SMITHFIELD
NORTH CAROLINA

Public Works Department

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Animal Control

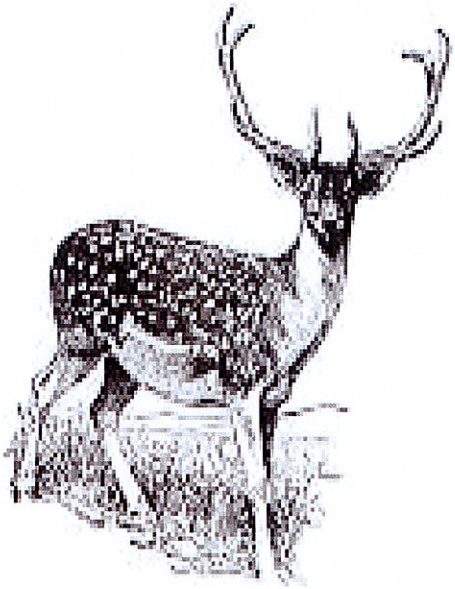
231 Hospital Rd. (PO Box 761)

Smithfield, NC 27577

Phone: 919 934-2596

Fax: 919 934-1522

COEXISTING WITH BACKYARD WILDLIFE



COEXISTING WITH BACKYARD WILDLIFE

Wildlife-caused damage is primarily related to feeding activities, but also occurs regularly in association with denning, nesting, and roosting behaviors. Wildlife-caused damage can often be prevented simply by removing food sources, cover materials or vegetation, overhanging tree limbs, or other means of access that initially attracted and is now holding wildlife in a particular location. When wildlife-damage becomes severe, corrective actions are necessary.

The North Carolina Wildfire Resources Commission allows trained and certified Wildlife Damage Control Agents (WDCA's) to issue wildlife depredation permits to North Carolina residents having wildlife damage problems. WDCA'S are authorized to issue permits for certain species on-the-spot.

Before contacting a wildlife control agent certain steps may be taken by the landowner to prevent wildlife from becoming a problem and to discourage them from making a home of your backyard or residence. It is recommended that citizens concerning with problem wildlife take the following steps before contracting a wildlife control agent.

* Identify the wildlife species involved.

* Before contacting for assistance be certain the problem is sufficiently severe and persistent so as to require action.

* Consider the alternatives in the following order:

    * Remove food sources, cover materials or vegetation, overhanging tree limbs, or other means of access that initially attracted and is now holding wildlife in your location.

    * Establish protective structures or barriers to prevent wildlife from entering and damaging property.

    * Humanely remove wildlife from buildings and grounds. (If trapping, transporting or killing wildlife is involved, a Wildlife Depredation Permit will be needed.)

    * Permanently repair buildings to prevent re-infestation.

    * Monitor buildings and grounds periodically for recurring problems, taking appropriate, immediate attention to control and prevent damage.

It should be noted that the mere presence of wildlife in your backyard does not constitute a significant wildlife problem. Wildlife Damage Control Agents have no authority to remove wildlife that is simply passing through a yard or property. The wildlife must have created notable damage and have caused harm to property.

Smithfield residents should contact a wildlife damage control agent listed below to address wildlife damage problems.

*__Barbour Beaver Control__ (919) 934-4336

(E. J. Barbour & Lincoln Barbour)

*__Clegg's Pest Control__ (919) 934-0229

*__NC Wildlife Division__ 1-800-662-7137

*__US Dept. of Agriculture__ (919) 786-0256

Press "0" and ask to speak with the,

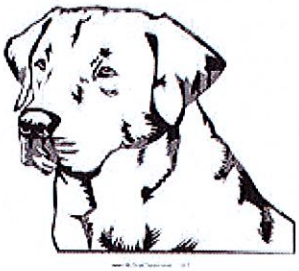
Wildlife Specialist for Johnston Co.,

Smithfield, NC.

*__Wood Termite & OC__ (919) 934-7961

Citizens of Smithfield concerned with the growing population of wildlife in their backyard should contact a NC certified wildlife damage control agent to address problems of nuisance wildlife. **The Town Animal Control Officer has no authority to remove wildlife from private property.** The primary duty of the Town Animal Control Officer is the welfare of domesticated animals. Any questions concerning domesticated animals should be directed to Animal Control Officer Lynn Corbin at (919) 934-2596.

Portions of this document were obtained from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. Additional wildlife questions and information pertaining to the control of wildlife may be directed to the North Carolina Resources Commission at (919) 733-7291 or at the department's website, www.wildlife.state.nc.us/index.htm



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