

Wildlife in the Urban Interface



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Presentation for
Antelope Garden Club





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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

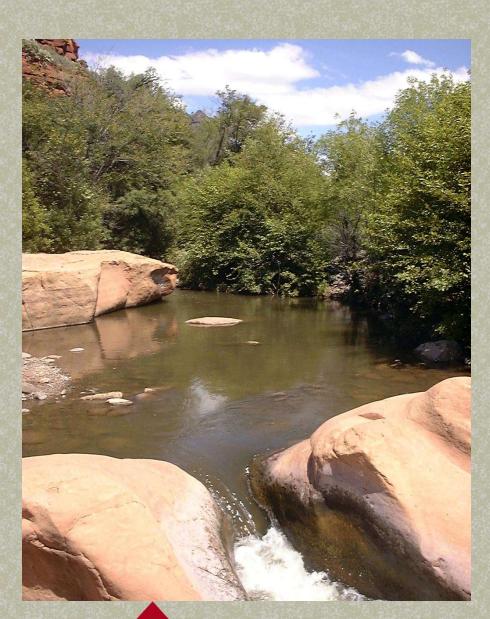


Food





Water





Space





Cover(shelter)





Arrangement

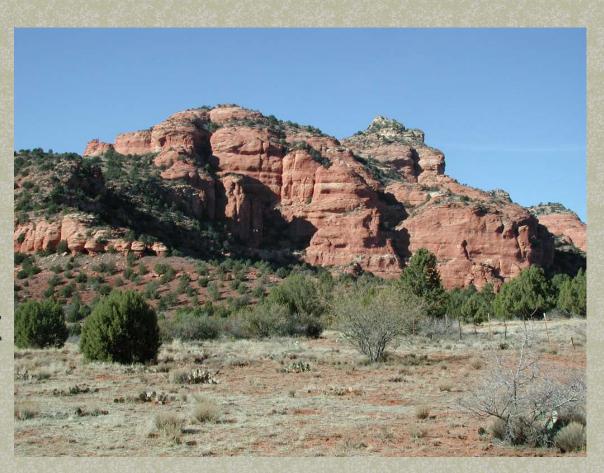






Elements of Habitat

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





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



Wildlife Enhancements

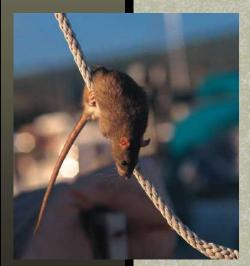
- Feeders
- Water features
- Nectar producing plants
- Diverse structures
- Preserve dead and down material
- Bird/bat houses

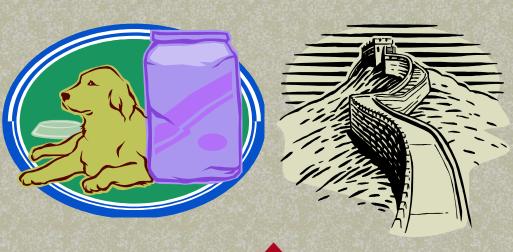
Wildlife friendly fences

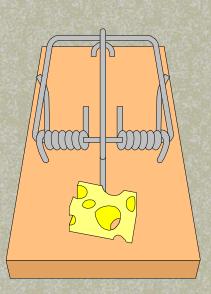
- Exclude dogs/cats
- Native landscaping
- Allow plants to grow naturally
- Be patient



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

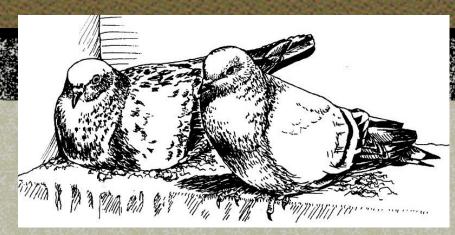








Legal Status



- 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)
 - Starlings
 - English sparrows (House sparrows)

