



The Official Website for

East Surrey Badger Protection Society

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A Badger's Year

January: Badger activity is irregular this month, but they are not deterred by snow.

February: This is the peak time for cub births, mating and territorial marking.

March: Badgers are now very active, as a result, road deaths increase. Bedding collection reaches a peak.

April: Badgers emerge before full darkness. Cubs come above ground for the first time.

May: Badger cubs are now exploring the areas around their setts, making it a good month to start badger watching. Mating activity increases.

June: Most cubs are weaned by the end of this month and forage with the sow. Sows may suckle their cubs for longer in dry weather. Badgers will emerge in daylight in quiet areas.

July: Cubs are now about half the weight of an adult badger and are finding food for themselves. Drought may lead to more road deaths as badgers are forced to look for food and water.

August: Badgers do a lot of digging at their setts. Drought can make this the hardest time for adults and cubs. They will take cereals, fruit and vegetables and excavate wasp nests.

September: Badgers gather bedding material and take it down into their setts. This is part of their preparations for winter. A second period of mating occurs and more sett digging takes place.

October: Feeding is the main priority for badgers as they need to put on fat to see them through the winter. Fortunately there are now plenty of fruits and nuts for them.

November: Badger activity gradually declines and they start coming out later. Food can be harder to find.

December: Badgers may spend more time sleeping and emerge less often. Because of this there are less road deaths. The fertilised eggs (blastocysts) of female badgers now implant in the uterus and start developing.

