

# City of Marco Island Pest Control & Rodent Exclusion Services

- Summary of pest control and rodent exclusion services at City facilities and parks
- Includes environmental considerations, costs, and program options

# Background

- City-wide overview of pest control and rodent exclusion services
- Evaluation of environmental impact and cost efficiency
- Good Bites program discontinued at Mackle Park due to rat activity
- One-year Natures Defense pilot program initiated at Mackle Park
- Unless noted, rodent control uses rodenticide

# Natures Defense – Overview

- Non-toxic, all-natural pest and wildlife deterrent
- Environmentally safe for people, pets, and non-target species
- Used as a deterrent rather than a poison-based control method
- Pilot program currently underway at Mackle Park

# Animals Deterred by Natures Defense

- Effective deterrent for multiple nuisance animals including:
- Rodents (rats, mice)
- Nuisance birds
- Iguanas and other reptiles
- Additional species as listed by manufacturer (see supporting documentation)

# Rodent Control Devices

- 95 rodent bait stations installed on City-owned properties
- Stations included in contracted pest control services
- Focused on facilities, utilities, and high-use public areas
- Unless noted, stations use rodenticide

# Policy – Private Property Pest Control

- City does not provide pest or wildlife control on private property
- Prior iguana trapping program cost approximately \$20,000 annually
- Program removed in FY24 due to limited funds and unmet demand
- Residents directed to FWC list of licensed trappers
- City continues pest control on City-owned property only

# Funding Summary

- Annual Pest Control Costs:
- Water and Sewer: \$3,984.72
- Fleet and Facilities: \$11,448.48
- Mackle Park Natures Defense Trial: \$4,998.26

# Rodent Exclusion Cost Comparison

- Current rodenticide-based program: \$5,052 annually
- Estimated cost for full Natures Defense implementation: \$25,584 annually
- Comparable non-toxic pricing from Good Bites not provided despite follow-ups