Avoid Hantavirus: When removing rodent nests and waste, use these precautions:

- Air out building for 1 hour before entering.
- Wear disposable gloves and a dust mask.
- Mix solution of disinfectant (1 cup bleach to 10 cups water).
- Thoroughly spray or soak dead mice or droppings with disinfectant before you remove them or clean nesting areas.
- Use rags or sponges soaked in the disinfectant solution.

Replace damaged seal and repair well casing. Repairs must be durable and watertight.

Install an electrical conduit to seal the opening around the wires on a submersible pump. For a temporary fix, use clear silicone sealer around the opening.

Replace access plug or install an inverted, screened well vent if one is not present.

Eliminate rodents from the well house and area around the wellhead. Airborne fecal material can contaminate the well or coliform samples. To keep rodents out, seal all entry points. Consider replacing fiberglass with solid insulation.

Acceptable commercially available vent designs

Replace the missing front panel of the electrical box and seal the small holes in the back.

½-inch galvanized pipe with non-corrodible 24-mesh screen and a #12 stainless steel adjustable clamp

Drinking Water Tech Tips
Simple Fixes for Wellhead Openings
For more information
We offer many publications online at https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/eh/dw/publications/publications.cfm

**Pest Control (331-363)** is a 6-page document explaining how to keep pests out, inspect for signs of infestation, remove favorable habitat and clean up.

Contact our nearest regional office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you have an after-hours emergency, call (877) 481-4901.

**Eastern Region, Spokane Valley (509) 329-2100**

**Northwest Region, Kent (253) 395-6750**
Island, King, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties.

**Southwest Region, Tumwater (360) 236-3030**
Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum counties.

If you need this publication in alternate format, call (800) 825-0127. For TTY/TDD, call (800) 833-6388.