

The Royal Parks - Culling information 3 July 2026.

For clarification – if no answer given there is no information currently available at this time.

Bushy Park and Richmond Park, St James's Park and The Green Park– see separate attachments

Hyde Park

The only control in Hyde Park that may be done not through the wildlife officer would be rat baiting at catering concessions, which would be on when required. Everything else would be through the wildlife officer.

Brompton

Squirrels are the only pest that we make attempts to control at Brompton and this is by using air-rifle, although spring traps have been used in the past. In two years we have had two culls.

We are at risk of being overrun by squirrels, and an over population could upset the ecological balance. Squirrels can also be damaging - chewing the bark off trees, causing them to fail.

Fertility control would essentially give you an ageing population of squirrels and, effectively irradiates them entirely in time.

Bait runs the risk that another animal may come across it. An air rifle provides the certainty that only a particular species is targeted and that death can be instantaneous.

Greenwich

We only control two species on the list -

- Squirrels - we use spring traps twice a year and air rifles once a year.
- Rats as and when required, which is not very often. For this, we use underground bait traps.

We use Beaver Pest Control for this.

1 - What exact control methods are being used (for each species please)? **Squirrels - spring traps twice a year and air rifles once a year . Rats as and when detected.**

2 - What evidence led to that decision to cull (for each species)? **Rats - hygiene / disease control . Squirrels tree protection.**

3 - What evidence of squirrel damage or other damage by animals of any of these species has been collected? **Damage clearly visible on trees.**

4 - How was that evidence collected and quantified? **Very difficult to quantify as squirrels move in from surrounding areas.**

Regent's Park

The only species we are currently culling in Regents Park are Rats and Canada geese.

For Rats we are currently using poison and traps in tamper proof bait stations. These are positioned mainly in non-public or at least inaccessible areas. This could be around our cafes, toilet blocks and playgrounds. We have permanent baiting areas in our highest risk sites and respond reactively if there is an increased presence in an area. All bait stations are checked regularly and are not used if not necessary. We do not keep records of every rat killed by trapping and there is no exact way of knowing how many are killed as a result of the poison.

For Canada geese we are egg oiling. This involves Covering the eggs in Paraffin oil which prevents them from hatching. Both egg oiling and controlling the adult population of Canada Geese is covered under general license. We are not currently culling adult geese. We are also not carrying out egg oiling or culling Greylag Geese as this species is not covered under general license. Please see the table below for our records since 2023. There are no known records before this date.

Egg Control	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Mean
Canada Goose					No Records	0	55	115	91	65.3
Greylag Goose					No Records	0	0	0	0	
Egyptian Goose					No Records	0	0	0	0	
TOTALS	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	115	91	0.0