

Preventing Animal Pests



Here are some tips for controlling various animal pests in your yard, as well as repairing any damage to the lawn or plants.

PESTS

Rabbits

In the growing season these pests frequently “prune” shrubs and perennials, damaging leafy growth. In the winter, they will nibble extensively on shrubs and the trunks of trees. To prevent damage, spray plants year round with Plantskydd, No Bite Repellant or Skoot. To prevent damage on tree trunks, wrap trunks with protective coils; these thick plastic wraps spiral around the tree trunk making it impossible for rabbits to chew through.

Deer

The best protection against deer is to install a tall barrier (fence). This is not always feasible in most urban areas. Other methods to deter deer include spraying Plantskydd or No Bite Repellant, planting deer resistant plants (listings of these can be found at greenlandgarden.com) or using repelling devices such as Sonic Shield or Scare Crow.

Birds

There are several effective methods to repel “bully” birds such as magpies from your yard. If you have a feeder to attract smaller, desirable species such as chickadees, place another feeder far away from that with large peanuts that magpies prefer. Other effective controls include placing a realistic looking Hawk or Owl in the yard, metal flashing (reflections scares the birds), Sonic Shield or ScareCrow pest repellants.



Dogs/Cats

There are a few products that can effectively keep cats and dogs away from garden spaces. Get Off My Garden Gel or Critter Ridder granules can both be scattered on top of the soil, while No Bite spray can be sprayed onto plants and lawns. The Sonic Shield (see



“Birds”), Cat Stop or ScareCrow are motion sensor products that work to scare cats/dogs away from the garden.



780-467-7557



Voles

These tiny creatures look similar to mice, causing damage to root crops in the veggie garden in summer, and extensive damage to lawns in winter months. During the growing season moles/voles can be repelled with battery or solar powered Molemover Stakes. Plantskydd and No Bite can also be sprayed along yard borders and on the entire lawn prior to snowfall.

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Plantskydd

Emits an odour that animals associate with predator activity; this fear keeps animals from even coming near the area. It is one of the longest lasting repellents; the vegetable oil "binder" means the product sticks to leaves up to 6 months. The active ingredient is bloodmeal, so if used during the growing season, it actually works as a foliar fertilizer too. Listed to repel deer, moose, elk, rabbits, squirrels, voles and other rodents. The website www.treeworld.com lists many testimonials to the product's effectiveness.



NEW! No Bite Animal Repellent

New from the Doktor Doom line of products is No Bite, a long lasting animal repellent for both wild and domestic animals.

- Works on a wide variety of animals; deer, cats & dogs, porcupines, mice & voles and more. Even works on some species of birds.
- With just two applications the plant will deter pests for up to one whole year.
- Active ingredient is denatonium benzoate - the bitterest compound known. Interestingly enough, this compound is actually required by law in some states to be added to antifreeze products to help prevent



animal poisoning.

- Unlike blood based/fear repellents, No Bite contains Cedar Oil. The addition of this fragrance means it can be used near patios and sitting areas.
- The pressurized container makes it very easy to apply, sprays in any direction. Can be applied to both plant material and hard surfaces such as fences.

Skoot

Effective for repelling rabbits, deer and mice, Skoot is a bitter tasting solution that will repel animals by taste. It is either painted onto trunks of trees, or diluted and sprayed on plants. The active ingredient is Thiram, which is actually a common fungicide.



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Sonic Shield

This motion sensor device works both day and night, scaring away birds, rabbits, even neighborhood cats. When the sensor goes off, the loud sounds of a dog barking are emitted. Works on deer, cats/dogs and birds.



Cat Stop

Cat Stop emits a loud sonic sound that goes undetected by humans but will scare cats away.

ScareCrow

This motion sensed device is attached to your garden hose, and releases a strong shot of water to keep unwanted animals out. Works on deer, rabbits, cats/dogs and birds.



Gopher and Molemove Stakes

These solar or battery powered stakes emit a loud chattering noise that gophers/moles and voles mistake for distress signals. These noises are not heard by humans but work to scare the rodents away.

Get off my Garden

This green gel is citronella based with a strong smell that keeps pets away from garden areas. Works to repel cats and dogs.



Critter Ridder

Is hot pepper based and works by taste, scent and touch, leaving cats, dogs or squirrels with an unpleasant burning sensation similar to hot jalapeno peppers. Critter Ridder effectively repels squirrels as well.



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