

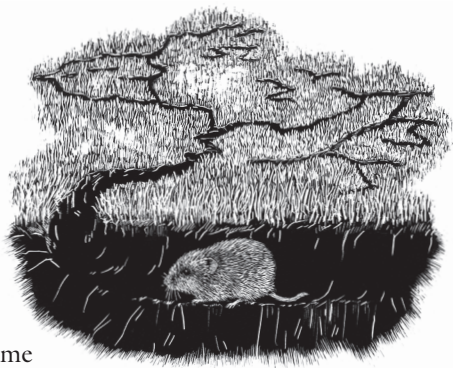
## *Voles & Moles*

*Vole and mole activity is most visible in the spring and fall, often damaging lawns, ornamental landscapes and bulbs as they feed and burrow.*

*Since spring is the breeding season for both, action is prudent to prevent increased populations of these pests. However, distinguishing between the two is important as the available control methods are quite different. Chippers can 'treat' for moles, but not for voles.*

### *Voles*

These mouse-like critters eat grass, tree/shrub bark and bulbs as well as other plant material. They often create shallow tunnels on the surface of the lawn that become visible as the snow melts.



Left unchecked, voles can girdle small trees and shrubs and make a lawn look like their own private subway system. Vole damage has increased over the past few years for reasons we don't fully understand. One theory is that weather changes, such as milder winters, provide more favorable reproductive conditions.

### *Target Voles Like Mice*

We have found simply using a mousetrap baited with peanut butter is a very effective control method. Set the mousetraps around surface feeding tunnels and in mulch beds where recent activity has been seen. Chippers does not have any control measures for voles at this time.



# Moles & Voles

## Moles



By contrast, moles are carnivorous pests that live and feed below the lawn surface, primarily eating earthworms, ants and grubs. They create 'volcanos' by pushing up large mounds of soil as they clear their feeding and traveling tunnels. Their underground feeding tunnels are generally shallower than the deeper tunnels they use for safe travel to more distant locations.

## How to Control Moles

Sometimes the activity of mowing or using the lawn can cause these squatters to move on to quieter residences. In the event these pests persist, we offer an effective bait worm that is dropped directly into active feeding tunnels or mounds. Several visits may be required to effectively reduce their population.



*If you suspect you have moles, we will be happy to help. If you have voles, we offer moral support!*

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Complimentary*



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