Meehan's Brookside LAWN SERVICE

VOLES/FIELD MICE

PROTECT YOUR LAWN & LANDSCAPE

Voles and field mice may leave a series of small paths through the grass. Damage can be significant, especially during the winter when the grass is under snow cover. They use these trails to move around under the snow and during the warmer months.

The meadow vole, also called meadow or field mouse, is a common problem in many homeowners' lawns. These small rodents can be very destructive to ornamental plantings, including annual and perennial flowers, turf, shrubs and small trees. Voles are active day and night year-round. They construct extensive tunnel systems and surface runways. Populations can peak every 2 to 3 years, depending on food availability, climate and other stress factors.



CONTROL

The best way to control voles is to take their cover away. Voles like vegetative covers or litter piles, because they provide food and cover. Elimination of these areas can help reduce populations. Keep weeds or dense brush away from shrubs and trees. Rake and clean up dead vegetation from areas where runways are seen.



BIOLOGICAL

Tree guards of hardware cloth or other suitable material can be used as a barrier around young trees. Since voles are excellent diggers, place the bottom of the guard 6 inches below the soil surface.



TRAPPING

Use of snap-type mousetraps may be effective in eliminating small populations or reducing their numbers. Traps should be placed with the bait side in the runway. Baits of peanut butter and oatmeal or apple slices may be effective. Live traps may also be employed.



POISON BAITS

Pelleted baits are effective when placed in the runways or burrow openings. Always follow directions on labels and packages. Be certain to place baits in an area where children, pets, and non-targeted wildlife cannot accidentally eat the bait. Multiple feedings may be required for control.





(440) 243-8277 | www.meehanslawnservice.com

Healthy Lawns. Stronger Roots. A Greener Ohio.