



AUDUBON SOCIETY OF RHODE ISLAND

# WHERE **ADVOCACY** TAKES FLIGHT

## Join Audubon in protecting raptors from deadly pesticides.

State legislation to ban commonly used poisons called Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) could save thousands of raptors annually.

SGARs are lethal pesticides used in an attempt to control rodent populations. Black box bait stations containing SGARs are placed alongside homes, hotels, grocery stores, daycare centers, and more.

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## Rodenticides are proven to have devastating consequences on the ecosystem, negatively impacting local wildlife populations like raptors, degrading water, soil and plant communities and reducing local and regional biodiversity.

Any bird, wildlife or pet that eats poisoned rodents accumulates SGARs in their own bodies, often leading to death. Since raptors consume thousands of rodents a year, they are particularly susceptible to these impacts. Safer alternatives exist, and when used together are often more effective than simply relying on rodenticides.

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## In 2024, Audubon Society of Rhode Island made it a priority to advocate for the first-ever bill to ban the use and sale of SGARs in Rhode Island.

Last year, we made tremendous progress in introducing the dangers of SGARs to the legislature. Telling your story to the state legislators is a powerful way that you can help our efforts to ban SGARs and protect raptors.



## WE KNOW WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER, WE WIN

To get involved, please email Audubon Director of Advocacy Phoenix Wheeler at [pwheeler@asri.org](mailto:pwheeler@asri.org).

Headquarters: 12 Sanderson Road, Smithfield, RI 02917

Audubon Nature Center and Aquarium: 1401 Hope Street, Bristol, RI 02809

401-949-5454 • [www.asri.org](http://www.asri.org) • [audubon@asri.org](mailto:audubon@asri.org)

# DO YOU HAVE RODENTS?

**You can reduce your rodent problem and save thousands of raptors annually.**

Many Rhode Islanders are impacted by rodents but aren't aware that there are safer methods to use than SGARs. Audubon Society of Rhode Island can help. Below are suggestions that can be used to control rodent populations and protect the environment at the same time.

## What is Integrated Pest Management?

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the safest and best way to control rodent populations in Rhode Island. IPM takes multiple options for rodent control into account instead of an overreliance on deadly poisons.



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### 1. Get rodents to move out

Residents and business owners can use the following proven methods to prevent rodents from making a home on your property, inside or out:

- **Buildings:** Seal all holes in roofs, walls, foundation, crawl spaces, and sheds. Seal openings around pipes, cables, and electrical wires that enter walls and foundations. Use wire mesh or hardware cloth over plumbing vent stacks, under porches, or crawl space entrances.
- **Landscaping:** Cut branches back three feet away from roof and remove ivy, leaf piles and debris from property.
- **Food:** Remove food and water sources, including bird seed.
- **Trash:** Secure lids on trash cans and dumpsters at all times, and ensure trash is picked up consistently and effectively.

### 2. Use greener options to keep rodents away.

Numerous all-natural repellents are available at your local hardware store to deter rodents and encourage them to leave a property. Audubon can recommend products that offer safer alternatives.

### 3. Reduce rodent births

ContraPest, sold by SenseTech, is EPA-registered and available to both licensed pest managers and consumers to manage rat populations by reducing births. Once rodents consume the product, their reproduction rate is greatly reduced.

### 4. Promote natural predators

Raptors eat thousands of rodents a year. To encourage the raptor population in your yard or community, install nest boxes.



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