

# Wildlife in the Urban Interface

Jeff Schalaus  
Agent, Agriculture & Natural Resources  
University of Arizona  
Cooperative Extension, Yavapai County



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## What is Wildlife?

- Animals, fish, birds.....
- Animals with intrinsic, social, cultural and economic values....
- Source of food and a vital part of the cultures and economies...
- Indicator of the health of that environment...
- Do or should we assume a stewardship responsibility for wildlife



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## What Does Wildlife Need?

- Food



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What Does Wildlife Need?

- Water



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What Does Wildlife Need?

- Space



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What Does Wildlife Need?

- Shelter  
(or cover)



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### What Does Wildlife Need?

- Arrangement



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### Elements of Habitat

1. Food
2. Water
3. Space
4. Shelter
5. Arrangement



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### Habitat can be changed...

- Altering any one habitat element will change how wildlife uses the area
- To attract, learn the habitat preferences of the desired species and add or enhance those elements
- To discourage, learn the habitat preferences of the unwanted species and remove or modify those elements
- Large gravel areas and/or mowed lawns are not attractive to wildlife



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## Wildlife Enhancements

- Feeders
- Water features
- Nectar producing plants
- Diverse structures
- Preserve dead and down material
- Bird/bat houses
- Brush piles
- Wildlife friendly fences
- Contain dogs/cats
- Native landscaping
- Allow plants to grow naturally
- Be patient



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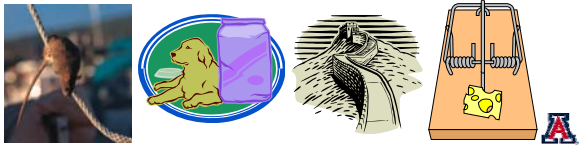
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## Dealing with Problem Wildlife

- Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
  1. Correctly identify the pest
  2. Employ prevention options
  3. Select a population control strategy
  4. Monitor for reinfestation



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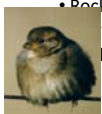
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## Legal Status

- In Arizona, most wildlife species are protected
- Some are not, these include:
  - Wood rats (Pack rats)
  - Norway rats
  - House mice
  - Ground squirrels
  - Pocket gophers
  - Rock doves (Pigeons)
  - House sparrows (House sparrows)



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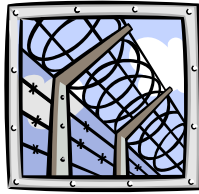
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Prevention Measures

- Habitat modification
- Exclusion
- Frightening
- Repellents



**Prevention is Long Term**  
**Control is Short Term**



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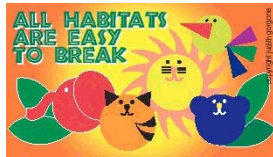
Habitat Modification

**No Food**

**No Water = No Pests**

**No Shelter**

**No Access**



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Habitat Modification

- Removal of Attractants
- Limit Shelter
- Sanitation



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### Exclusion

- Fences
- Barriers



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### Frightening

- Sight and/or Sound
- Habituation



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### Repellents

- Odor
- Taste
  - Pain
  - Malaise
- Touch



All repellents work some of the time  
No repellents work all of the time



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## Population Control Measures

- Trapping (lethal or live)
- Toxicants
- Fumigants
- Shooting
- Biological Control



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## Trapping

- Non-lethal
- Lethal



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## Toxicants

- General or Restricted Use
- Read Label
- Hazards
  - Non-Target
    - Primary
    - Secondary
  - Environment
- Not recommended for most situatio



*Use Pesticides Safely*  
FOLLOW THE LABEL  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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Fumigants



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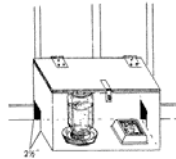
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Bait Stations



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Shooting



Not legal in most situations



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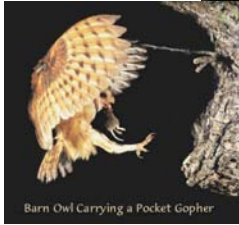
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## Biological Control

- Predators
- Diseases
- Birth Control



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## Health/Safety Concerns

- Zoonotic Diseases
  - Rabies
  - Hantavirus
  - Plague
- Parasites
- Handling/Disposal
  - Gloves
  - Wash Hands



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## Pocket Gopher

- Trapping
- Exclusion (hardware cloth wrapped around root ball or garden perimeter)
- Fumigants
- Poison Baits
- Repellents
- Resistant plants



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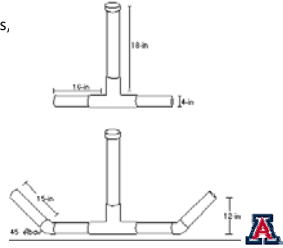
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### Rock Squirrel

- Fumigants
- Trapping
- Toxicants
- Eliminate brush and rock piles, other habitat features
- Flood irrigation



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### Woodrat (Packrat)

- Exclusion (buildings)
- Trapping
- Anticoagulants
- Destruction of dens



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### Cottontail Rabbit

- Exclusion (1" chicken wire, 2 ft above and 1 ft below)
- Plant resistant plants
- Habitat modification
- Repellents
- Trapping
- Biocontrol



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## Beaver

- Exclusion (low fence, wire or electric)
- Hardware cloth barriers around trees
- Live trapping



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## Skunk

- Exclusion
- Remove attractant
- Live traps
- Ammonia/moth balls?
- Skunk Deodorizer Recipe
  - 1 qt 3% Hydrogen Peroxide
  - ¼ cup baking soda
  - 1 tsp dish detergent



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## Raccoon

- Exclusion (best solution)
- Remove attractant
- Live traps
- Professional assistance



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## Javelina

- Sturdy fencing (2½ - 3ft)
- Electric Fence
- Remove attractant



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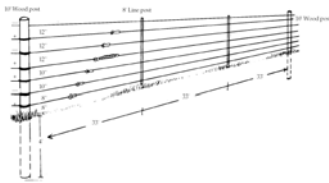
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## Deer/Elk

- Fencing (8-10 ft)
- Repellents
- Frightening
- Harvest crop asap



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## Wildlife Damage Control Professionals (NWCos)

- Licensed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Look in the Yellow Pages under "Pest Control"
- Or, call your local Arizona Game and Fish Office



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On-line Resources

**Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management**

[icwdm.org/](http://icwdm.org/)

**ICWDW Handbook**

[digitalcommons.unl.edu/icwdmhandbook](http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/icwdmhandbook)

**Yavapai County Cooperative Extension**

[extension.arizona.edu/yavapai](http://extension.arizona.edu/yavapai)

**The Mammals of Texas**

[www.nsr.ttu.edu/tmot1/](http://www.nsr.ttu.edu/tmot1/)



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