

Gray Squirrels

The gray squirrel is one of the most often observed creatures in our backyards. It can be fun to watch them scamper about gathering acorns and climbing trees. However, squirrels can be a nuisance and cause many problems for home owners.



Feeding: Squirrels eat nuts such as acorns, hickory and beech nuts. During the spring thaw, squirrels eat buds and flowers from trees. During the summer months they will feed on berries, mushrooms, apples, corn and other grains.

Habitat and Behavior: Grey squirrels live in tree dens during the winter months. Leaf nests are also used for temporary homes during summer. They build nests in the tops of trees where branches fork.

Squirrels breed twice a year, once in January or February and again in May or June. The gestation period is 44 days and then 3 - 5 young are born. The young remain with the mother for approximately 12 weeks before venturing out on their own. Squirrels are active all year long with most activity occurring at dawn and late afternoon.

Prevention and Control: You should take precautions to prevent access to your property. Check around the top of your property to see if there are any access points. You may need binoculars to see around the eaves of your roof where access is the most common. Roof vents may be a problem if the screen in the vent is aluminum as the squirrels can easily chew through it. Hardware cloth provides a better barrier to keep the animals out. Feeding the birds will attract squirrels to your property.

If you have squirrels that have taken up residence in your property call us to have the animals removed. We will determine the best method in your situation. We will also locate and close access points to prevent reentry. We recommend that you have a chimney cap installed.