



## PEST AND WILDLIFE ACTIVITY CALENDAR FOR MINNESOTA



**Track Seasonal Risks and Protect Your Home Year-Round.** Understanding when pests and wildlife are most active in Minnesota helps homeowners prevent infestations and protect their property. Use this calendar as a guide for seasonal vigilance and proactive pest management.

## **January – February: Winter Vigilance**

- Rodents (mice, rats): Active inside walls and attics seeking warmth.
- Squirrels & Raccoons: May enter attics or chimneys for shelter.
- Spiders: May overwinter in basements or storage areas.
- Ants: By February, ants are often already indoors and emerging from hibernation

Homeowner Tips: Listen for unusual noises in walls or ceilings; seal gaps around the foundation and roofline.

## **March – April: Spring Emergence**

- Boxelder Bugs & Stink Bugs: Begin to appear on south-facing walls.
- Mice: Continue to seek warmth; check basements and crawl spaces.
- Voles: Inspect landscaping for disturbed soil and digging activity

Homeowner Tips: Inspect foundations, seal cracks, and clear debris from around your home.

## **May – June: Peak Insect Season**

- Mosquitoes & Flies: Increase with standing water and warmer weather.
- Carpenter ants: It's peak season for their nuptial flights, triggered by warm and humid conditions.
- Wasps: Begin nest-building in eaves and sheds.
- Rodents: Remain active near gardens and foundations.

Homeowner Tips: Remove standing water, inspect for nests, and maintain vegetation away from your home.

## **July – August: Summer Activity**

- Spiders & Ants: Indoor sightings increase.
- Bees & Wasps: Continue to build and defend nests.
- Squirrels & Chipmunks: Active near gardens and attics.

Homeowner Tips: Monitor attic and roofline for wildlife entry points; use traps or exclusion only if necessary with professional guidance.

## **September – October: Fall Invasion**

- Mice & Rats: Seek warm indoor shelter as temperatures drop.
- Squirrels & Raccoons: Prepare for winter; may enter attics.
- Boxelder Bugs, Stink Bugs & Asian lady beetles: May cluster in leaf litter and debris around the home's foundation.

Homeowner Tips: Seal entry points, inspect soffits, remove fallen fruit from trees, and keep the area around the foundation clear of leaves and debris.

## **November – December: Winter Preparation**

- Rodents: Intensify indoor activity in attics, basements, and crawl spaces.
- Boxelder Bugs, Stink Bugs & Asian lady beetles: May cluster in leaf litter and debris around the home's foundation.
- Raccoons & Bats: Seek sheltered areas; may try to enter the attic.
- Insects: Minimal activity, but some overwintering insects may appear indoors.

Homeowner Tips: Schedule a professional winter inspection and monitor for signs of nesting.



## Quick Reference Tips

- Seal Early: Spring and fall are the best times to inspect and seal entry points.
- Monitor Year-Round: Rodents and squirrels can be active inside homes anytime the temperature drops.
- Professional Support: Seasonal inspections ensure nothing is missed, especially in hard-to-access areas like attics and rooflines.