

# Keeping Pests Out

## **Birds**

- Dust vegetables with talcum powder to keep birds from eating them (wash thoroughly before eating).

## **Cats**

- Cut some long, thorny branches off of your climbing roses and lay them on the ground where the cats like to play.
- Place pine cones and spiny fruit balls from Sweet Gum trees among the plants.
- Put down branches trimmed from a cedar or any other prickly-type branches.

## **Chipmunks, Rabbits, Squirrels and other Pests**

- Keep away with Blood Meal (which also makes a good fertilizer)
- If you sprinkle human hair clippings amongst your garden, pests won't go near it! If it's windy, wet down the clippings for the first couple days.

## **Dogs**

- To keep neighborhood dogs from using your yard as a potty place, set out several glass jars filled with clean water. After several months, as long as the water stays clean, this will become a place for eating, not for them to use the bathroom.
- To teach dogs to stay out of flower beds, try sprinkling red and/or black pepper all over the ground.

## **Rabbits**

- Keep away with blood meal.
- To keep from eating flowers, blend 1 tablespoon of Castor Oil, 2 tablespoons of liquid dish soap and 6 tablespoons of liquid dish soap and 6 tablespoons of water. Dilute 1 tablespoon of the mixture with 1 gallon of water and pour over plants. Reapply after each rain.
- To keep rabbits from eating vegetables, dust with talcum powder (wash vegetables well before eating them).
- Plant chives to keep rabbits away.
- Sprinkle lime on beans and other plants that rabbits eat (except in 'sweet' soils. Lime seems to work on beetles, too).

## **Rabbits, Woodchucks, Raccoons, and other Critters...**

- In a 3-quart jar, mix 3 raw eggs (shells and all) and 1/2 a bottle of hot sauce. Fill the container 3/4 of the way full with water. Shake and cap tightly. Ferment for 5 days before drizzling around the perimeter of the flower garden.

## **Skunks**

- To make skunks feel unwelcome around your home, scatter dog hair around the foundation of your home.

## **Squirrels**

- To keep squirrels from digging up your bulbs, try sprinkling areas with garlic powder (garlic powder helps repel a lot of other pests, as well).
- One mixture to try is mixing 1/4 cup garlic powder, 1/4 cup sulfur powder and 2 cups cedar shavings. Spread the mix around the inner perimeter of the building. Renew about once a year.
- Habanero peppers will repel just about anything, including squirrels Puree a pepper in a blender with water; strain well and spray the liquid on plants.
- Brush ripening tomatoes with garlic oil to keep away.
- Brush mineral oil and red pepper on corn ears to prevent raccoon and squirrel damage.