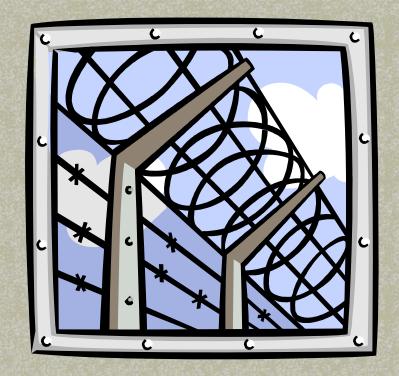






Prevention Measures

- Habitat modification
- Exclusion
- Frightening
- Repellents



Prevention is Long Term
Control is Short Term



Habitat Modification

No Food

No Water

= No Pests

No Shelter

No Access





Habitat Modification

- Removal of Attractants
- Limit Shelter
- Sanitation



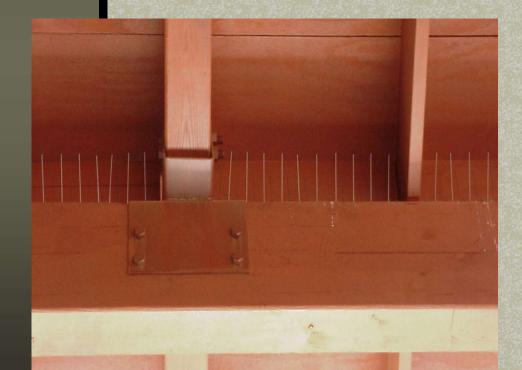






Exclusion

- Fences
- Barriers



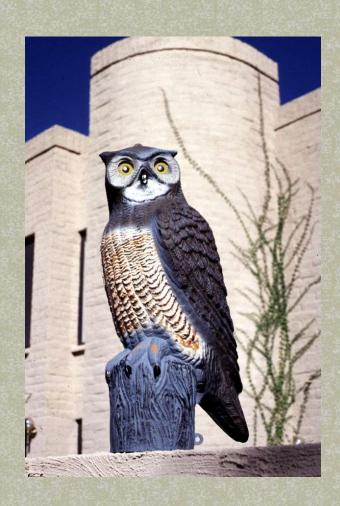




Frightening

- Sight and/or Sound
- Habituation







Repellents

- Odor
- Taste
 - Pain
 - Malaise
- Touch







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



Population Control Measures

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

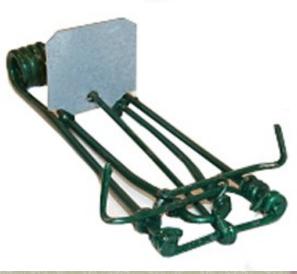


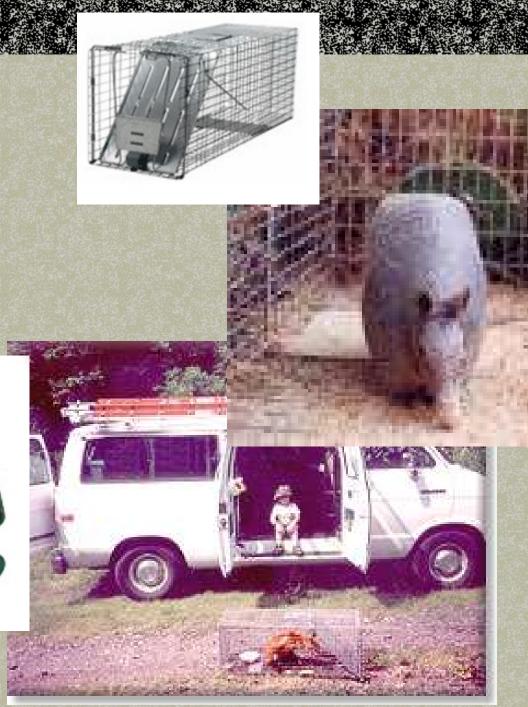




Trapping

- Non-lethal
- Lethal







Toxicants

- General or Restricted Use
- Read Label
- Hazards
 - Non-Target
 - Primary
 - Secondary
 - Environment





