



# Paris fights rat infestation

*City battles unprecedented rodent problem*

**By Barbara Besteni, February 16 2017, Paris**

A rat infestation unlike any professional exterminators have seen in the city is forcing the closure of Paris parks as the city struggles to rid itself of the rodents.

According to the Associated Press, the rats feed in broad daylight, “looking like they own the place.”

In fact, people don’t seem to bother the rats, who cross footpaths on their way to finding their next meal. And the traps laid by exterminators don’t hold much interest for them.

One park official says Parisians and tourists who leave food out for the pigeons have made the infestation even worse.

Exterminators say they haven’t seen anything quite like it, especially during the day.

To make matters ever worse, the European Union governs the poisons and traps that can be used to kill the rats, making their elimination that much more difficult.

When you consider that one rat couple can produce hundreds of offspring, the City of Lights has quite the challenge on its hands.