

ORGANIC SOLUTIONS

Control Animals In Your Garden

CATS AND DOGS

1. Grind up grapefruit or lemon rinds. Spread over the soil.
2. Use thorny plant clippings such as rose or raspberry canes to spread around the soil.
3. Plant Catnip or Catmint in an out of the way area to keep cats away from other garden spaces.
4. Plant a thick groundcover such as sedum or hardy ice plant.
5. Sprinkle red pepper, cayenne pepper, or black pepper as a barrier to deter cats, dogs, rabbits and squirrels.
6. Spray the perimeter of the garden with hot pepper spray. You will have to reapply after rainfall.
7. Place chicken wire or plastic mesh under some mulch in the garden beds. Cats can't dig in these areas, so they won't be leaving messes in the garden.

DEER

1. Plant time-released garlic capsules at the bases of your trees and shrubs.
2. Wrap bars of gold Dial soap in cheesecloth. Hang at intervals 4' apart and 4' above the ground.
3. Mix 5-6 raw eggs in 1 gallon of water and spray. The smell of the decomposing egg will keep the deer away, while the dilution is too faint for us to detect. You can also mix some anti-transpirant (Wilt Pruf) into the mix which will allow the mixture to remain effective longer.
4. Mix 1-2 tsp. of Tabasco sauce and 2 tsp. of anti-transpirant (Wilt pruf) in 1 gallon of water. Spray around garden. Reapply after rain.
5. Hang fabric softener sheets in and around the area to be protected. Replace after several rainfalls.
6. Mix a gallon bucket of clay soil and water with hot pepper and garlic. Paint this mixture on the trunks of trees and the stems of shrubs.
7. Plant Russian Sage. Deer do not like Russian Sage!

MOLES, VOLES AND GROUNDHOGS

1. Mix 1 tbsp. castor oil and 1 tbsp. liquid dish soap with 1 gallon water and spray on soil and plants.
2. Sprinkle chili powder and powdered garlic into tunnels weekly.
3. Scatter ground red pepper into the runs.
4. Place rolled up pieces of Juicy Fruit gum in mole tunnels. Wear gloves to mask your scent. Moles love the gum, but it is fatal to their digestive system! Ex-Lax is also effective.
5. Place sulfur or ammonia soaked sponges into entrance holes and seal up with soil.

6. Place jalapeno or habanera peppers into the openings of runs, placing as many as you can fit.
7. Place dog or cat hair in the entrance holes and runs.

RABBITS

1. Place tree wrap, burlap, foil or metal window screen around tree trunks in the fall. The wrapping should be 2' above the height of deepest expected snow-fall. In the spring, remove wrappings from trunk.
2. Sprinkle or hang cheesecloth bags of bloodmeal around plants. If you sprinkle the bloodmeal around, repeat after rain.
3. Soak corn cobs (cut in half) in vinegar for 5 minutes. Scatter the corn cobs throughout garden. After 2 weeks, soak them again in the vinegar. (You can keep reusing the same vinegar.)
4. You can plant onions to repel rabbits.
5. Scatter bonemeal throughout garden.
6. Scatter red pepper, black pepper, cayenne, or paprika to repel. Rabbits are always sniffing and when they sniff it up, they will be less likely to return.
7. Mix 1 well beaten egg, ½ tsp. of Tabasco sauce, and 1 of gallon of water. Paint mixture on tree trunks to deter rabbits from chewing on the bark.
8. Mix 2 tbsp. of ground red pepper or Tabasco sauce, 1 tbsp. of white glue, and 1 quart of water. Spray as needed. If you are spraying on fruits or vegetables, don't spray before harvest because it will be hard to wash off.

RACCOONS AND SKUNKS

1. Plant anything with prickly foliage such as squash, oriental poppies, globe thistle, or pumpkins. Raccoons have sensitive feet and won't want to walk through area.
2. To keep them from eating corn plants put 2-3 drops of Tabasco sauce near the tip of the ear at least a week before harvest.
3. Surround the area with a horizontal border of crumpled up black plastic, newspaper, or aluminum foil. Hold these in place with rocks, landscaping pins or soil. Raccoons and skunks won't walk over the area.
4. Use mesh fencing or chicken wire as a horizontal barrier. The raccoons and skunks will have a hard time walking across.
5. Spread moth balls or flakes around area. Raccoons hate the taste of this on their paws. This has also been said to work for repelling skunks.
6. Plant cucumbers. Both raccoons and skunks dislike cucumbers.
7. Mix 1 quart of hydrogen peroxide, ¼ of cup baking soda, and 1 tsp. of liquid dish soap. Spray around areas that you don't want skunks getting into, such as garbage cans. **DO NOT GET ON PLANT FOLIAGE!!!**
8. Sprinkle flour around nesting or sleeping areas.

RATS AND MICE

1. Scatter fresh or dried mint leaves as a repellent.
2. Don't mulch any perennials until after a few frosts. The rodents will have already found another place to nest for the winter instead of your mulch.
3. Keep the soil around plants bare. Mice do not like to come out into the open.
4. Planting daffodils and hyacinths will help repel rodents.
5. Planting herbs with strong scents will repel mice.

SNAKES

1. Plant a border of Artemisia around perimeter of bed.
2. Spray ammonia around the snake holes to repel. Later fill the holes back in with dirt.

SQUIRRELS

1. Mix moth ball flakes, gypsum, and chili pepper. Spread around areas that need protecting.
2. Dust bulbs with medicated baby powder.
3. Put sheet metal collars on trees to keep squirrels from climbing the trunks. Also prune back any access limbs.
4. To keep squirrels from bird feeders during the winter, plant Witch Hazel. The seeds from the Witch Hazel will provide the squirrels seeds for winter foraging.
5. Sprinkle pepper or paprika around squirrel prone areas.
6. To keep squirrels from getting into pole bird feeders, grease the pole with petroleum jelly.
7. Be aware that water features will attract both squirrels and chipmunks.