

Red Fox

Issue – Denning under porch or house.

Notes

To prevent foxes or other animals from denning under your house, thoroughly check the outside of the house in fall and block any gaps or openings with sturdy materials. Don't wait till spring!

During early breeding season (~ March- June) it may be a mother with young pups. Steps taken to block entrances or drive her away may result in pups being left behind to starve, so should not be carried out at this time.

When pups are ~ 3 months old, (~ June) they are mobile enough to move to another den, so steps can be taken to encourage the family to move.

Suggestions-

- ▶ Place a bright light under the deck or house.
- ▶ Put a radio, set on a talk radio station, in the area
- ▶ Put ammonia or vinegar soaked rags in a coffee can, with holes punched in the side and place the can under the deck or house, to allow the smell to slowly permeate.
- ▶ Put stinky kitty litter around their bedding spot to create an unpleasant odor.

It may take a couple of days before they leave so check the area often.

- ▶ Wadded-up newspaper lightly tucked into the exit point or flour sprinkled on the ground outside and inside that point can help to tell if the animal has come back and/or left.
- ▶ Once they have gone, sprinkling cayenne pepper inside the entrance/exit point can help keep them out for a short time until permanent measures are taken.
- ▶ Block entrances with heavy-duty wood, wire or other strong materials as soon as possible, before another animal takes up residence.

Issue – injuring or killing pets and small domestic animals (chickens, rabbits etc)

Suggestions –

- ▶ Keep animals in areas with secure fencing. The fence should run an additional 8 inches into the ground then make a 90 degree turn to the outside of the fence for another 10-15 inches. This will keep foxes from digging in.
- ▶ Install a roof on enclosures – foxes can climb and jump over fences.
- ▶ Install 2 electrified wires, 8 and 15 inches above the ground, off-set from the existing fence by ~12 inches (this can be solar powered), to prevent a fox getting under or over the fence. .
- ▶ Install a motion sensor sprinkler to scare the fox as it approaches.
- ▶ Install a “coyote roller” on the top of fences, to prevent the fox getting a foothold on the top.

<http://www.coyoteroller.com/> .

► Angle the top of the fence outwards at a 45 degree angle for ~18 inches to prevent the fox climbing over.

Some of these products can be found at many gardening/hardware stores, or at

<http://www.nixalite.com/gardenprotector.aspx>

Coyotes

Coyotes cause some of the same problems as mentioned for Red Fox (above), and similar methods can be used to deter them. We do not have coyotes in San Juan County, but they do occur on the adjacent mainland.

