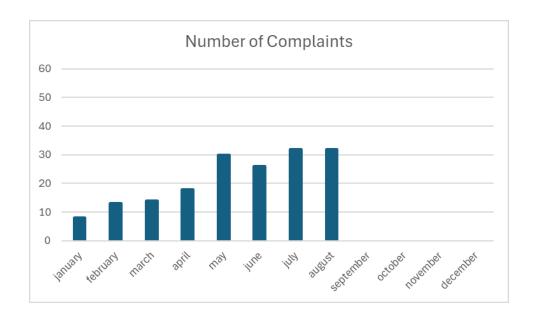


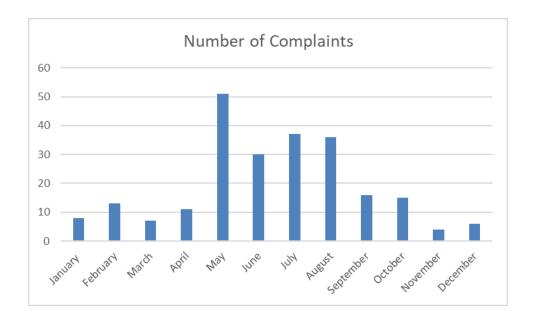
Complaints to date

January - August 2024: 173 complaints



January - August 2023: 193 complaints

Total 2023: 234 complaints





Rodent Burrows



Complaint from early 2024

Infestation spanned across 3 property lines Retaining wall approx. 10 ft high and 50 yards long

Area was clear-cut and all parties ordered to eliminate harborage, food sources and exterminate

Educational Materials Sent

January - August 2024:

492 Rodent Investigation Related

2,424 Bait Station Related

January - December 2023:

499 Rodent Investigation Related

1,190 Bait Station Related



Spring 2024:

216 Public Survey Responses regarding rodent infestations and the impact on mental health in West Allis zip codes



Community Baiting

Baiting Activities 2024:

ContraPest: 52 Bait stations in 21 alleyways

Orkin: 193 Bait Stations in 34 alleyways

Baiting Activities 2023:

ContraPest: 20 Bait stations in 7 alleyways

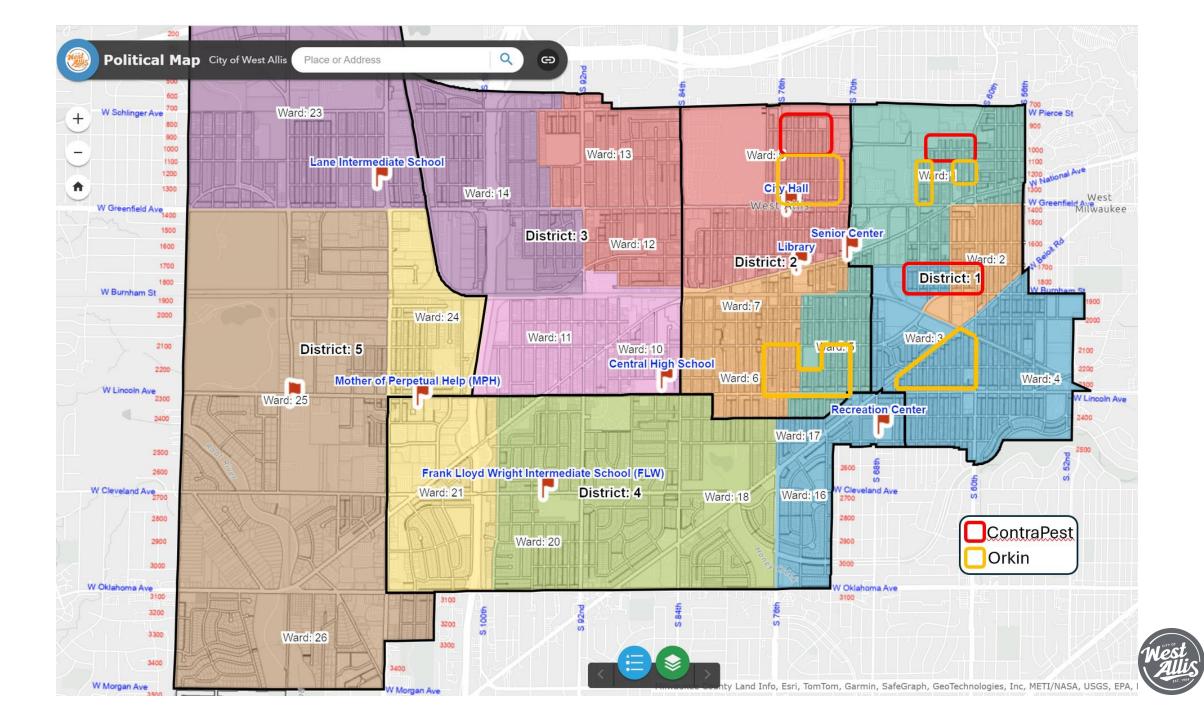
Orkin: 110 Bait Stations in 20 alleyways

