



MassWildlife

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Problem Animal Control

Do You Have a Wildlife Problem?

The following text is designed to provide home and other property owners with information and methods which can prevent or curb problems with wildlife. Please refer to this material before you contact a Problem Animal Control (PAC) Contact as you may be able to solve your own situation!

Many species of wildlife can adapt and thrive in habitats dramatically altered by man. In fact, species like raccoons, gray squirrels and red fox can be found in greater numbers in the suburbs than in a similar sized area of mature forest. The reason? These species capitalize on the abundant supply of man-made foods and shelters found in suburbia allowing them to survive and reproduce more successfully than in areas where these artificial resources are lacking. This adaptability inevitably brings wildlife in close proximity to people resulting in many questions and concerns.

Wildlife appears in backyards for a reason; identifying and understanding that reason is the first step toward minimizing potential conflicts..

Most often, conflicts with wildlife can be avoided by eliminating or securing any food source that can attract unwanted animals. Examples of this suburban buffet would include birdseed, suet, garbage, fruit, compost, vegetable gardens or pet food that is left accessible.

Problems with denning animals can be solved by blocking off access to shelter afforded by attics, chimneys or the crawl space under decks and garden sheds.

Occasional wildlife encounters around the home can be handled by scaring a nuisance animal away with loud noises, bright lights or a human presence.

What can I as a property owner do?

Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 37, gives property owners the right to use lawful means to destroy wildlife in the act of causing damage or threatening personal safety. The public may only address wildlife actually causing damage or posing immediate threats and may not randomly destroy wildlife as a preventive measure. It is illegal for a property owner to live-trap a problem animal and move it for release to public or private property.

Sick or injured wildlife may be transported to a licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator for treatment. When the property owner cannot resolve a wildlife problem, s/he is encouraged to consult the Living With Wildlife series in the Wildlife Program of our website or contact MassWildlife District personnel for technical assistance and/or contact a Problem Animal Control (PAC) Contact.

The following list identifies individuals and affiliated businesses that have been granted Problem Animal Control (PAC) permits in accordance with 321 CMR 2.14. These permittees may harass, take, and destroy, or may release or liberate on site as stipulated in 321 CMR 2.14 (23) non-domesticated reptiles, birds, and mammals the actions of which have or are endangering the life and health of humans or domestic animals; damaging the property of a person, obstructing the reasonable and comfortable use of property by

the owner or tenant thereof or otherwise producing such material annoyance, inconvenience, and discomfort that can reasonably be presumed to result in damage or hurt to persons or their property.

Specifically, PAC permits authorize the handling of skunk, muskrat, raccoon, weasel, red fox, gray fox, porcupine, Norway rat, mice, voles, red, gray and flying squirrel, opossum, chipmunk, rabbit, woodchuck, snapping turtle, moles, pigeon, house sparrow, starling and certain species of bats. Individuals with damage caused by beaver flooding must contact their local Board of Health for a determination and necessary permitting. Damage caused by migratory birds and other birds such as woodpeckers, which are protected under both state and federal law, require a permit from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (413.253.2403).

PAC permittees must pass a written examination demonstrating knowledge of wildlife and habitat, handling and capturing techniques and animal welfare. They must successfully complete a Massachusetts trapper training course and possess the necessary licenses for use of traps or firearms. PAC permittees act on behalf of the landowner and are constrained by the same regulations regarding capture, release, transport and euthanasia. Fees may be charged for PAC services. **If you as a property owner call on a PAC agent, he or she should not only handle your immediate situation but also provide information and suggestions which will prevent future wildlife problems.**

Becoming a PAC Agent--People interested in obtaining a PAC permit should contact the MassWildlife Field Headquarters at 508/792-7270 in Westboro, Massachusetts. A packet of materials for exam study is available for a fee. Contact the Hunter Education Program to be notified about Trapper Education Courses at 508/792-7434.

Report Form (pdf)--For use by PAC agents only. (You need Adobe Acrobat Reader to read those files. Click here to find out more about PDF files and how to get the **free** Adobe Acrobat Reader.)

