

How to Count Squirrels *SquirrelMapper.org*

Where to look:

Squirrels can be found almost anywhere – towns, cities, neighborhoods, cemeteries, farms, forests, etc. Check the *SquirrelMapper* for locations that may have been unvisited. Even if your neighborhood has been visited still do a count as squirrel numbers change from year to year.

When to look:

Any time of the year! Squirrels are most visible in spring and fall when leaves are off and squirrels are active, but also on cooler days in summer and on warm sunny days in winter.



Out in the field:

Print off a copy of this sheet and grab a pen or pencil. A pair of binoculars and a clipboard can be handy, but not necessary. Record each location where you count squirrels on the **Data Recording Sheet**. Be specific enough with your location names so that you can map your observations on *SquirrelMapper.org* when you get back inside.

Back at home:

Go to *SquirrelMapper.org* to report your observations. See what squirrels other people have reported in your neighborhood and the rest of Onondaga County! Or mail your forms to *SquirrelMapper* c/o Dr. Gibbs, Illick Hall, SUNY-ESF, Syracuse, NY 13210 USA.

Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)

Count both gray and black gray squirrels. They're both important! You may think black squirrels are more interesting and want to count only them, but make sure to report all the squirrels that you see, black or gray. *And do your best to count every squirrel just once!*



Gray squirrel, black morph (also called "melanistic")



Gray squirrel (gray morph)

Fox Squirrel (*Sciurus niger*)

Make sure not to count fox squirrels! They look like gray squirrels, only much bigger with a reddish tinge on the underbelly and tail.



Fox squirrel

