

Chipmunk and Chiggers: An Island Challenge!

Strategies to repel chipmunks from your landscape:

- Modify landscape so they don't feel welcome. Remove rock piles, ground cover, low growing shrubs near house.
- Fence off food sources in yard (rasberries, vegetables)
- Place bird feeders 20-30 feet from house
- Clear yard of fruits, seeds, nuts fallen from trees
- Avoid fertilizing with bonemeal or fish emulsion
- Spray contact repellent on plants- must be consumed; Repeat often
- Spray odor repellent on soil, wall; repeat after rain
- Spread granular repellent on ground, containers; repeat every few weeks
- Rotate use of different repellents throughout season
- Use wire over bulbs when planting in beds
- Set motion-activated sprinklers near chipmunks' homes
- Set rat-size traps baited with peanut butter

Dealing with Chiggers

- Avoid laying on grassy areas from Spring-Fall
- Keep grass cut short and trim vegetation in landscape
- Wear long sleeved pants and shirt, tight socks, shoes
- Use insect repellent with DEET (Deep Woods OFF) or Skin So Soft Bug repellent on exposed skin, clothing, and shoes. Reapply as needed
- Wear permethrin-coated clothing for long lasting protection (Insect Shield)
- Spread granules on lawn with products containing bifenthrin once or twice as season< beginning in May (Triazicide)
- Take warm soapy shower or bath after exposure and scrub with washcloth to remove chiggers attached to skin
- Remove clothing after possible exposure, and wash before wearing again
- If you have chigger bites, apply Calamine cream or lotion or Benadryl ointment to relieve itch, or take oral Benadryl (Bites itch 2 days – 2 weeks)
- Use Neosporin on bites that appear infected from scratching