

Squirrels

How do I know if I have grey squirrels at my property?

There can be few people who are not familiar with the grey squirrel and many people may be pleased that they visit their garden. However the grey squirrel has an ability to obtain food and harbourage, and cause damage, which in some instances mirrors that of the brown rat.

What may cause an Infestation?

The only habits that concern us as householders rather than naturalists, are those habits, which take the animal into the 'pest' category. These habits are like other pest's habits, often the result of human short sightedness.

Squirrel populations, like all populations, have food supply as a major controlling factor. Supply an abundance of food, usually meant for the birds, and you have a population increase limited by another major factor - harbourage.

This is where the 'pest' side of the squirrel's behaviour becomes more obvious year by year. An increase in squirrel populations on domestic properties where mature trees are scarce produces several undesirable outcomes: -

1. Squirrels access roof voids as harbourage, nest and play sites, often causing considerable and very expensive damage.
2. All garden birds nest sites (often the aim of attracting and feeding birds) are under threat as grey squirrels eat eggs and nestlings with equal vigour.
3. Damage to garden plants usually falls into one of the lesser evils, but may be pronounced.

What Treatment is Available?

Limiting bird feeding best brings about control of grey squirrels. Only feed birds in severe weather and from squirrel proof feeders.

If this fails, the treatment of grey squirrels with poison is possible but is limited by the law. Outdoor treatment requires that the poison bait must be placed in specially designed hoppers outdoors and between March 15 and August 15 and can be carried out only for the protection of damage to trees.

Where squirrels venture indoors, Warfarin may be used in open trays in roof. Traps live catch (cage) or killing (spring) traps may also be used, but unless you are experienced in setting such traps and more importantly, dealing with the catch it would be better to contact a professional.

Under the circumstances it is advisable to contact a private pest control contractor as Wellingborough Borough Council currently offers advice only on grey squirrel treatment.

If you would like any Borough Council of Wellingborough documents translated please contact the Council Offices.

اگر آپ کو ویڈیو یا آڈیو کی دستاویز کا ترجمہ درکار ہو تو براہ مہربانی کونسل کے دفتر سے رابطہ کریں۔

Urdu

বেঙ্গালভাষী অথবা কাউন্সিলের কাওঁর্ষপত্র দস্তাবেজের তে কাগজগুলি মাধ্যমতর করাযাবানী তমাহী ষক্ষা হোয়
তো মঠেবলানী কহী কাউন্সিলে অওঁহিসানো সংপর্ক সাধো।

Gujarati

আপনি যদি উয়েলিংবরো ব্যরো কাউন্সিলের যে কোন দলিলপত্রের অনুবাদ আপনার নিজ
ভাষায় চাঁন তবে অনুগ্রহ করে কাউন্সিলের অফিসে যোগাযোগ করুন।

Bengali

Or if you would like any Borough Council of Wellingborough documents in large type or on audio tape please contact the Council Offices.

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