



— ADVANCED —  
**WILDLIFE CONTROL**

Source: <https://advancedwildlifecontrol.com/>

Report By Rachel Kass, Advanced Wildlife Control Field Technician

**Investigation into Failed Pest Control at Beyer Residence**  
4694 West Ravine Lane, Brown Deer, WI 53223

**Summary**

After a thorough investigation into the continual pest issues, specifically rodents, at the Beyer residence, the problem was successfully identified. The previous pest control company, Batzner Pest Control, placed the bait stations on the interior of the home which required the rodents to enter the home in order to be eliminated.

These were not maintained and had no bait in them at the time of the investigation. Additionally, no bait stations or pest mitigation practices were utilized on the exterior of the home or surrounding yard despite being close to a nature preserve.

**Background**

Mrs. Beyer called Advanced Wildlife Control on Monday, January 11, 2021, expressing concern after seeing rodents running along the exterior walls of her home, in her garage, and even in her house. She was worried initially because her cat got ahold of one of the mice and was concerned that the mouse had consumed poison and it would harm her pet.

Mrs. Beyer explained that she had utilized a subscription service offered by a competitor, Batzner Pest Control, who was paid to come on a quarterly basis to maintain the pest issue at the house. She stated that the house was near a nature preserve and the entire neighborhood had pest issues. Her family is fairly new to the subdivision and chose Batzner because they were recommended by neighbors. She noted that Batzner had missed the previous two quarterly maintenance checks and after they said it would be weeks before they could investigate the issue, she called Advanced Wildlife Control.

The purpose of this report is to investigate the continued pest issue at the Beyer household and propose solutions to mitigate the issue.

**Investigation of Continued Rodent Issues**

The first part of the investigation into the pest control issues at the Beyer household was to review all historical information provided. This included the request that Mrs. Beyer submitted and past dates of service as stated by Mrs. Beyer. It also is the company protocol to look at maps of the surrounding area and any historical or GIS data available.

The second part of the investigation was an in-person interview with the client and an examination of the exterior of the home. During the interview, Mrs. Beyer expressed similar concerns as she did on the phone and provided additional detail such as what Batzner told her and did during their previous visits.

During the examination of the exterior of the residence and the yard, there were no visible indications of pest control such as bait stations, traps, or other methods of pest management. Additionally, there were several holes in the stone mortar around windows, near the garage, and behind shutters that would be considered access points for rodents to enter the house through.

The third stage of the investigation was to investigate the interior basement of the home. Upon entering the basement, there was clear evidence of rodent movement including the disturbance of dust and the presence of droppings. There were several bait stations present; however, when they were opened, there was no bait in them. Additionally, to the concern of Mrs. Beyer, the type of poison used could harm her pets which was an issue brought up both in the initial phone call and during the interview.

The bait stations in the basement were clearly not maintained and had not been checked in a significant amount of time. The bait stations were labeled that they had previously been checked 9 months prior which was consistent with Mrs. Beyer's claim that they had missed two quarterly inspections one in the summer and the fall.

### **Remediation Actions Taken**

Several immediate actions were recommended and implemented on both the interior and the exterior of the residence. First, the holes were filled with steel wool and some plaster to cut off the access that the rodents were using. These holes vary in size, and special care was taken to ensure all were filled.

Second, bait stations were placed along the exterior of the home, nearest to the spots where it was believed the pests were entering. The bait stations utilized were designed to be pet-proof and poison in small doses which would not harm pets such as cats and dogs unless consumed in very large amounts. Three bait stations were placed around the perimeter of the structure. One was not placed in the fenced-in backyard to limit any pet exposure to the bait stations.

Third, the basement was cleaned up including removing the previous bait stations and all remains left from the rodents in the basement. No additional bait stations or rodent control were placed in the basement. The goal is to address the rodent issue on the exterior of the home to prevent any rodents from entering the structure.

### **Conclusion**

After conducting the interview with Mrs. Beyer, historical research of the previous remediation at the property, and examination of the residence, it was determined that the continuing rodent population was a result of three factors. These factors include the improper placement of bait

stations inside the residence, the visible holes in the exterior of the home that the rodents were using to access the interior, and the lack of maintenance of the bait stations.

Remediation actions were taken. All known access to the interior of the home via holes in the stones near windows or the garage were filled. Additionally, bait stations were placed on the exterior of the home in high-traffic areas for the rodents that pets did not have access to. As a courtesy, the improperly placed bait stations in the basement were removed and all debris from rodents cleaned up.

### **Recommendations**

Per the above investigation, it is recommended that the Beyer residence have their bait stations checked every quarter. The amount of poison that is consumed by the rodents will be tracked over the course of two years. After two years or when there is a clear trend of data regarding the rate of poison consumption by the rodents, the maintenance schedule will be reevaluated.

Once a year, the structure will be checked for any new access points in the exterior of the home and mediated at the time of the inspection.

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