Fumigants



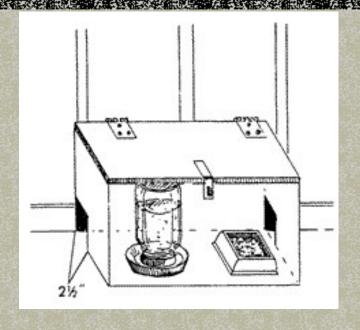






Bait Stations

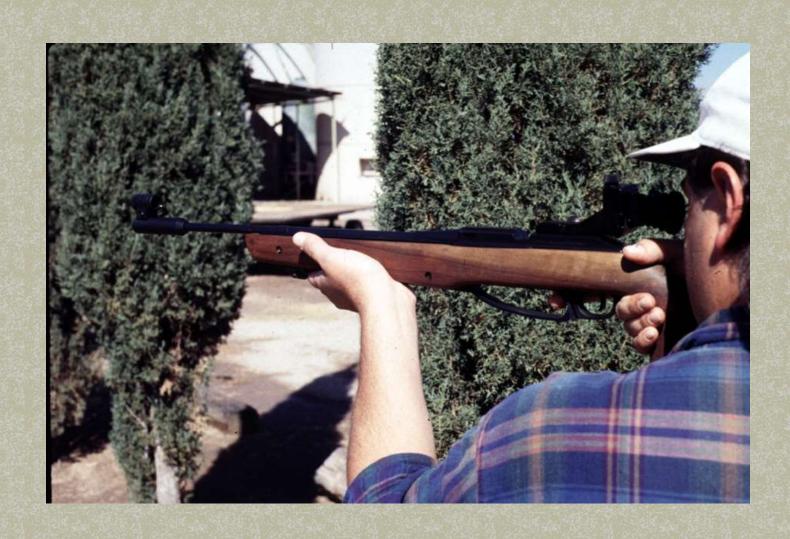








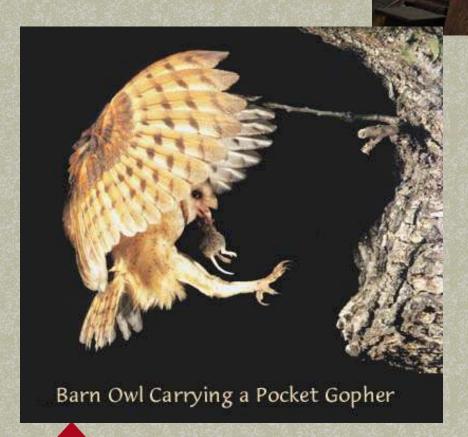
Shooting





Biological Control

- Predators
- Diseases
- Birth Control





Health/Safety Concerns

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

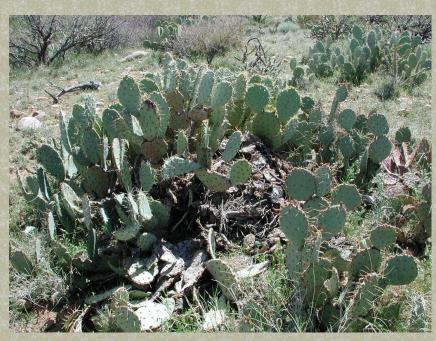




Woodrat (Packrat)

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







Pocket Gopher

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

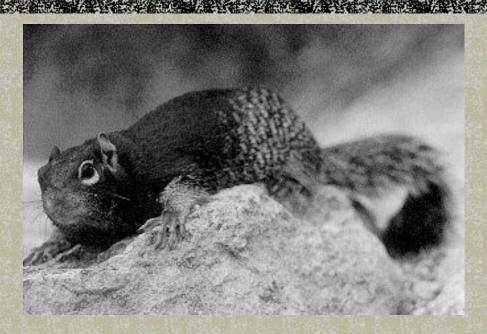






Rock Squirrel

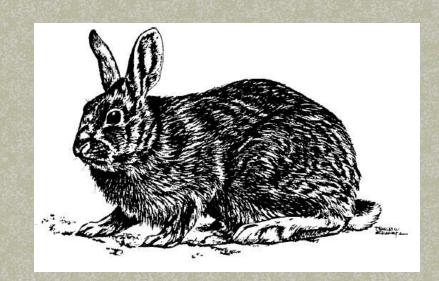
- Fumigants
- Trapping
- Toxicants
- Eliminate brush and rock piles, other habitat features
- Flood irrigation





Cottontail Rabbit

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







Beaver

Exclusion (low fence, wire or electric)

- Hardware cloth barriers around trees
- Live trapping





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





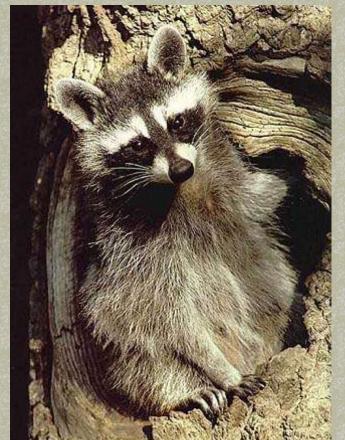


Raccoon

- Exclusion (best solution)
- Remove attractant

- Live traps
- Professional assistance







Porcupine

- Exclusion
 - Fences
 - Climbing barriers
 - Cages around plants
 - Live traps
- Smooth electric wire attached to top of barrier or at height of 4-6 inches





Porcupine damage to mimosa tree; Source: Yavapai Extension website



Javelina

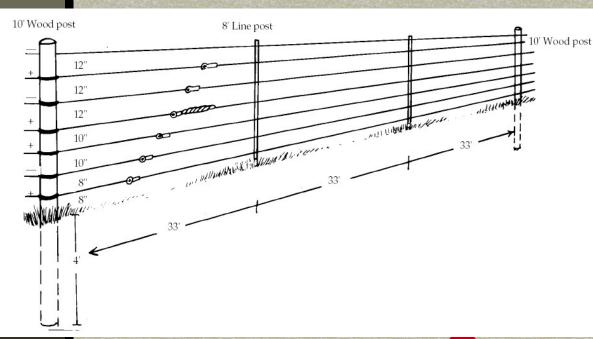
- Sturdy fencing (2½ 3ft)
- Electric Fence
- Remove attractant

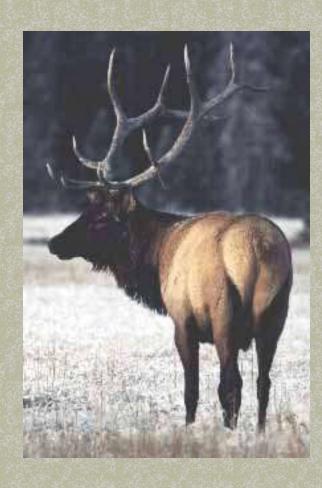




Deer/Elk

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







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



On-line Resources

Yavapai County Cooperative Extension

extension.arizona.edu/yavapai/

UNL Wildlife Damage Management

wildlifedamage.unl.edu

The Mammals of Texas

www.nsrl.ttu.edu/tmot1/



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