

Trying to Stop Squirrels from Chewing
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How do I keep squirrels from chewing on my house/plants/fence etc.? Squirrels are of course protected by law, since they are game animals. This means it is illegal to kill them outside of the normal hunting season. This is usually not an option due to restrictions on shooting.

Usually there are only one or two squirrels doing the chewing. We suggest trapping them, in hopes of catching the one(s) that responsible for the damage. Use a live trap and put it in an area they run in - perhaps behind a tree or hedge. Bait the trap with corn, bread with peanut butter or wildlife food from the store.

The later in the year it gets, the harder it will probably be to catch squirrels. As the trees drop their nuts, the squirrels find sources of food other than the bait in the trap. Carry squirrels you trap at least 5 or 6 miles away and release them in a remote wooded area. This is a good bit of work and there are a lot of squirrels, so be persistent!

The Department of Natural Resource may also have some suggestions. Contact them at 825-6354. Also see this website - <http://wildlifedamage.unl.edu/handbook/handbook/>