

**Transfer Station
Operating Standards
T14, §17410.4**

**Vector, Bird and
Animal Control**

Vector

Definition in T14, § 17225.73

"Vector" includes any insect or other arthropod, rodent, or other animal capable of transmitting the causative agents of human disease, or disrupting the normal enjoyment of life by adversely affecting the public health and well being."

T14, § 17410.4

Vector, Bird and Animal Control

The regulatory requirements are as follows:

“The operator shall take adequate steps to control or prevent the propagation, harborage and attraction of flies, rodents or other vectors and animals, and to minimize bird attraction”

Purpose of Vector Control at Transfer Stations

- Birds & vectors are a health hazard to users, personnel and neighboring residents as they are capable of transmitting diseases.
- Aesthetic visual impacts to site and surrounding area.
- Minimize/Prevent site operations impacts.

Vector Indicators

- Tracks
- Droppings/scat
- Urine Odor
- Fresh gnaw marks
- Habitat signs- Nests/ burrows
- Visual sightings
- Damage to site structures or equipment.

Vectors Commonly Encountered at Transfer Stations

- Flies
- Rodents
- Birds
- Feral dogs, cats and other animals



Flies



- Flies are a nuisance and a vector
- Pick up dangerous organisms with their mouth and other body parts and pass them to humans and animals through their feces and vomitus.
- Flies have preferred feeding and breeding sites

Flies Commonly found at TS

- Flies that commonly feed and breed in garbage; the filth flies (including house flies, blow flies, bottle flies, flesh flies, soldier flies), fruit flies, Phorid flies and Sphaerocerid flies.
- Flies that infest and breed in drains; Sphaerocerid Fly, Fruit Fly, Phorid Fly and Moth Fly.

Fly Control

- Eliminate the feeding and breeding sites
- Process and remove waste as quickly as possible
- Insecticides
- Insecticide free traps such as pheromone traps, plain sticky traps and ultraviolet, electronic fly zappers



Rodents



- Attracted to transfer stations as an easy source of food or brought in with the waste loads
- Carry and spread diseases, such as hantavirus and bubonic plague
- Cause fires or electrical shorts by chewing through insulation on electrical wires in structures and equipment
- Need a habitat inside or under buildings or inside recyclable containers that are not frequently rotated.

Rodent Control

- Remove food sources, water, and items that provide shelter for rodents.
- Exclusion from buildings
- Until the habitat is removed, other forms of control may not be effective
- Rodenticides
- Traps

Impacts of Birds

Health and Safety Concerns

- Attracted to transfer stations as a food source
- Spread diseases to humans (customers and neighbors) and other animals/pets
- Aesthetics/ visual impacts

Bird Deterrents

- Prompt removal of food waste
- Spikes or netting to eliminate roosting places
- Other deterrents may include:
 - Noisemakers
 - Bird distress sounds
 - A grid of monofilament line
 - Reflective tape
 - Decoys, typically designed to look like an owl or other bird of prey

Feral Dogs, Cats and other Animals



- They are opportunistic feeders and are attracted to transfer stations as a food source
- Puppies and kittens may be brought in the waste loads
- Nuisance to the transfer station and adjacent neighbors
- May bite or kill pets in the neighborhood

Controlling Feral Dogs, Cats and other Animals

- Site fencing (exclusion)
- Noisemaking devices
- Repellants
- Trapping and relocation

Inspection Report Write-ups

- On the inspection report, state the standard requirements, evidence observed or vector indicators, describe the location and extent of the bird or vector problem.
- Photos for documentation

Maggots breeding in the floor drain



Examples of Vector Problem Write-ups

- Maintain drains free of organic material to minimize fly attraction and harborage.
Eliminate the numerous maggots observed in the floor drain.