

# MOUSE AND ANT PREVENTION & CONTROL

## Mice

- Since the campus is on a hillside surrounded by open land and residential dwellings, the presence of pests at one time or another is inevitable.
- When their food supply is shortened, the temperature becomes colder, or their nesting places are disturbed, mice move inside the building.
- A house mouse can get into a building by squeezing through openings and cracks smaller than your pencil.
- Once inside the building, they nest near food supply and seldom venture far from their shelter and food supply.

## Ants

- Ants establish colonies and send out scouts to find food and water. The scouts leave a scent trail to enable them to return to the colony with news of food/water found and for other members to follow.
- If you see ants around your work area, they are just looking for food (or have found food).

## What can you do?

1. Eliminate their food supply.
2. Maintain good housekeeping by wiping crumbs and sticky residues of counters, cleaning up food spill, not leaving food wrappers around, etc. Poor housekeeping attract mice and ants and allow them to thrive.
3. If you store snacks in the office, store them in airtight resealable containers. This will prevent mice and ants from getting to them. Also, mice and ants can't see and depend on their smell to locate food.
4. Avoid leaving food in your office trash cans overnight. Instead tie the bags, take and place them in the trash cans located in the restroom, break room, or community kitchen. Custodial staff services these areas more frequently than your office.

## What does the University do regarding pest management?

1. The University contracts with an outside vendor for all pest control services. For small infestations, Facilities Management setup ant bait stations and mouse traps unheveteneodblht ines

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