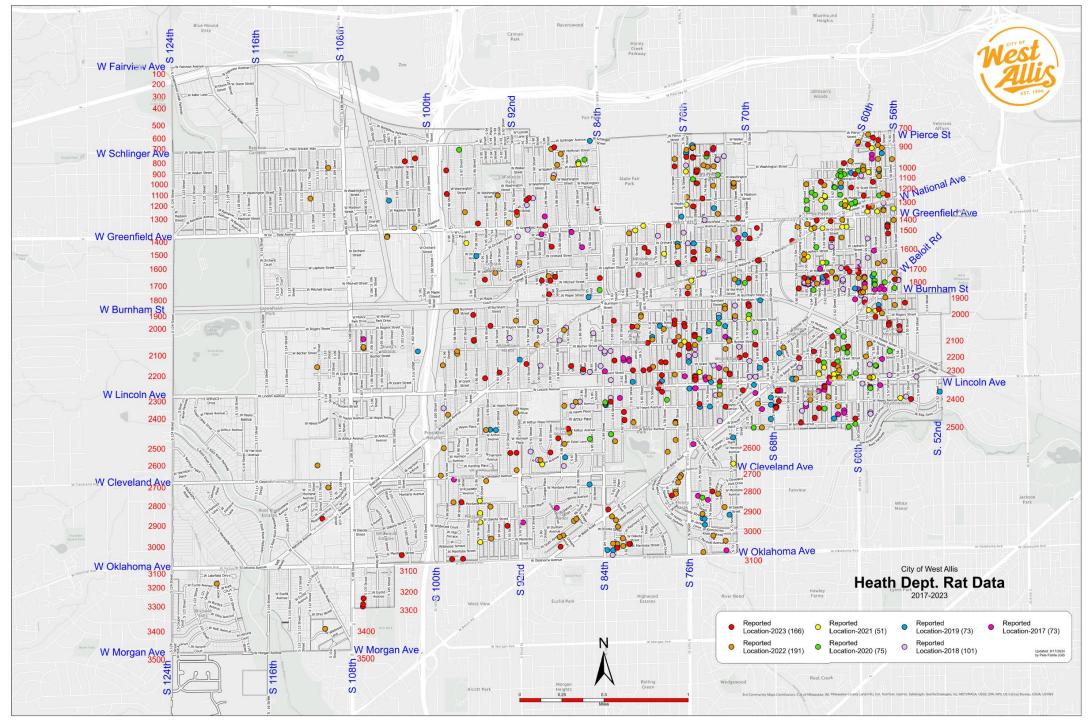
Baiting Activities started in 2022

\$42,000 in CDBG from 2022 - 2024 \$10,000 in EPHT Mini Grant for 2023 - 2024

Funds only available in eligible areas













Enforcement Orders

January - August 2024:

23 Rodent Specific Orders

2 Neighborhood Wide Cease Orders

1 Case going to Circuit Court

January - December 2023:

43 Rodent Specific Orders

1 Neighborhood Wide Cease Order



HEALTH DEPARTMEN

health@westalliswi.gov

ORDER OF VIOLATION

Issued on: January 16, 2024 Record ID: NE-24-1



2024 Code Enforcement Numbers

- 29 Work orders sent to our contractor to clean up properties. Removing brush, garbage, discarded items, and stored items.
- 12 Citations for overflowing dumpsters and stored items in yard.
- 39 Active Nuisance Abandoned Properties we are monitoring.
- 1632 Inspections for tall grass and weeds.
- 340 Work orders for our contractor to cut grass and weeds.



