

# Rats!

Managing rodents and other noninsect outdoor pests begins with gap analysis, according to Zia Siddiqi, director of quality assurance at Orkin.

"A hole the size of a quarter will allow a rat to get in," he said. "For a mouse, it's a hole the size of a dime."

These gaps in the exteriors of hotels usually are found around door frames and utility connections, but anything more than 3 feet high isn't cause for concern, Siddiqi said.

"The cable, gas line and electricity line—people often forget to seal it," he said. "It's those holes we're talking about."

The roof also can provide access for roof rats looking for water accumulation. They can get onto the top of the building by climbing on utility lines, Siddiqi said.

"Make sure your roof is well protected," he said.



BIRD X

## Birds beware

There are several approaches for keeping winged friends away from hotel grounds, according to Mona Zemsky, marketing manager for Bird X. They include:

Roost inhibitors: spikes [shown above], netting or sticky gel.

Sonic and ultrasonic sound devices: programmable machines that create an unappealing sound, such as a goose's alarm call.

Visual devices: an object to scare birds such as an owl in prowling position, an alligator head in a pond or Terror Eyes [pictured here].

Taste and odor aversion: sprayed on grass, roofs or beams to detract the birds.

"A combination of products always works better," Zemsky said. "As far as lethal options, we don't recommend that because there are plenty of ways to [deter nuisances] without harming the birds."

If you eliminate birds instead of making your property undesirable, another flock will come to take its place, according to Zemsky.

"You're creating a vacuum because you have a desirable place for birds to live," she said.



X OZIE



## Cleaning house

Gordon Morrison, Maxforce business manager for Bayer Environmental Science, offered some integrated pest management techniques to help keep your property pest free.

■ Make sure doors and windows close properly.

■ Keep trash cans and Dumpsters covered with tight-fitting lids at all times. Clean them on a regular basis.

■ Reduce clutter and debris from around exterior walls that can provide easy hiding places.

■ Remove bird feeders.

■ If an unwelcome guest is spotted, record the incident on a sighting sheet and share the information with your pest-management professional.

Morrison  
BAYER

"When we look at pests, we like to say, 'Hang up a no vacancy sign,'" said Zia Siddiqi, director of quality assurance at Orkin.

## Did you know?

■ While birds such as pigeons, sparrows and starlings have an unhealthy look, birds can be associated with several diseases, such as histoplasmosis and West Nile Virus. Visit [www.bird-x.com/birddiseases.html](http://www.bird-x.com/birddiseases.html) for more information.

## For more info...

Company	Circle No.
Bayer Environmental Science	370
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## check IN

■ To celebrate its 25th anniversary, **Rosewood Hotels & Resorts** is offering the Three Generations of Luxury package. The package includes a special rate for a family of three generations or more staying in three bedrooms for at least three nights. A family portrait will be taken on property and a family dinner arranged by the hotel or resort.

■ **Pink Shell Beach Resort & Spa**, Estero Island, Fla., created a "Gas 'n' Go" package for guests who stay a minimum of two nights through Sept. 30. The resort will apply a \$30 gas credit to the first night of the stay, which can be used anywhere on property.

■ **Millennium Hotels and Resorts** and Delta Air Lines partnered to offer travelers SkyMiles with qualifying stays. SkyMiles members will receive five miles for every U.S. dollar spent on room rates at a Millennium Hotel or Resort. Millennium Hotels in North America offer SkyMiles members a summer bonus of five additional miles per dollar spent, for a total of 10 miles per dollar, through Aug. 31.

■ **The Millennium Knickerbocker** in Chicago is offering the Toulouse-Lautrec package, which includes deluxe accommodations, two tickets to the Toulouse-Lautrec exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago and evening turndown service. Rates for the package begin at \$199 plus tax and are valid through Oct. 10.

■ **The Spa at Silverado Resort** introduced a golf massage for "Type A" golfers who view their bodies as an important piece of golf equipment. The technique is created to strengthen, stretch and stimulate muscles. Fifty-minute massages are priced at \$120.

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