

Pest Bio

Providing All Your Pest Facts

Rock Chuck



Have you seen what you thought was a really big and fat squirrel? Chances are you actually saw a Rock Chuck.

Rock Chucks, also known as Yellow-Bellied Marmots are very territorial and will aggressively defend their home. One male will usually live with two or three females. They spend about 80% of their time in their burrows in hibernation which lasts about eight months (Early September - April). Their time above ground is mostly spent sunning itself. Male young are driven out of the colony after they awaken from hibernation while the females are allowed to stay in the group.

Call Barrier for help managing Rock Chucks

208-463-4533

DIET

Rock chucks are herbivores, folivores and omnivores and eat a wide range of plants, including grasses, forbs and flowers as well as seeds.

HABITAT

They generally live in warm, dry habitats which are at low to mid elevations. They like open territory like steppes, alpine meadows, fields and pastures. They use rocky areas for cover and if possible build burrows under rocky ground.

BEHAVIOR

Rock Chucks will be agonistic with rock chucks from other burrows, these interactions include social mounting, alert behavior, fighting and chasing. They are amicable with individuals from their own burrow, these interactions include grooming, play and greeting behavior.

Rock Chuck Facts:

Size: 1.5 - 2.3 Feet

Shape: Heavy-Set with Short Legs

Color: Brownish with Yellow Belly

Legs: 4

Wings: No

Antenna: No

Scientific Name:

Kingdom:

-Animalia

Phylum:

-Chordata

Class:

-Mammalia

Order:

-Rodentia

Family:

-Sciuridae

Genus:

-Marmota