

Tips from AnimalKind

Wildlife-proof your home



Avoid unwanted rodents and wildlife moving into your home with these four simple steps!

1 REMOVE ATTRACTANTS

Outside

- Trim plants and move items away from building exteriors to eliminate hiding spots
- Secure garbage and compost
- Keep pet food indoors
- Pick up fallen fruit and spilled birdseed

Inside

- Store food inside glass, metal or plastic containers
- Put away pet food after meals
- Store food waste in secure bins or in the freezer until green waste pick up



2 LOCATE ENTRY POINTS

- Examine exteriors for gaps and holes
- Examine roof, chimneys and vents for damage
- Look at building foundations for signs of animal access
- Pull large appliances and furniture away from walls
- Examine where pipes and wires come through drywall

3 EXCLUDE AND REPAIR

- Use exclusion materials like heavy gauge wire screening, metal mesh, expanding foam sealant and vent covers
- Seal holes larger than a dime in walls, foundations, sheds, crawl spaces and under porches
- Install door sweeps to doors with gaps under them
- **Hire an AnimalKind accredited company to help you!**

4 MAINTAIN!

- Check for signs of rodent and wildlife activity at least twice per year and make repairs



Tips from AnimalKind
**How to hire a
wildlife-friendly
pest control company**

Any company can call themselves “humane” – but that doesn’t mean they use animal-friendly methods. Check www.animalkind.ca to find a BC SPCA-accredited AnimalKind company in your area.

A wildlife-friendly company will:

FOR BIRD AND WILDLIFE CONTROL

- Tell you how the animals are using your property (i.e. den, nest or entry location)
- Know the breeding season and age when babies are safe to move
- Use exclusion methods so animals can leave but not return (i.e. one-way doors)
- Reunite baby raccoons, squirrels, skunks and birds with their mothers
- Release any captured animals on the capture site (in their home range)



Photo: William Griffin

FOR RODENT CONTROL



Photo: Veronica Caron

- Identify attractants and steps for prevention
- Examine exteriors and interiors to find where rodents are entering
- Use wire screening and rodent-proof sealants to close up entry holes
- Use snap traps or captive bolt traps when lethal control is needed for health and safety
- Minimize or eliminate rodenticide use and collect unused bait

Avoid companies who:

- Use glue traps for rodent control
- Use rodenticides but don’t rodent-proof buildings
- Trap-and-relocate animals outside their home range
- Set live traps and don’t check them within 24 hours



Animal-friendly pest control is effective and available if you ask for it!

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BCSPCA
SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS