

## **Information about controlling rats in Kiel**

Dear citizens,

Every city has its own wildlife populations: pigeons, seagulls, squirrels - and also rats. These rodents generally do not pose a risk for people. However, they can cause financial losses, such as by damaging cable channels or in the food production industry.

We humans have - whether consciously or subconsciously - a role in shaping our surroundings. We thus contribute towards creating good or bad living conditions for wildlife - including rats. Leftover food or pet food is a feast for these rodents, who will eat anything. They keep returning to places they have found food before, and their numbers will increase nearby. We therefore need and ask citizens to help prevent this from happening.

### **Tips for depriving rats of food**

#### **Waste containers / bins in front of residential blocks**

→Keep bins closed tightly. Have damaged bins repaired or replaced.

#### **Overflowing bins and rubbish left next to waste containers**

→Only dispose of rubbish in the bins intended for this purpose – never leave it lying next to the bin! Keep them closed tightly.

→Store yellow bags out of reach for rats until their regular collection dates.

#### **Compost**

##### **Food remains on compost**

→Leftover food must go in the special brown organic waste bin.

#### **Gardens**

Leftovers from feeding cats or other pets / bird food during the winter

→ Do not leave food sources for pets or birds lying around in the open!

#### **Sewage system**

The city's sewers offer rats a safe place to hide. When leftover food is flushed down the toilet, this area becomes an ideal place to live.

→Organic waste and leftover food must not be flushed down the toilet.

### **Residential areas**

Houses and flats often provide nooks and crannies for animals to hide in.

→Keep your residential area clean and hygienic.

→Cover any type of opening (such as ventilation openings) near to ground level using a close-meshed lattice, so that rats cannot get into buildings.

### **Parks, public areas, schools**

There are often leftovers when feeding pigeons, ducks and geese. Sandwiches or fruit from lunchboxes can also encourage rats when it is carelessly thrown away.

→Do not feed the animals in parks, greens or public areas! Feeding pigeons and seagulls is forbidden in the entire city, as well as feeding water birds in Kiel's parks and greens!

### **Please help to control rat populations in Kiel!**

#### **We would be happy to help:**

- If you have any questions about rats:  
Citizens Registration and Public Order Office,  
Tel. 0431-901 2181, e-mail: [gefahrenabwehr@kiel.de](mailto:gefahrenabwehr@kiel.de)
- Urban Green Space Planning Office, Tel. 0431-901 3811
- Civil Engineering Office, Tel. 0800-0002093 (freephone)
- If you have damaged waste containers / bins:  
Abfallwirtschaftsbetrieb Kiel (ABK),  
Tel. 0431 58540, e-mail: [service@abki.de](mailto:service@abki.de)

### **Imprint**

Landeshauptstadt Kiel

Citizens Registration and Public Order Office / Press Department

Translation: HK-Übersetzungen Kiel

Kiel, September 2016