

West Valley Roof Rat Calls Build as Citrus Ripens Across Goodyear

Anteater Exterminating Inc. reports rising roof rat activity in Goodyear as fall fruit and irrigated landscaping draw rodents to rooflines.

GOODYEAR, AZ, UNITED STATES, August 25, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Citrus ripening across the West Valley marks the start of the busiest rodent season in the Phoenix metro, and the calls that follow are almost always about noise overhead rather than anything seen at ground level. [Anteater Exterminating Inc.](#), an [Exterminator Goodyear AZ](#) property owners call for scorpions, termites, and rodents, reports that roof rat activity climbs from late September through winter as fruit sets and irrigated landscaping holds moisture the surrounding desert does not.

Roof rats are not native to Arizona. They arrived in the Phoenix area around 2001, established first in older citrus neighborhoods, and have spread outward along irrigated corridors ever since. Unlike the Norway rats common in colder states, they nest above ground, which is why the first sign is usually scratching in an attic or along a soffit line rather than droppings in a garage.

Landscaping matters more than housing age. When a property owner searches for Roof Rat Control Goodyear AZ crews can schedule quickly, the entry point is often an untrimmed palm skirt, an oleander hedge grown into the eave, or a gap where a conduit passes through the stucco. Mature citrus close to a roofline gives a rat food, cover, and a bridge in a single tree.



Roof rat perched on the tile edge of a suburban Arizona roof beside a mature citrus tree at dusk.



Roof rat climbing a stucco wall beside a tile roof eave and untrimmed palm fronds in a suburban Arizona neighborhood.

Water is the other draw. Drip irrigation, pool equipment, and pet bowls all provide what the open desert does not, and a yard offering both fruit and standing water supports a population well beyond what its size suggests.

Property owners weighing whether a noise overhead warrants a call can [check what their Goodyear neighbors have to say](#) before booking an inspection. Scratching that moves along a fixed path at dusk is a strong indicator, since roof rats travel established runways rather than wandering.

Why This Service Is in Demand

How quickly does a roof rat problem escalate? Faster than most people expect. A pair can produce several litters a year, and attic insulation gives newborns cover from everything except a trap. Is trapping enough on its own? No. Trapping removes the current animals, but an unsealed roofline invites the next ones, so exclusion is the part that holds. Do they damage anything beyond insulation? Yes. Gnawed wiring and punctured irrigation lines are common, and both cost more to repair than the rodent work itself.

Local Conditions Shape the Work

The West Valley's mix of newer stucco construction and mature irrigated landscaping creates conditions the surrounding desert does not. Tile roofs in particular leave voids at the eave that are difficult to see from the ground and simple for a rat to enter. Technicians working a rodent call here routinely find a second issue during the inspection, most often an unscreened attic vent. The same conditions show up in Litchfield Park and Avondale, where comparable subdivisions and citrus plantings produce similar pressure.

How the Company Approaches a Job

Work begins with a roofline and attic inspection rather than an estimate from the driveway. Technicians map runways, entry points, and adjacent conditions such as a neighboring vacant lot or an unmaintained fruit tree. Trapping runs alongside exclusion rather than after it, and sealing is completed only once activity has stopped, so nothing is closed in.

Planning Ahead

Late summer through early fall is the practical booking window, because it lands before fruit sets rather than after populations have already built. Trimming palms and citrus back from the roofline and screening attic vents in September costs less than attic remediation in January.

Where Anteater Exterminating Inc. Works in Goodyear

Central Goodyear: Palm Valley, Canyon Trails, Wildflower Ranch. East Goodyear: Estrella Vista, Cottonflower, Sarival Gardens. West Goodyear: Estrella Mountain Ranch, Villages at Estrella. North Goodyear: Pebble Creek, Corte Sierra, Sedella. South Goodyear: Estrella Commons, Roosevelt Park, Canyon Views.

About Anteater Exterminating Inc.

Anteater Exterminating Inc. is an Exterminator Goodyear AZ residents and businesses have used since 1995. Services include scorpion control, roof rat control, termite treatment, bee removal, bed bug treatment, and general ant and cockroach control for residential and commercial properties. The company serves Goodyear and neighboring West Valley communities. The office is at 14454 W Monterey Way, Goodyear, AZ 85395. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm. Website: <https://www.pestcontrolanteater.com>. Phone: (623) 877-0550.

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