



June 10, 2026

RV and Encampment Occupants: Rat Advisory

Keep food and water in closed containers; avoid exposure to wild rats; seek treatment quickly

Wild rats carry a variety of diseases. People and dogs can get infected through contact with wild rats and their urine, feces, saliva, bites or scratches. Rats can also carry ticks, mites, or fleas that can spread diseases. Do not poison rats as they often wander into open areas before dying. These Carcasses can be deadly to pets or wildlife.

Rat-borne diseases are monitored around encampments in the City of Berkeley by Alameda County Vector Control and include the following:

- Leptospirosis
- Flea borne typhus
- Salmonellosis

TAKE STEPS TO LOWER RISK

The best way to prevent transmission of disease by rats in your area is to:

- Keep food and water in closed containers
- Minimize trash and items that could create rat nests
- Avoid exposure to rats or their body fluids

IF YOU DO NOT FEEL WELL, SEEK TREATMENT QUICKLY

If you have been around or in contact with rats AND you feel sick, get medical help quickly and inform your medical provider that you have been exposed to wild rats.

If you do not have a Primary Care Provider or are a LifeLong Medical Care Patient:

- Call: Berkeley Trust Health Center (510) 486-3463
- Operating Hours:
 - Monday-Friday 8:30am -4:30pm, except Tuesday when hours are 10:00am-4:30pm
 - 830 University Ave, Berkeley, CA (Near the corner of University Ave and Sixth Street)

For questions contact the City of Berkeley Lepto information line: (510) 981-5460