

SQUIRRELS

DID YOU KNOW?

Squirrels are nature's own tree planters.

Squirrels often store more food than they need and do not always remember all of their hiding places. They contribute to reforestation by scattering seeds that will take root in new locations.

Red squirrels will stockpile food in one or more central locations. Grey squirrels will, however, bury only a nut or two at a time and disperse them over a wider area.

A sure sign of red squirrels nearby is a large cache of pine cones, nuts, and fungi.

TIPS

- ✓ Keep shingles and eaves in good condition.
- ✓ Cover bathroom, stove, and other vents (and attic openings) with 2.5 cm x 2.5 cm heavy wire.
- ✓ Trim branches that overhang buildings, and remove unused TV towers.



HELP!

Are there squirrels in the attic?

Red and eastern grey squirrels are intelligent, curious creatures that are adaptable to a variety of habitats. Squirrels may nest in your home or cottage as they are attracted to dark, warm places with small entrance holes (e.g., attics, roofs, sheds). Entrance holes can be as small as golf balls.

TRY THIS!

Babies are born and raised between March and May and then again between August and October. When babies are fully mobile and are observed coming outside for food, you may encourage the squirrels to move out by disturbing them with lights and/or radios. After they leave, close all entry points (including eaves, vents, and fascia boards at corners), and offer an alternative - such as a squirrel house. Relocating squirrels is not a viable option, because once you remove one, another will move in.

DID YOU KNOW?

A squirrel nest is called a "drey".

Grey or red squirrels generally build their nests high up in trees, in hollow trunks, or in forks between thick branches. Although they do not hibernate, they will spend long hours in their nests during winter.