



SAVE OUR SQUIRRELS

A RED ALERT NORTH ENGLAND PROJECT
c/o Northumberland Wildlife Trust

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Preparing Dead Red Squirrels for Postage

Pack the body in **plenty of absorbent material** such as kitchen roll, and seal in **three tightly closed plastic bags**. Place the wrapped squirrel in a **rigid box** e.g. a shoe box, plastic tub or whisky bottle tube, and seal securely. Parcel this in brown paper or cardboard.

- You must label the parcel "PATHOLOGICAL SPECIMEN – FRAGILE. HANDLE WITH CARE" and write the sender's address on the parcel too.
- Send by first class post or guaranteed next day delivery.
- Enclose the attached form with the body providing your details (and the finders details if different) and detailed information on when/where the squirrel was found.
- Please do not post on a Friday as the laboratory may be closed over the weekend. If posting on Thursday please send first class.
- Wash your hands after dealing with any squirrel carcasses and disinfect any surfaces or materials used.

Please pack properly – the Post Office may refuse to deliver dirty or smelly packages. Please ensure the package is posted to arrive on a weekday.

There are several places that dead red squirrels can be sent to depending on circumstances and location. Please select the most suitable recipient from below (or contact Save our Squirrels for advice if you are unsure):

- **All dead red squirrels found in or near the Sefton Red Squirrel Refuge and other locations in North Merseyside** should go to:

Dr Julian Chantrey
Leahurst Veterinary Teaching Hospital
Liverpool University
Chester High Road
Neston, Wirral CH64 7TE

- **For squirrels from Northumberland, Cumbria, North Yorkshire and Scotland** the place for post mortem depends on the cause of death:

If cause of death is obvious/known e.g. road accident or killed by a pet, then please send **all** dead red squirrels to:

Dr Tony Sainsbury
Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London
Regents Park, London NW1 4RY

If the cause of death is suspected to be disease (e.g. squirrelpox virus) then send the squirrel to:

For reds found in England:
Paul Duff
Veterinary Investigation Centre
Merrythought
Calthwaite, Penrith
Cumbria, CA11 9RR

For reds found in Scotland:
Anna Meredith
Veterinary Pathology Unit
Royal (Dick) School of Vet Med.
Easter Bush Vet Centre
Easter Bush, Midlothian, EH25 9RG



Please complete and enclose the following form with the packaged red squirrel:

Date squirrel was found: _____

Location found (include 6 figure grid reference if possible): _____

Any indications of cause of death: _____

Any additional information: _____

Senders Name, Organisation & Address (including post code): _____

Senders telephone number: _____ email: _____

Office Use: Please report PM results to Save our Squirrels Conservation Officer: mark.wilkinson@northwt.org.uk
Save our Squirrels, C/O Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Garden House, St Nicholas Park, Gosforth,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 3XT. Tel 0191 284 6884