

Prevention of Skunk Nuisance

The availability of food & shelter can entice skunks to make homes on your property. Taking preventative measures can reduce the likelihood of an unwanted skunk residency.

- Keep tight-fitting/locking lids on garbage cans
- Bring in all uneaten pet food & water at night
- Harvest gardens frequently and pick up any fallen fruit from trees
- Restrict use of birdseed; skunks are attracted to seed & rodents attracted to the seed
- Clear your yard of debris & brush piles & stacks of wood and rocks
- Keep pet access doors locked at night
- Do not discard edible garbage where skunks can get it
- Seal up any potential entry holes in and under buildings and decks
- Exclude decks as housing options by using ¼ inch welded wire fencing
- Trapping and relocation of nuisance skunks is not recommended. Removal of these animals is usually only temporary and other skunks will likely soon move in. Skunks will use the same den areas year after year. It is crucial these areas are permanently closed off.
- If you suspect a skunk may be living down in a hole, cover the hole with loose dirt. If the skunk is a resident, it will dig out during the night. If this occurs, please contact the animal warden for further advice.
- If skunks are already settled under a building, installing a 1-way door on an entrance can be effective. This will allow the skunk(s) to leave but not return. All other areas should be closed off.
- To drive skunks away, you may consider putting down repellents such as moth balls, and ammonia-soaked rags.