Top 5 Autumn Pests

1. **Wasps /Hornets**: Newly emerged queens are leaving nests to look for somewhere to hibernate over winter. Worker wasps used to look after these queens, leaving workers now redundant with diminishing food sources at this time of year. This is when they come into conflict with people.
2. **Mice**: Mice hate being cold and wet. With the change of season, mice are coming indoors to enjoy warm & dry conditions.
3. **Rats**: Rats love decking & compost bins. If you have decking in the garden, try to block any gaps with metal chicken wire to prevent rats moving into the void below the decking. Compost heaps / bins should be placed on top of several sheets of chicken wire to prevent rats from digging under. Rats are opportunistic feeders. If you feed the garden birds, only put out enough food for the birds to eat during daylight hours.
4. **Squirrels**: If squirrels enter a property, they are considered a fire risk as they gnaw through electric cabling. If cornered in a loft space, squirrels are highly aggressive; you have been warned!
5. **Moles**: What makes a gardener weep? An immaculately manicured formal lawn that has erupted with random & chaotic molehills overnight.

Top Autumn Wildlife: September is the month of love!

1. **Ivy Bee**: First recorded in Worcestershire by the Bees, Wasp & Ants Recording Society (BWARS) in 2014. Worcestershire Wildlife Trust will be happy to hear from you if you have Ivy Bees. Their frantic activity over the next 6 weeks, heralds the end of this year’s solitary bee season.
2. **House Spiders**: These gentle giants are merely looking for their perfect partners. They are fragile creatures and are not a threat to humans in any way, shape or form. Let them find the loves of their lives and they’ll be too busy to bother you.
3. **Bats**: UK bat species are pretty loved up too at this time of year. If you are interested to learn more about bats, then look up Evesham Bat Care on Facebook or contact The Bat Conservation Trust.