

Skunks

The mating season for Skunks is mid February to mid March with their young being born from May through June. The average litter yields 5 or 6 babies who are born blind and deaf and nurse in the den for about a month. They may also remain with their mother for the next year.



Feeding: Skunks eat pests such as grubs, mice, rats, and other insects.

Habitat: When searching for a den, skunks seek out abandoned burrows or a natural hollow under trees or buildings. Be keenly aware of your surroundings just before dawn and just after dark. These animals are primarily nocturnal (nighttime) foragers and you could encounter one returning to or leaving its den. If this happens back away slowly from the animal and stay calm. Do not try to scare the animal away.

Evidence: You may see skunk prints leading to the den. If a skunk feels threatened it will defend itself by squirting its smelly musk. It is written that a skunk can spray 12 - 14 feet. However, I like to give these creatures at least a 20-foot berth.

Control: There are no poisonous products approved for controlling skunks. It is best to try to live in harmony with these mild-mannered creatures. If you have a skunk that is causing you problems do not attempt to poison or trap the animal. Call us and we will use the proper methods to trap and remove the animal.

To eliminate the odor from skunk spray try using diluted vinegar or tomato juice for pets, people, and clothing. Clothing may be also soaked in a 10% solution of household bleach.

The skunk provides a vital function in our ecosystem and should be dealt with in a humane and ethical manner.