



TRAPPING GUIDE

CHIPMUNKS

Chipmunks are cute woodland rodents. They commonly eat tree nuts and berries, but will also dig up roots and tubers, so they can cause a lot of damage to gardens or flower beds.

Know your target:

Chipmunks have cheek pouches that they store seeds and nuts in while they forage. Their burrow entrances can be up to 20' long.

Choose your trap:

The humane cage trap should be at least 10-20" long and small enough that the chipmunk can't jump over the trigger plate. Alternatively, rat snap traps eliminate rodents instantly and humanely.

Choose your bait:

Chipmunks are peanut butter connoisseurs.

- ☐ Peanut butter, unshelled peanuts, tree nuts, pumpkin or sunflower seeds, raisins, prune slices
- ☐ Bird seed

Setting the trap:

Chips have a pretty small home range. They prefer secure, covered spaces. Use more trap than you think you will need.

- ☐ Identify areas of high activity. Look in attics, sheds, below structures, in trees, and near brush.
- ☐ Consider placing a cover over traps to prevent non-target catches and encourage chipmunks into the trap.

- ☐ Place traps along any pathway, wall, or corner that they frequently travel. Prebait the trap for 2-3 days. Set the trap when they begin to eat the bait.
- ☐ If using a snap trap, use a small piece of bait to center the animal before they engage the trigger. Place single traps perpendicular to the wall. OR place two traps parallel to the wall with the triggers facing away from each other.

Releasing your catch:

- ☐ If releasing a live animal, check local guidelines before doing so. Move the animal at least two miles from the catch location.
- ☐ Wear gloves and a mask when handling or disposing of rodents. Dispose of the rodent, gloves, and mask in a sealed plastic bag in the garbage.
- ☐ Disinfect the area the rodent was caught and the trap with a mix of water and bleach.
- ☐ Wash hands thoroughly after disposal.

Prevent their return:

- ☐ Eliminate food sources everywhere possible.
- ☐ Clean up fallen nuts, berries, and seeds outside.
- ☐ Clear wood and brush piles, especially those that are adjacent to a building.
- ☐ Move bird feeders away from any structures. Consider choosing a feed that chipmunks are not fond of, such as thistle.
- ☐ Close any holes they can use to enter buildings.