

- (1) be in writing.
- (2) contain an outline of remedial action.

(a) such actions may include but are not limited to, extermination, removal of food sources, removal of harborage and rat proofing of buildings.

(3) require that any remedial action be initiated within forty-eight (48) hours from the receipt unless in the opinion of the Health Officer, conditions require a lesser or greater period of time.

(4) allow a reasonable time thereafter for completion of the remedial action.

(5) be served upon the owner. A notice and order shall be deemed to be properly served if a copy thereof is delivered to him personally or if a copy thereof is sent by certified mail to his last known address or address on the assessment records of the County; or if a copy thereof is posted in a conspicuous place in or about the property affected by the notice; or if he is served with such notice by any other method authorized under the laws of this state.

b. If an owner, on whose property evidence of rat infestation exists fails to initiate extermination of the rats within the time specified in the order from the Health Officer, or fails to exterminate the rats within a reasonable time after initiating extermination, the Health Officer shall be empowered to enter upon such premises for the purpose of extermination of the rats and the cost of extermination shall be a debt due to the County and shall be collected as other debts. The Health Officer is further empowered to contract with commercial exterminators for summary abatement of rodent infestations.

c. The County Board of Appeals shall be empowered to hear testimony and decide all appeals taken from orders or actions of the Health Officer under this Article. Any persons aggrieved by an order or action of the Health Officer made under this Article may appeal to the County Board of Appeals within ten days of such order or action. Upon notice, after hearing, the Board shall have authority to affirm, modify or reverse the order or action of the Health Officer. Such appeal shall not stay execution of the order or action unless the Board, upon application, shall grant a stay for such order.

#### 11A—5. *Public Property.*

The Health Officer shall take such action as necessary to control rat populations on publicly owned property throughout the County; provided that, for any property controlled by any agency, other than the Montgomery County Government, such agency shall be required to reimburse the County for the cost of rat control.