

Living in Harmony with Wildlife

This pamphlet is designed to acquaint the average person with easy ways to humanely evict animals from your home and how to deal with everyday wildlife interactions in your backyard. We have to remember to live in harmony with wildlife and that they do not realize that nesting on your property provides challenges for you, the home owner.

If you follow the advice in this pamphlet, you can be an everyday advocate for wildlife by not causing them harm.



greenwoodwildlife.org

OUR MISSION



Greenwood's mission is to rehabilitate sick, injured and orphaned wildlife for release into appropriate habitats.

We care for 3,400+ patients a year, on average, (70% of which are orphaned) with an 80% success rate.

Greenwood also strives to educate the public, emphasizing humane solutions to human/wildlife interactions.



GREENWOOD
WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTER

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**Household
Wildlife
Solutions**

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Household Wildlife Solutions

Unwanted Guests in Basements, Attics & Chimneys

It is better for baby mammals to have Mom willingly take them to a new home. You can encourage animals to leave by making their dark, quiet place noisy and inhospitable. Adding a bright light and a noisy radio for a few days will discourage any wild animal from nesting. You can give the area an offensive smell by wetting a few tennis ball sized rags with household ammonia and placing them near the nest site.

Mother typically have an alternative nest site and will usually move out within days. When you are certain the whole family is gone, cover up their entrance area with hardware cloth or wood nailed tightly shut. These methods will discourage squirrels, raccoons, foxes and other animals.

Animal proofing your home is the best way to prevent unwanted guests, and fall is the best time of year to do it! Visit Greenwood's website for more information.



Squirrels and Tree Trimming

Look very carefully for active squirrel nests before you begin. Squirrels will nest high in tree tops, using leaves and twigs to construct their homes. Try to reschedule your trimmings to June or early July (or very late fall) when squirrel babies have left their homes. If unable to delay trimming, relocate the nest to the ground under the tree. Leave the area undisturbed. Mother will relocate her young to a new site if not scared by people, dogs, etc. Squirrels will usually have a back up nest site. If she doesn't take the babies, please call Greenwood for further instructions.

Three Reasons to Avoid Using Traps:

1. Trapping animals increases human contact and the risk of disease. Animals (especially raccoons) carry many diseases which are communicable to humans. It is best to avoid any contact with wild animals, unless it is absolutely necessary.
2. Trapping and moving animals can cause death and can spread deadly disease within the wild population. If you trap a seemingly healthy but contaminated animal in an urban area, and relocate it to a wild environment, the animal will come in contact with an otherwise isolated population of healthy animals. This kind of contact between urban and wild animals can result in the loss of entire wild populations.
3. Trapping is ineffective and time-consuming, often frustrating, and can cause harm. Why not allow a mother animal to move her litter to a new location in as little as a few hours.

