



# RODENT HELL & HIGH WATER

**RATS as big as cats are invading homes after being flooded out of their nests.**

The giant rodents are "hell-bent" on finding shelter in the wake of Storm Ciaran.

And the huge critters - fuelled by household food waste - will take "no prisoners".

Pest control expert Ian Helands added: "This is the next thing to come in this nightmarish scenario. They'll be hell-bent

## Floods flush rats into our homes

by **SIAN HEWITT**  
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on finding new shelter and dry, warm areas with food.

"They will be coming to your homes and these are not small rats, they are larger than I've ever

seen. It's hard to stop," Dee Ward-Thompson, of the British Pest Control Association, said:

"Rats are exceptionally agile.

"They'll head under the floor or find a warm space to build a nest in the walls or loft." Experts recommend plugging gaps in ex-

terior walls and checking plumbing pipes, unscreened vents or gaps in eaves and roof edges, and for dislodged drain covers.

Dozens of flood warnings were still in place yesterday.

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