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Problem Animal Control (PAC) Agents by *MassWildlife* District

Date Last Updated: September 8, 2006



Click on the area of the State
you want to view.



MassWildlife SOUTHEAST DISTRICT OFFICE 2006
195 Bournedale Rd, Buzzards Bay (508) 759-3406

TOWN	NAME	CONTACT	PHONE
CENTERVILLE	ROBERT LAWRENCE WILDLIFE SERVICE	PETER BANGS/ROBERT LAWRENCE	508-428-7874
CHILMARK		WALTER S. WLODYKA	508-645-9959
DIGHTON	SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND PAC SPECIALIST	SPENCER TRIPP	508-669-5040
EAST BRIDGEWATER	PRECISION WILDLIFE SOLUTIONS	EDWARD GANNON	508-378-1278
EASTON		JOHN FRESH JR.	508-238-0698
EAST FREETOWN	A TO Z ANIMAL & PEST CONTROL	BRUCE DAVIS	508-717-1147
FALMOUTH	ANIMAL SOLUTION	PAUL R. CONNON	508-540-5126
HALIFAX	WATCH ALL, INC.	PAUL CROKE	781-331-9022
HALIFAX	CAPEWAY & BURGESS PEST CONTROL	EDWARD BURGESS	508-587-4309
HALIFAX	ANIMAL CONTROL SPECIALISTS	WILLIAM D. JOHNSON	781-293-6447
HARWICH	BARNEY PEARCE ANIMAL CONTROL	JOHN P. ANDERSON	508-430-2580
MARSTON'S MILLS	PERRY LE PEWS WILDLIFE CO. .	LITA & KEVIN PERRY, ROBERT WARREN JR.	508-947-2510
MEDWAY	DEWEY PEST AND WILDLIFE	BENJAMIN HIX/EUGENE MARSOLAIS III	800-750-8078
MIDDLEBORO	LIGHTHOUSE ANIMAL & PEST CO.	PETER E. CHENEY	508-947-2510
MIDDLEBORO	CRITTER CONTROL	PETER COONEY	508-398-5031
MIDDLEBORO	WALTHAM SERVICES	FRANK ROMANO	508-946-9083
MIDDLEBORO	GARY'S WILDLIFE SERVICES	GARY B. PADUCH/ROBERT ROSE	508-946-0060
NEW BEDFORD	SHERMAN PEST CONTROL	THOMAS SHERMAN	508-995-5700
NEW BEDFORD		CHARLES SHURTLEFF	508-998-1396
NORTH ATTLEBORO	BAIN PEST CONTROL	WILLIAM MARTIN	508-699-5894
NORTON	J & B PEST CONTROL	GERALD MAHONEY	781-953-5793
PLYMOUTH	CAPEWAY PEST CONTROL	JOSEPH P. KULBOK	508-548-5503
PLYMOUTH	WILD ANIMAL CONTROL	RONALD DIODATO	508-224-7557
POCASSET	ACE WILDLIFE REMOVAL	JROBERT PRITCHARD/JOHN CRUICKSHANK.	508-563-7270
REHOBOTH	FLYNN PEST CONTROL	ALAN BLISS/ROBERT JOHNSON/JAY HILSMAN	508-252-9661
SANDWICH	PROBLEM ANIMAL CONTROL	RODNEY WILLETTE	508-888-1152
SCITUATE	DIRECT PEST CONTROL	JAMES CURLEY	781-834-9900
TAUNTON	BAT GUYS	MATTHEW GRADY	508-823-0088
TAUNTON	ASAP PEST ELIMINATION CORP.	THOMAS D. MOORE	508-958-4911
WINEYARD HAVEN	SKUNKS REMOVED RACCOONS, TOO	THOMAS HEGARTY	508-693-4189
SOUTH YARMOUTH	CRITTER CONTROL OF CAPE COD	PETER M. COONEY/DAVID ROSS/RICHARD MCDONALD	508-760-0404
YARMOUTHPORT	CAPEWAY & BURGESS PEST CONTROL	PAUL O'BRIEN	508-362-1979