Summary Abatement

What we can and cannot do...

- What authority to do we have for summary abatement?
- What limits our authority?
- What can we use summary abatement to correct?
- Where can we use summary abatement procedures?



Authority for Summary Abatement

7.145(7)- Rodent Control

- Grants authority for the city to engage in both abatement with notice and summary abatement to remove rodent harborages and food sources.
 - With notice and failure to act- can bill for costs.
 - Without notice- cannot bill for costs
- City can only remove or correct when:
 - Nominal value
 - Located in accessible area

18.04(2) and (3)- Abatement of Public Nuisance

- Grants authority to abate a public nuisance without notice if there is a great and immediate danger.
- City can abate a public nuisance that does not threaten public danger with notice to owner and after a reasonable period of time allocated to abate nuisance.
 - Still limited by ability to access protected areas within private property



Limitations on Summary Abatement

- The Fourth Amendment limits a government entity's ability to search or seize protected people, places, and things.
 - Potential unlawful search to enter onto otherwise protected private property (curtilage) and make some observations without a warrant.
 - Potential unlawful seizure to take an object without lawful justification or a warrant.
- Limited ability to recoup costs.
 - City can only recover costs if we provide adequate notice.
 - Even if we do provide notice, we'd still have to obtain some sort of warrant to abate to access private property or take corrective actions. This would require circuit court action.

Example 1) Tenant moves out and leaves assorted broken furniture and garbage bags out in front yard.

Example 2) Property owner has hoarding conditions in fenced in back yard.



Best uses of Summary Abatement

- Nuisance exists on unprotected area of private property
- Personal property that appears to be in poor condition or impacted by weather
- Nuisance exits in area that is accessible to the general public
- Overflowing dumpsters or garbage cans



Circuit Court Timelines

- If the City elects to access some area of private property or take some item that is above nominal value, the city must file for that authority in circuit court.
 - 1) Draft formal summons and complaint.
 - Filing fee generally \$168.00
 - 2) Service of pleadings.
 - Service fees around \$40+
 - 3) Once served, defendant has 20 days to respond to lawsuit.
 - 4) Court sets date for initial appearance and scheduling future hearing.
 - Scheduling to discretion of court.





Public Works - Rodent Abatement Efforts

- Refuse and recycling staff have observed a significant reduction in rodent activity.
- Public Works staff collaborates with Health Department
 - Sanitation Division is made aware of areas known to have rodent activity by Health Department and will address any violations to remedy the issue.
 - If Sanitation crews encounter a problem area, they will notify Health so additional remediation can take place.
 - For the years 2023 and 2024, only a handful of rodent sightings have been documented in relation to garbage and recycling carts.



Public Works - Rodent Abatement Efforts Continued

- Construction projects require outside vendor to service containers weekly for residents.
- Recent Issues:
 - Timely collection
 - Limited contractors available, vendors unwilling to do the work
 - City is not prioritized on the collection route
- Public Works is currently surveying other municipalities to learn how they handle these situations.
- Public Works is exploring internal options to prioritize service for the containers at the construction sites.
 - Looking at fabricating specialty equipment to facilitate this collection with our existing equipment



Next Steps

- Building on our previous communication campaign, we will expand to educate and motivate residents about property maintenance as well as rodent prevention.
- The campaign will use multiple communication channels
- Three components of the campaign will be:
 - 1. Property Maintenance Awareness
 - 2. Rodent Prevention Education
 - 3. Community Engagement (Perhaps expanding upon Beautification Committee Initiatives)





The City of West Allis

