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Unincorporated Leyden Township Rodent Management Plan

1. Introduction

Leyden Township is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy environment for all residents. Effective management of rodent infestations is critical to this mission. The Township pest management approach emphasizes prevention, monitoring and control to manage rodent populations. This plan outlines our strategy for addressing rodent infestations in Unincorporated Leyden Township.

2. Objectives

- Reduce rodent population.
- Minimize health risk associated with rodent infestations.
- Implement best practice pest control.
- Engage the community in proactive rodent prevention efforts.

3. Prevention

A. Sanitation and Waste Management

- Ensure proper waste disposal and regular garbage collection.
- Conduct public awareness campaigns.
- All garbage must be in bags and placed in cans which should be closed with lids securely fastened.
- Keep area around garbage cans free of trash, food scrap and spills.
- Extra cans are available for \$5.00 per can per month by calling the Township Office.

B. Elimination of Food and Water Sources

- Encourage residents to store pet food indoors and clean up food spills immediately.
- Remove pet waste from lawns immediately.
- Remove fallen fruits, nuts and other food sources from yards.
- Remove and eliminate standing water in and around homes.
- The use of bird feeders should be reduced.

C. Habitat Modification

- Ensure permits that require digging or demolition shall be conditioned upon including rodent mitigation measures by an Illinois licensed structural pest control company.
- Seal cracks and holes in buildings to prevent rodent entry.
- Mow lawns on a regular basis and eliminate brush and high weeds in and around property. Overgrown lawns and weeds are breeding grounds for rodents and insects.
- Remove junk and piles of debris in and around property.
- Clean up chicken coops on a regular basis.
- Pick fruits and vegetables in your garden in a timely matter.
- Commercial properties should install and promptly refresh rodent bait stations.
- Rental properties should follow all state, county and local codes and regulations concerning pest control.

4. The Township Code Enforcement will enforce all property maintenance codes and issue citations to eliminate clutter garbage and all other potential rodent nesting sites. This includes, but not limited to:

- Long Grass.
- Storage of junk and debris in front, side and back yards.
- Abandoned and Inoperable Vehicles.
- Garbage outside of garbage bins.
- Unmaintained chicken coops.
- Unmaintained Pools.

5. Monitoring

A. Regular Inspections

- Work with Leyden Fire Protection District during inspections to ensure bait stations are installed and maintained regularly.
- Conduct routine inspections of public spaces, parks and common areas.

B. Community Reporting of rodents

- Residents are encouraged to call the Township office to report a rodent problem.

6. Control

A. Rodenticide Bait Stations

- Continue using third-party vendor for deploying and resupplying rodenticide bait stations to rodent infested areas.
- Ensure bait stations are strategically placed throughout the Unincorporated Leyden Township and regularly monitored.

B. Extermination Services

- Offer free guidance and support to homeowners seeking professional extermination services.
- Leyden Township will provide needed assistance to disabled and elderly residents.

C. Best Management Practices

- The Township has employed a certified structural Pest Control Technician licensed by the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- Rodent abatement will be conducted using the standards established by National Pest Management Association (NPMA).
- All activities in the Township will be conducted to maximize effectiveness with consideration of the budget allocation and minimizing harm to people, pets, and the environment.

D. Community Engagement

- Leyden Township will provide resources in the Township Newsletter, website and all social media platforms.
- Collaborate with local businesses, schools, and community organizations to promote rodent prevention measures.
- Work with other local municipalities to share resources and best practices to mitigate regional rodent issues.
- Engage with waste hauler to ensure garbage cans and dumpsters are in good repair to reduce access to rodent food sources.

E. Evaluation and Adaptation

- Track reported rodent sightings and infestations.
- Monitor the effectiveness of bait stations and other control measures.
- Review and adjust techniques and codes when applicable.

7. Conclusion

By adopting this plan, Leyden Township aims to effectively manage rodent infestations through a combination of prevention, monitoring and control strategies. This approach will ensure a healthier, safer and more pleasant environment for all residents.

