



Cold weather drives rodents and other animals into job sites looking for shelter and food. These pests can create health hazards, damage equipment, and even cause injuries.

What to Watch Out For

- Rodents: Mice and rats leave droppings, chew materials, and may nest in stored supplies.
- Birds: Pigeons or sparrows may nest in rafters or equipment, leaving droppings that create slipping hazards.
- Wildlife: Raccoons or squirrels may enter partially built structures. They can bite or scratch if cornered.
- Signs of pests: Droppings, gnawed wires or packaging, nests made of insulation or debris, unusual odors.

Guidelines for Workers

- Keep it clean:
 - Throw away food scraps and trash daily.
 - Don't leave lunch wrappers or drink containers lying around.
- Store materials properly:
 - Keep supplies off the ground and covered when possible.
 - Check tarps, insulation, and stored equipment for signs of nesting.
- Protect yourself:
 - Always wear gloves when handling debris or materials stored outside.

- If you see droppings, don't sweep them dry: dust can carry disease. Use wet cleaning methods if instructed.
- Stay alert:
 - Report pest sightings or damage immediately to your supervisor.
 - Do not try to catch or remove animals yourself.
- Watch your step:
 - Droppings, nesting materials, or chewed debris can create slip and trip hazards.

Key Reminders

- Pests are more common in winter because they're looking for warmth and food.
- Rodents and wildlife can spread disease and damage equipment.
- Keep the site clean, protect yourself with PPE, and report any signs of pests right away.
- Never handle pests on your own. Always let trained personnel deal with them.

Winter pests are more than just a nuisance; they're a real safety hazard. By keeping our work areas clean, staying alert, and reporting problems, we protect ourselves and our crew. Remember: if you see signs of pests, don't ignore them, speak up right away.