# DRY ICE APPLICATION FOR RODENT ABATEMENT

## WHAT IS DRY ICE?

Dry ice is the solidified form of carbon dioxide. It is used primarily as a cooling agent. Generally speaking, dry ice is non-corrosive, non-toxic, and non-conductive. When dry ice breaks down, it turns into carbon dioxide gas. While generally not very toxic, the gas state can cause abnormally elevated carbon dioxide levels in the blood of an exposed organism, especially in confined locations.

### WARNINGS & SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR HANDLING DRY ICE

Dry ice can be a potent tool for controlling rodent populations. For best results when using it for rat extermination, dry ice should be applied to the inside of rat burrows. **Be sure to review the following warnings:** 

- Dry ice is much colder than regular ice (-109.3° F, -78.5° C). If not properly handled, it can cause severe cold burns and frostbite. Never handle dry ice with bare hands. Use heavy insulated gloves or dry ice tongs to prevent direct contact. Rubber and plastic gloves do not provide adequate protection. Use protective eyewear or safety glasses and a face shield if you are cutting or chipping it.
- Dry Ice is not edible. Never taste, eat or swallow dry ice!
- Keep dry ice out of the reach of children and pets.
- Do not put dry ice in any sealed or tightly closed containers, as they may rupture or explode.
- Do not mix dry ice with any kind of liquid.
- Only work with dry ice in open or well-ventilated areas. Using dry ice in confined environments can
  over expose, and can result in suffocation and death. NOTE: Symptoms of overexposure to carbon
  dioxide include headache and difficulty breathing, and with greater exposure, nausea and vomiting.
- DRY ICE DISPOSAL: NEVER dispose of dry ice in a sewer, garbage disposal, garbage chute, etc., because it could cause an explosion. Allow leftover dry ice to melt and evaporate at room temperature in a ventilated area.

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#### HOW TO USE DRY ICE TO KILL RATS: THE SIMPLE STEPS





**STEP ONE:** Identify the burrows where rodents reside.

#### **STEP TWO:**

- Wear insulated gloves when handling dry ice.
- Apply dry ice to the area using a scoop. (About two (2) pounds of chipped dry ice or dry ice pellets into a single rat borrow.)
- Seal the burrow completely.

