



Wildlife Damage Checklist

Use this fillable sheet to track garden damage, likely visitors, and next steps.

Date:

Garden Area

Plant(s):

Weather / recent changes:

1. What kind of damage do you see?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Chewed leaves or ragged edges | ☐ Missing blooms, buds, or tender tips |
| ☐ Stripped bark, broken stems, or rubbed trunks | ☐ Dug holes, disturbed mulch, or plants uprooted |
| ☐ Tunnels, runs, soft spots, or raised soil trails | ☐ Fruit, seeds, bulbs, or vegetables missing |
| ☐ Droppings, tracks, feathers, fur, or other clues | ☐ Damage keeps happening in the same area |

Describe the damage:

2. Who might be causing it?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| ☐ Deer | ☐ Rabbits | ☐ Squirrels |
| ☐ Chipmunks | ☐ Voles | ☐ Moles |
| ☐ Birds | ☐ Raccoons | ☐ Groundhogs |
| ☐ Armadillos | ☐ Not sure yet | ☐ Other Other: <input type="text"/> |

3. Clues to check before choosing a fix

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Check early morning and evening for activity | ☐ Look for tracks in soft soil or mulch |
| ☐ Notice damage height: ground level, knee high, or higher | ☐ Look for clean cuts vs torn or shredded leaves |
| ☐ Check fence gaps, bed edges, and container areas | ☐ Use a trail camera or phone camera if needed |



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Fill in your prevention plan and follow-up notes.

4. Plants affected

Plant / Area	Damage Seen	Severity	Action Needed

5. Gentle prevention options to try

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Add fencing, netting, cages, or hardware cloth | ☐ Apply a garden-safe repellent and reapply after rain |
| ☐ Remove fallen fruit, spilled seed, or easy food sources | ☐ Use trunk guards for young trees and shrubs |
| ☐ Move or raise containers out of reach | ☐ Clear hiding spots near beds and shed areas |
| ☐ Try motion light, sprinkler, or noise deterrent | ☐ Consider tougher or less tempting plant choices |

Plan for this week:

Supplies needed:

6. Follow-up check

Follow-up date:

Did damage improve? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure

Notes after follow-up:

Tip: Match the fix to the actual culprit. Guessing can waste time and money, especially with deer, rabbits, voles, and squirrels.