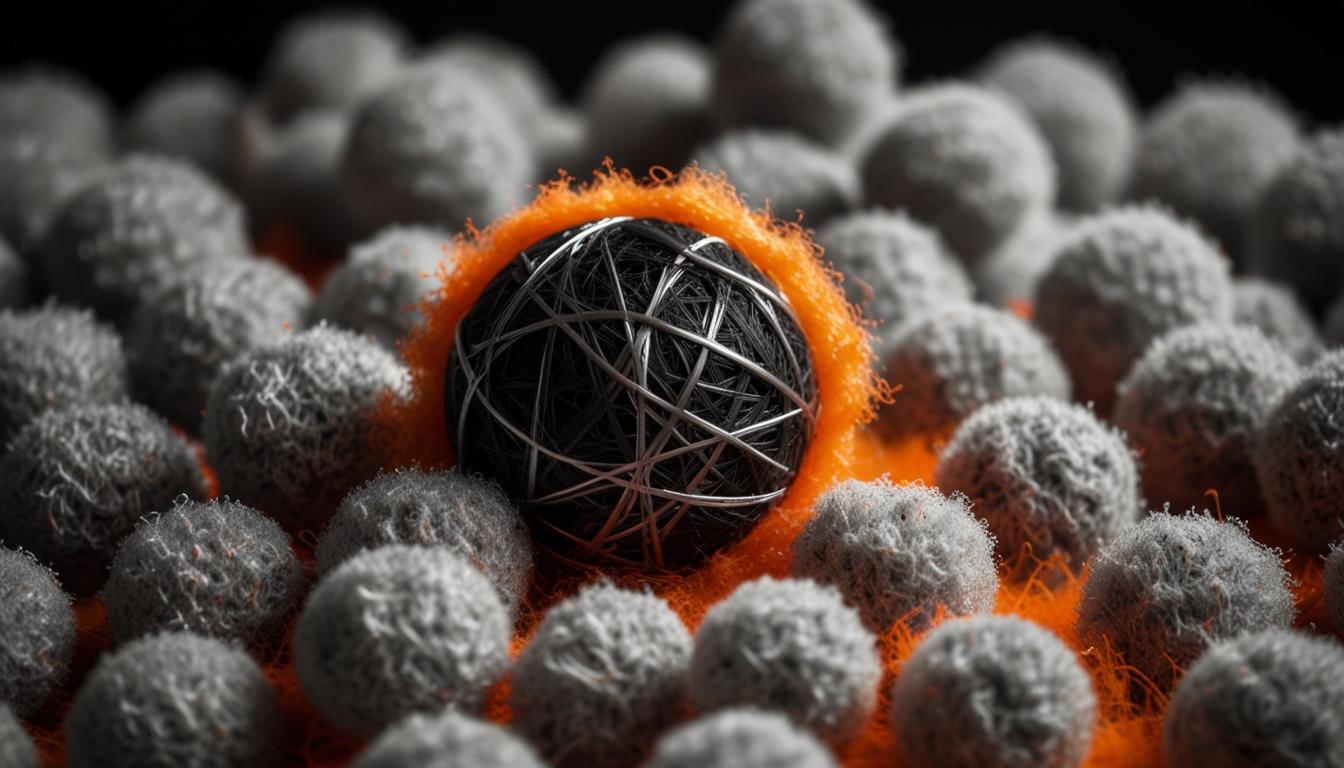
# Summer Rodent Infestations on the Rise: Storage Expert Recommends Deterrence Methods



**Increased Summer Rodent Activity and Simple Deterrence Methods**

As temperatures rise during the summer months, the population of rats and mice tends to surge as they search for food and prepare nests for the winter. This increased activity can lead to infestations in homes, garages, and storage units across the country.

Storage expert Chris Hutton, owner of Adams Selfstore, recommends affordable and humane methods to deter these rodents. For mice, Hutton suggests using steel wool to fill potential entry points such as cracks and gaps around pipes. He notes that mice are unable to chew through steel wool, making it an effective barrier. Steel wool can be purchased for approximately £2 from supermarkets and homeware stores.

To keep rats away, Hutton recommends using peppermint oil due to their strong sense of smell. Soaking cotton balls in peppermint oil and placing them at potential entry points like gaps and cracks can deter rats, as the scent is overwhelming for them. This method is considered humane and eco-friendly, with peppermint oil costing around £3 and cotton balls about £1.

**Man Dies at Causeley Road Park, Stoke-on-Trent**

Emergency services were called to Causeley Road Park in Bentilee, Stoke-on-Trent, at 4:45 PM on July 3, 2024, following reports of a medical emergency. Despite the efforts of West Midlands Ambulance Service, the man was pronounced dead at the scene. Staffordshire Police are investigating and appeal to the public for information on the deceased’s last-known movements. Witnesses can contact the police on 101.

**Cannabis Factory Discovered Following Baseball Bat Incident in Fenton**

Staffordshire Police raided a house on Victoria Road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent, after reports of men entering the property with baseball bats on June 13. Inside, they discovered 80 cannabis plants. The property has since been secured and boarded up, with notices warning of police monitoring. The police are continuing inquiries and encourage anyone with information to contact them on 101.

**Audi Crashes Into Bus Stop in Sneyd Green**

On June 27, 2024, an Audi driver collided with a bus stop on Milton Road, Sneyd Green. Staffordshire Police confirmed there were no injuries and the vehicle was recovered. The driver has been reported for driving without due care and attention. Witnesses are urged to contact the police on 101.