

Summer 2023



About Ewing Township Animal Control

Officers work under the auspices of the Ewing Township Health Department. There is currently 1 full time officer who responds to over 600 complaints a year. Officers work to provide for public safety by preventing wildlife and nuisance animals from endangering the community.

Animal Control Emergencies

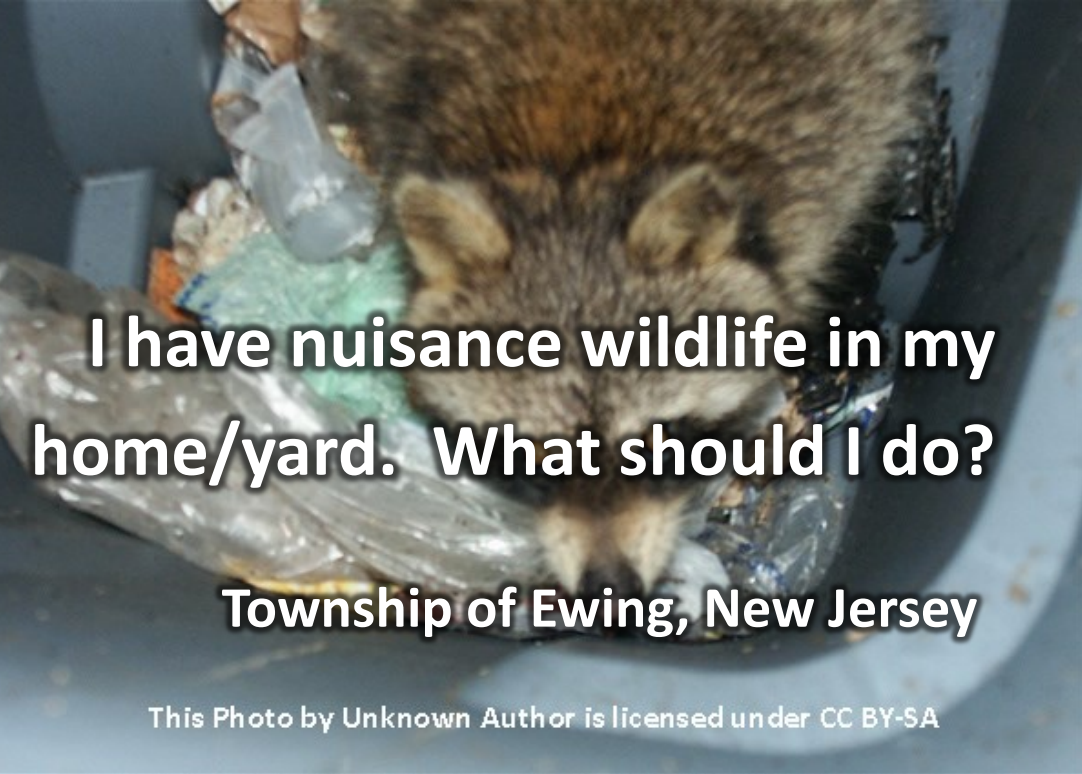
Phone:

609-883-2900 X7175

After hours call Ewing
Police

609-882-1313

Officers are on call 24
hours a day, 7 days a
week, including week-
ends and holidays.



I have nuisance wildlife in my home/yard. What should I do?

Township of Ewing, New Jersey

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

Ewing Animal Control does not handle nuisance wildlife issues. It is best to deter animals rather than trap them as this can compound future problems. In New Jersey, trapping and relocating wildlife is never recommended. It is extremely ineffective, spreads disease and almost always, illegal.

The best long-term solution is to create an environment where wildlife does not want to be. This is accomplished by exclusion and hazing. You can teach wildlife to live elsewhere with these techniques. They will learn over time and with some persistence, that your yard, garden, attic, basement, crawlspace, under shed, under deck, etc. are no longer safe places to live and that they should move out.

Trapping and removing wildlife is inhumane. Adults and young can get separated and the young may not survive. If you relocate wildlife to a new territory, many times they die from starvation, exposure to the elements, or vehicle strikes. These animals may recognize the environment, but it is not their home territory. They don't know where to find food, water, shelter, or safety. Trapping wildlife also creates a void where that animal once was, and many more animals will move in in its place.

Tips for Wildlife Deterrence

1. Secure Trash and Food Sources:

- Use animal-proof trash cans with tight-fitting lids.
- Avoid leaving pet food or birdseed outside, especially overnight.
- Keep compost piles properly covered and maintained.

2. Remove Attractants:

- Clean up fallen fruits, berries, or nuts from trees and bushes.
- Trim overgrown vegetation to reduce hiding spots and shelter for wildlife.
- Keep your property free of debris, such as woodpiles or clutter that may attract animals.

3. Seal Potential Entry Points:

- Inspect your property for openings, gaps, or cracks in fences, walls, or foundations.

- Seal these entry points using sturdy materials like steel mesh, hardware cloth, or caulk.

4. Install Fencing:

- Use fencing designed specifically to deter wildlife, such as electric fencing or wildlife-exclusion fencing.
- Ensure the fence is buried underground or extends below the soil to prevent burrowing animals from entering.

5. Use Deterrents:

- Install motion-activated lights, ultra-sonic sound devices and/or sprinklers that startle and deter wildlife.
- Hang wind chimes, aluminum foil strips, or reflective objects to create noise or visual deterrents.
- Consider using odor repellents or commercial wildlife repellent sprays.

6. Protect Gardens and Landscaping:

- Install physical barriers like mesh or netting around garden beds to prevent animals from accessing plants.
- Use plant species that are less attractive to wildlife or have natural repellent properties.
- Employ scare tactics like garden decoys, ultra-sonic noise making devices, or scarecrows.

7. Cover Openings:

- Block access to crawl spaces, attics, and openings under porches or decks.
- Use wire mesh or hardware cloth to cover vents, chimneys, and other openings in the exterior of your home.

8. Secure Pet Areas:

- Supervise your pets when they are outside to deter wildlife from approaching.
- Consider building a secure outdoor enclosure or run for your pets to prevent interactions with wildlife.

9. Educate and Advocate:

- Learn about the local wildlife in your area and understand their behaviors and habits.
- Share information with neighbors and promote responsible practices to collectively reduce wildlife conflicts.

10. Seek Professional Help:

- If you're experiencing persistent wildlife issues, consult with a professional wildlife control service or contact Animal Control for further guidance.

Remember, it's important to coexist peacefully with wildlife and respect their natural habitats. Always check local regulations and laws before implementing any wildlife control measures to ensure you are following the law.

*****If an animal appears to be sick, injured, or acting unusually (ex: aggressive behavior, unafraid of humans/pets, wobbly gait, unusual vocalizing), contact Animal Control immediately and an officer will be dispatched to assist you. If after hours, contact Ewing Police Department. (609-882-1313) *****

*****If at any time, wildlife (not including rodents) is within the living spaces of your home (ex: bedroom, living room, kitchen, etc.) call Ewing Animal Control immediately and an officer will be dispatched to assist you. If after hours, contact Ewing Police Department. (609-882-1313) *****

Please contact Animal Control if you require further guidance or have additional concerns. (609-883-2900 x7175)

Additional Resources

- Keep wildlife out! <https://www.humanesociety.org/resources/keep-wildlife-out>
- Find answers to wildlife problems: <https://www.humanesociety.org/wildlife-management-solutions>
- Fence out digging animals: <https://www.humanesociety.org/resources/fence-out-digging-animals>