# **Project Squirrel**

#### Thank you for your interest in Project Squirrel.

You can use this datasheet to record and submit your squirrel observations. Part 1 of this datasheet is designed so that you can enter the environmental data for the observation site (like where it is and what kinds of trees are in the area) just once. Part 2 allows you to record observations made over many days at the same site without the need to re-record the environmental data every time you make an observation. However, if environmental data change (say a tree is cut down or a new stray cat moves into the neighborhood) please complete Part 1 again to note the changes. We would like participants to make at least one observation per season at a given observation site but more observations are better. We hope you will make observations as often as you can. You may copy this datasheet as often as you like, or you may write Project Squirrel for additional copies, or access them online at ProjectSquirrel.org.

We hope you will share your enthusiasm for squirrels with your neighbors and encourage them to participate in Project Squirrel as well. If you have any questions or comments, please let us know at the address below, or call Steve Sullivan at 773-525-0166, or e-mail at <u>sciurus@gmail.com</u>. Happy Squirreling!

Please send your completed datasheets to:

Project Squirrel Chicago Academy of Sciences, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum 2430 North Cannon Drive Chicago, IL 60614

#### **Squirrel Identification**



Gray Squirrel (Sciurus carolinensis) are identified by the white belly and tail that appears to be frosted in white.

**Black Squirrels** in the Midwest are just blackhaired Gray Squirrels.



**Fox Squirrel** *(Sciurus niger)* are identified by the rusty-colored belly and a tail that is edged in black.

In some places Fox Squirrels are called "Red Squirrels" but in other places this name is given to *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus* a much

Please list your address if you would like to receive further communications from Project Squirrel. You are not required to submit your address to submit an observation.

### Part 1: Site and Environmental Data

1. Please list the ZIP-code of the **OBSERVATION** site. If you know the full ZIP-code, please include it

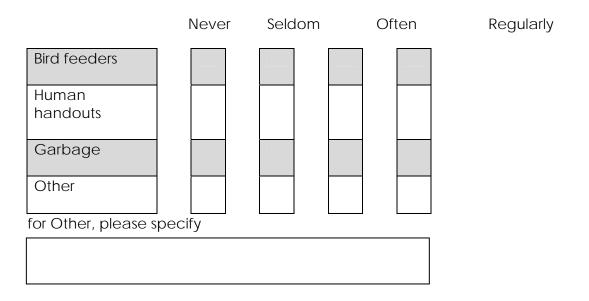
- 2. Please select the setting of the squirrel observation:
  - $\hfill\square$  Single family house or duplex
  - □ Multiple family dwelling (e.g. Apartment building)
  - Highrise building
  - Neighborhood park
  - □ Forest or nature preserve
  - □ Zoo, arboretum, or botanical garden
  - Commercial establishment
  - □ School, college, or university campus
  - Vacant lot
  - □ Cemetery
  - □ Farmland
- 3. Are there any of the following kinds of trees at the observation site?

NO Don't Know

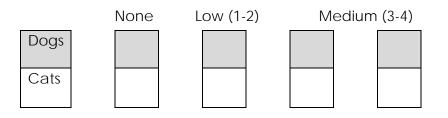
ElmIIHickoryIIMapleIIOakIIPineIIWalnutII

YES

4. Do you observe squirrels regularly obtaining food from any of the following?



5. How abundant are dogs and cats at the observation site? (This includes dogs and cats that live at the site, strays, animals that visit the site on a walk, and others.)



6. Have you ever submitted data for THIS observation site before?

Yes	
No	

7. Have you ever submitted data for a **DIFFERENT** observation site?

Yes	
No	

8. If you have any additional comments or observations about your squirrels, we invite you to share them also and may post your thoughts on the website unless you request otherwise.

## Part 2: Squirrel Observation Data

ZIP-code of observation site (If you know the full ZIP-code, please include it) (e.g. 60614-3874)

Date	Time
Number of Gray Squirrels	Number of Fox Squirrels

Date	Time
Number of Gray Squirrels	Number of Fox Squirrels

Date	Time
Number of Gray Squirrels	Number of Fox Squirrels

Date	Time
Number of Gray Squirrels	Number of Fox Squirrels

Date	Time
Number of Gray Squirrels	Number of Fox Squirrels