

TREE TRIMMING & WILDLIFE

TIPS TO PROTECT NESTING ANIMALS

Nesting season for most animals occurs February–August. Many of these animals – including birds, squirrels, and rabbits – use trees, hedges, and brush to safely build their nests and raise young. Unfortunately, many of these animals are harmed by tree trimming and brush clearing activity. Here are a few easy ways you can help protect these nests:

- **Trim your trees during fall and winter, after nesting season is over.** A good tip is waiting until the months that end with the letter "r."
- **Thoroughly inspect trees, brush, and hedges for nests or activity.** Some species, like woodpeckers and squirrels, nest inside tree cavities, making it very difficult to spot active nests.
- If you see someone disturbing a nest, inform them that it is illegal in the state of California to take, possess, or destroy active nests.
- **If you find a wild animal you believe is in need of help, call the Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network Helpline: (805) 681-1080**

Thank you for protecting our wild neighbors!

