

## **APPENDIX A – Chapter 1 – Administrative Code Background Information**

### **Nuisances**

Mosquitoes, mice and rats, and other vermin have long been associated with human and animal diseases such as: West Nile Virus, St. Louis Encephalitis, Western and Eastern Equine Encephalitis, Malaria, Dengue Fever, Plague, Hanta Virus, and Rat Bite Fever. Roaches are known to carry disease-causing organisms, such as Salmonella, on their bodies. Flies have been proven to spread disease-causing organisms to humans and animals on their bodies and through their mouthparts. Manure accumulated from uncontrolled pigeon populations has been associated with Histoplasmosis. Skunks, raccoons, and bats are known to carry rabies. They seek shelter in abandoned structures. Children commonly seek out abandoned structures and dump sites as play areas. Historically public health has been charged with abating nuisances and the sources of filth in order to protect the health and welfare of the public.

Vermin can find refuge and food in unclean or cluttered environments near human habitation. The most effective means of reducing diseases associated with these vectors is to reduce their populations through removal of their food and habitat. It is the purpose of this chapter to provide minimum standards for the identification and abatement of nuisances.