CONNECTICUT FOR ANIMALS
Education Fund 501(c)(3)

RODENT MANAGEMENT

SECOND GENERATION ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDE

THE PROBLEM

Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) are killing Connecticut's wildlife

Rodents are the main source of food for most raptors

These poisons were originally formulated to kill rodents like rats and mice, squirrels, chipmunks, and other small mammals, but rodents are the main food source of most raptors. If a mother owl feeds a rodenticide-poisoned mouse to her baby owlet, it will kill the baby in an excruciating manner. SGARs are anti-coagulants; the babies and whatever raptor consumes the rodents, will bleed out from the inside, a slow, painful death.



SGARs are powerful poisons that stay in tissues and organs of rodents for months, making it easy for predators that naturally eat rodents – such as owls, eagles, and hawks -- to get a lethal dose of toxins. Rodents frequently eat more than a single dose. Since the rodent doesn't die instantly, this allows the rodent to continue consuming the toxins. Birds of prey don't have a chance against this super lethal build-up in the rodent's tissues.

SGARs are a risk to all

SGARs not only kill a variety of animals, but they also weaken and sicken them too, making them vulnerable to other causes of death. The evidence that SGARs pose an unreasonable risk to wildlife is piling up. Tragically, unintentional secondary poisonings from SGARs are increasing at an alarming rate and victims include wildlife, pets, and children.

THE SOLUTION

Connecticut needs to ban the use of SGARs and replace them with innovative, humane solutions such as fertility control.

In the 2025 legislative session SB-9 – AAC The Environment, Climate, and Sustainable Planning – passed in both chambers.

While intended to address environmental issues, the bill is seen as a **setback** due to its treatment of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs). By classifying SGARs as "restricted use," the bill prohibits general public access but still allows certified applicators to use them. Critics argue this reinforces the dangerous idea that SGARs are acceptable if applied by professionals, despite the fact that there is no safe poison or safe way to apply one.

UPDATE: In 2026 Newtown, Southbury, Bethel and Winsted banned the use of SGARs on all town properties. Several towns are planning to follow their lead!

The use of SGARs is counterproductive to rodent control by poisoning, harming, and killing the very animals that naturally regulate rodent populations throughout CT. Ideally, there should be a bill to ban SGARs entirely, including regulations which would eliminate their use on State owned properties or land including wildlife habitat. In addition, product labels should contain factual evidence about the effects these poisons have on our wildlife & environment as well as the risks imposed upon our very own children and pets.

The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a recommended sustainable management method for rats and mice which use a combination of biological/chemical/cultural /physical tools.

Recently, new studies have shown that fertility control is an excellent humane, affordable and effective method. Both Conntraceptol (mice & rats) and Evolve (rats) are available to the public. Currently, several fertility control studies are taking place within the state with Contrapest and GoodBites, hopefully bringing additional fertility control methods to market in the near future. These products are not hormone based and are made up of natural ingredients that lessen fertility while being supplied on a regular basis. They only affect the targeted nuisance and have no effect on wild rodents not being treated. There are no secondary effects because the substance breaks down within the body after only 15 minutes from ingesting. These methods do not sterilize rodents.

FERTILITY CONTROL PRODUCTS

Available Now

Conntraceptol treats both mice and rats and hasbeen available since 2022.
www.conntraceptol.com
Mice: $34 for a 60 day supply, $65 for 6 month supply

Rats: $95 for a 6 month supply, $199 for 10 lb bulk

SenesTech Evolve for Rats only at this time. Available since 2024. www.senestech.com
Rats: $34.99 for 1.5 lb, $56.99 for 3 lb, $99.99 for 6 lb

Mice: $35.99 for 1.5 lb, $57.99 for 3 lb, $99.99 for 6 lb (When available)
Pending Availability

Wisdom Good Works - Good Bites (for mice and rats) www.wisdomgoodworks.com
$2.30 per month

SenesTech's Contrapest (for rats)
www.senestech.com
Bait Station block $25.99

Pricing above reflects prices as of January 2025 and prices may change. This is provided as a reference to the very affordable alternatives at this time. Additional products, from multiple manufacturers, are currently in the approval process. Awareness for these safe and preferred alternatives continues to grow!

RESOURCES

https://www.aplacecalledhoperaptors.com/

https://www.epa.gov/safepestcontrol/integrated-pest-management-ipm-principles

https://raptorsarethesolution.org/

https://www.epa.gov/rodenticides/restrictions-rodenticide-products

www.Conntraceptol.com

www.senestech.com

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