

Pest Control

Guidelines to prevent infestation from squirrels and glis glis



Squirrels

Although the Grey Squirrel is attractive, appealing and entertaining, it can be a serious pest in the garden and especially to a bird lover. It is very bold and soon learns to take food from bird tables, chew through peanut feeders and take seeds from tube feeders. In addition and if it isn't always able to get the food from the feeder, it will seriously damage it and often to the point that the feeder is no longer usable. It will also destroy birds' nests to eat eggs and nestlings. They will also damage trees by chewing off bark (which can kill small or young trees).



The Grey Squirrel can also take up residence in lofts where it can do great damage – not to mention make considerable noise.

So although often endearing, the Grey Squirrel is a serious pest and should generally be discouraged from gardens – though this may take some doing, as they are very tenacious and determined.

- **Preventative measures:**

- Reduce potential food sources in your garden, e.g. do not put out food for birds, or if doing so, use a steel, mesh feeder that the squirrels will be unable to access.
- Block up possible entry points to your home with chicken wire, e.g. access points to attic space. If doing so, ensure the area is not already a home for squirrels before installing the chicken wire.
- Install deterrent devices in your home and garden, these can include devices that emit ultrasonic waves and sensors that will squirt a jet of water at moving animals in the garden. It should be noted that these devices may prove troublesome to other animals, such as household pets.



Glis glis

This dormouse has caused quite a stir amongst people who have find themselves being invaded by our friend the glis glis, Introduced locally in Tring, they escaped and spread, being mainly a woodland creature they adapted very well to the British countryside and spread across a few counties. As the seasons change and the weather gets cooler the glis glis looks to hibernate, and may do this in homes, business premises, lofts, garages just about anywhere were they can find a warm, cozy area to bed down over winter.

Preventative measures:

The most effective method of pest control for glis glis is to prevent them gaining access to your home to begin with, the two most important steps to achieve this are:

- Remove overhanging tree branches and climbing plants.
- Seal any holes in the structure with mortar or wire mesh.

Pest Control:

Squirrels and glis glis are both rodents and so prone to gnawing, if they get into a building they may consequently cause damage to electrical wiring or pipework. This damage can lead to accidental fire or flood and it is important to prevent this if possible because many insurance policies will not cover damages caused by rodents.

Due to their protected status, neither squirrels nor glis glis may be exterminated in the same manner as rats and mice. If your home is infiltrated by these pests, you must, by law, employ the services of a licensed pest control company to remove them. The most common method for dealing with squirrels and glis glis is humane trapping within spring-loaded cages.

There are many private companies that will perform the job for a fee and the Council can offer a service for the price of £112.50, plus £36 returnable cage deposit. Treatments are provided free of charge to customers on housing benefit, council tax benefit or income support.

For further information or to book a treatment please contact:

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