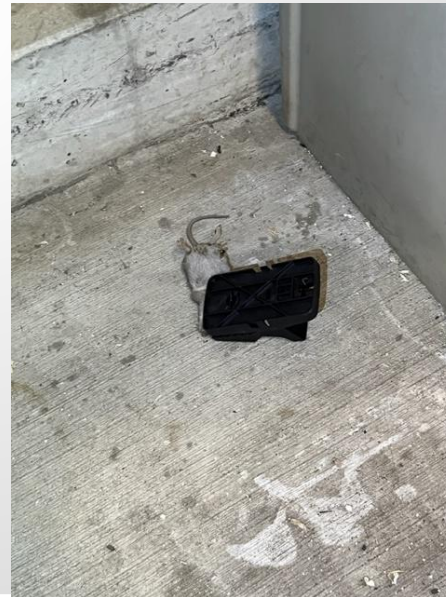
For pests (droppings, living, dead)

Controlling Pests (6-501.111)

- Evidence of pests, trapping, eliminating harborage conditions

Removing dead or trapped pests (6-501.112)

Pesticides (7-202.12, 7-206)



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Citations, cont.

For structural and facility issues:

- Maintaining premises (6-501.114)
 - Litter, unused
- Outdoor trash and dumpsters (5-501.11, 5-501.15)
- Harborage areas (5-501.112)
- Exterior doors and windows (6-202.15)

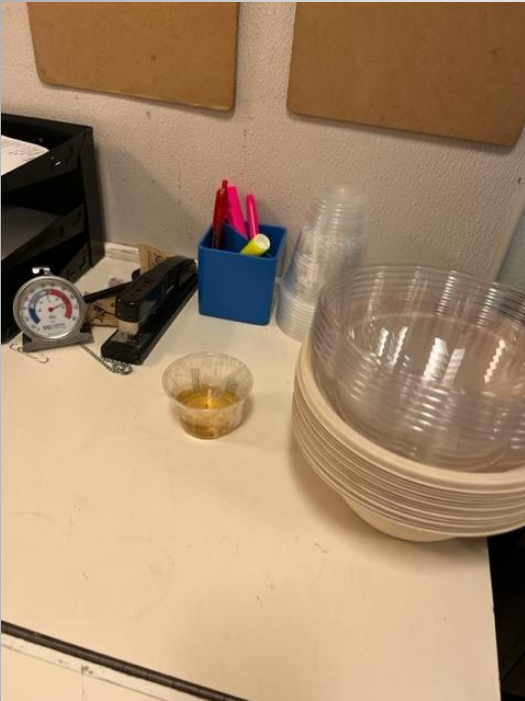


Citations, cont.

- Food equipment (4-205.10)
 - Proper certification and classification
- Clean to sight and touch (4-601.11, 4-602.13)
 - Food-contact surfaces and nonfood-contact surfaces
- Cooking and baking equipment (4-602.12)
 - Cleaned at least every 24 hours



Beware of DIY!



Let's Talk Prevention

Pest control is not like plumbing.

Need:

- Time
- Consistency
- Buy-In



Good Food Storage



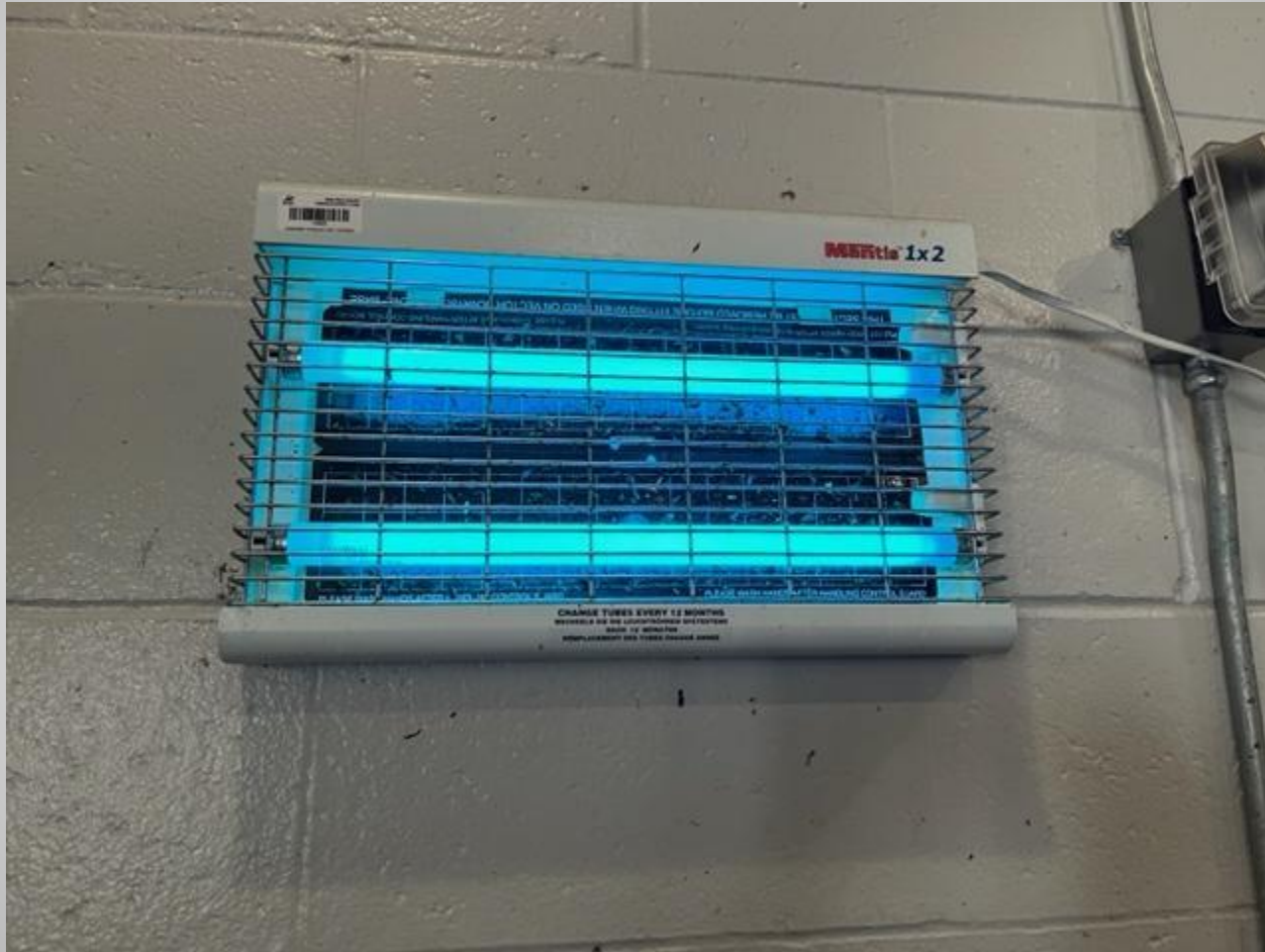
- Quality material durable plastic, metal, and glass preferred
- Smooth, nonporous, easily cleanable
- Stored off the floor and the walls



Smoke Testing



Light Traps



Exclusion



Secure Wastes



Landscaping Modifications



Carbon monoxide treatments



Many Thanks!

