

Dumpsterology 101

An Inspection Checklist for Rodents

#	DESCRIPTION	YES OR NO
1	The dumpster itself is kept relatively clean of grease, food films, and debris so as to not smell of rotting garbage.	YES ____ NO ____
2	The immediate area below and around the dumpster is kept clean of foods and debris on a daily basis.	YES ____ NO ____
3	The rain guards (lids) are kept closed at all times in between use.	YES ____ NO ____
4	The dumpster is located as far away from any delivery/food prep area doors as is operationally practical.	YES ____ NO ____
5	Vegetation is not growing around or in close proximity to the dumpster. (Rodents likely will establish burrows in any earthen space that is close to their daily foods.)	YES ____ NO ____
6	The facility is using the correct-size dumpster and employs a collection frequency matching their refuse output. Continuous overflowing refuse results in much greater numbers and types of pest infestations over time.	YES ____ NO ____
7	Dumpsters are installed onto cement pads (never on bare ground, rough gravel, or grass, weeds, etc.).	YES ____ NO ____
8	Two bait stations containing multiple rodent bait formulations are installed on two opposite sides of the dumpster	YES ____ NO ____
9	People are trained in the correct usage of refuse bags and dumpsters.	YES ____ NO ____
10	The doors nearest the dumpster (at whatever distance) are correctly rodent-proofed (i.e., not “weather- stripped”). Vinyl “weather stripping” will NOT deter mice and rats.	YES ____ NO ____
11	Bags are not dragged along the ground from the door to the dumpster.	YES ____ NO ____
12	Trash is placed — not thrown — into the dumpster to prevent spillage of raw garbage.	YES ____ NO ____
13	Raw food materials are placed into bags and not placed raw into dumpster.	YES ____ NO ____