



**MARICOPA COUNTY**  
**Environmental Services**  
1001 N. Central Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85004  
[www.maricopa.gov/envsvc](http://www.maricopa.gov/envsvc)

June 7, 2002

For more information, contact Laura Devany at (602) 506-6611 / Pager: (602) 420-7874

**FIGHT AGAINST ROOF RATS CONTINUES, COMPLAINTS DECLINE**  
*County Board of Supervisors to Vote Monday on Rat Control Funding for FY03*

(Phoenix)— Complaint calls are down, but the need for roof rat control continues into the next fiscal year. At a meeting Monday, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors will hear from the Environmental Services Department to approve funding to continue rat control efforts in Maricopa County and recognize community members for their involvement.

- WHO: MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
- WHAT: BOARD MEETING TO APPROVE CONTINUED FUNDING FOR RAT CONTROL**
- WHERE: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AUDITORIUM  
205 WEST JEFFERSON (In front of the Central Court Bldg.)**
- WHEN: MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2002  
9:00 A.M.**

\*See attached fact sheet.

# Roof Rat Control Fact Sheet

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- Maricopa County Environmental Services Department installed more than 6100 bait stations in April using 3000 pounds (1.5 tons) of bait.
- Vector Control is monitoring the bait stations weekly, getting to all bait stations each month.
- Hot spots: 44<sup>th</sup> St to 64<sup>th</sup> St. between Indian School and Thomas.
- The roof rats HAVE NOT SPREAD beyond the perimeter of 20<sup>th</sup> St. to Scottsdale Rd. and Bethany Home to McDowell Roads. (This includes a one-mile buffer zone.)
- Complaint calls are down:  
January-65  
February-184  
March-252  
April-157  
May -80  
June-14
- The Department is requesting funding up to \$100,000 for fiscal year 2003.
- The goal is to control the non-native rodent population and prevent the spread of disease.
- ADHS has tested 20 rats so far; all negative for the diseases bubonic plague, tularemia, and hantavirus.
- The Environmental Services Department will continue to respond to citizen's complaints and work with the community, the Cities of Phoenix and Scottsdale, US and State Dept. of Agriculture, and the State and County Dept. of Health.
- Call the Citizen's Environmental Complaint Line at (602) 506-6611 or go on-line: <http://www.maricopa.gov/envsvc/COMMUNIT/Complain.asp>.



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Environmental Services Department