

Proper management of deer mice in Jasper National Park



Deer mice are a valuable part of our Jasper ecosystem. However, Parks Canada recognizes that deer mice can carry Hantavirus, and should not be inside your house or business. That is why there are times when it is necessary to euthanize deer mice.

Deer mice must be killed humanely, and without endangering other wildlife.

Poison of any kind is illegal in the national park. Please use the following methods to euthanise deer mice:

Prevention

- **Seal all holes.** Preventing entry to buildings is the best prevention. This includes holes in walls, gaps below doors, dryer vents, and any opening as big as a dime.
- **Clean up!** Never leave food out overnight. This includes pet food. Store food in mouse-proof containers.
- **Make your yard unfriendly to mice.** Keep grass short, remove hiding places such as stacks of firewood, and take down bird feeders.
- **Be consistent!** These methods must be maintained to be effective.

Questions?

For more information, call Parks Canada at 780-852-6179 or 780-883-0003.

If residents or business/facility operators have questions or concerns about pest control and related health concerns, please contact the Alberta Health Services Environmental Public Health office in Jasper at 780-852-4759.

Methods of Euthanasia

**Only kill deer mice inside your house.
Never use traps outdoors.**

Acceptable

- **Snap traps**
- **Electronic kill traps**

Follow directions closely on these traps for the most effective use of these devices.

Do not use

- **Poison of any kind.**
This includes poison for rodents, pigeons, or anything else. If another wild animal or your pet ate a poisoned mouse, it would also be poisoned.
- **Sticky paper or board traps.**
These traps are cruel and inhumane and result in slow death by starvation or dehydration.
- **Rat traps** are too large and can kill larger animals.

Proper Disposal of Poison

Rodent poison that is currently in your possession should be brought to the Resource Conservation office (Compound) for proper disposal. Do **NOT** put poison in household garbage. Use extreme caution when handling poison, whether in its original packaging or not.