



In your Veggie Garden

Keep in mind the overall biodiversity of the garden when dealing with chipmunks. Chipmunks can actually be beneficial in that they eat gypsy moth pupae, even favouring the female pupae of gypsy moths. Gypsy moth larvae are a well-known pest which eats the foliage of trees in spring.

Suggestions

- Try providing a water supply in the garden that chipmunks can access, as it could be that they are actually looking for a water source, not just your garden produce.

Physical Barriers

- Create cylinders around plant such as tomatoes using galvanized steel mesh. It's quite rigid and holes are small enough to deter chipmunks.
- Protect plants with black bird mesh sold at nurseries. Both bird mesh and steel mesh appear less visible than regular chicken wire and are generally more tidy-looking.
- Care would have to be taken to bury some of the fencing and restrict access from the top, since chipmunks are able to both burrow and climb.

Scare Deterrents

- Other than borrowing a dog - which may have a lasting effect, there has been anecdotal evidence that plastic snakes placed in the garden can deter some chipmunks and squirrels. Move the snakes around the garden from time to time for maximum effectiveness.
- Try a commercial device such as the Scarecrow™. It sprays a jet of water activated by motion sensors and could help deter chipmunks. It is best to place these where the animals enter the garden area and to move them frequently. This device is usually used to deter raccoons or deer but may be effective with other animals.



Smell Deterrents

- Spraying or watering the area with a smelly garlic mixture can help. Put garlic cloves in the blender, mix with water and let sit overnight. Be sure to water the area around the plants, and **NOT** the plants themselves.
- Strong smelling soap can also be effective. Either water the area with the soap mixture or place bars of soap within the garden area. Again, water **ONLY** the area around the plants and not the plants.
- While there are many other homemade remedies suggested on the internet by fellow gardeners, caution should be advised as there is limited research into the effectiveness of the solutions and there may be harmful effects to the environment, ponds, garden wildlife, pets or children.

Lastly, you could visit a local garden centre to examine commercial animal deterrents, being sure that if one is selected that it be safe to use near food crops.

