

# Squirrel Enrichment



## ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT

**Housing/Environment:** (Allentown Static Caging = 136 sq.in., 8" Height)  
Sani-chip and Eco-bedding® (crinkle paper); ~3 cups provided as bedding at cage change

**Structural Enrichment:** PVC pipes are given for structural enrichment.  
Structure covers are specially designed for hibernation studies.

**Sensory:** Carefresh® (wood pulp) is available as additional nesting material.  
Nestlets are also provided by the PI on an as needed basis

**Manipulanda:** A PVC tube is provided as the standard for manipulanda.

**Nutritional:** ~ 10 pellets of rodent chow are provided in addition to the following: Shell-on sunflower seeds, veggie bites, shelled peanuts and dog chow. Dried apple slices are also given as a treat reward by the PI

## SOCIAL HOUSING

Aside from during reproductive periods, squirrels are not identified to exist in social groupings in nature. As such, social housing is not conducted

## EXERCISE

For this species, cage space provide adequate opportunities for physical activity.



**According to the Enhancement Policy; No animal is exempt from all forms of environmental enrichment and any exemptions to social housing or exercise should be considered for only the minimal amount of time or restriction necessary.**

**Modifications to this SOP must be approved by the CCM Enrichment Program Manager following the criteria of the exemption plan**

**If Enrichment used is out side of the standard, contact CCM Enrichment Personnel.**