

Fact Sheet

Feuille de renseignements



Ministry of
Natural Resources

Ministère des
richesses naturelles

June 6, 2007

DISCOURAGE RACCOONS FROM MOVING IN

Keep raccoons away

- Do not provide food or shelter for raccoons or other wild animals. It is against the law to keep wildlife, including raccoons, as pets.
- If your pet's food is usually left outside, bring it in at the end of the day. If you feed your pet outside, remove the dish after half an hour.

Raccoon-proof your home

You may want to contact a professional for advice, or raccoon-proof your home yourself:

- **Cover up potential entrances**, such as uncapped chimneys, loose shingles and openings in attics, roofs and eaves. If you're not sure where raccoons are getting in, sift flour around potential entrances and check for footprints later. You can also stuff a rag or ball of paper in a suspect hole and check later to see if it has been removed.
- **Make a raccoon den unlivable**. Sprinkle moth balls around the area or hang ammonia-soaked cotton rags near the entrance and keep the area brightly lit. Raccoons dislike loud noises, bright lights, and strong smells. Use the same methods in your garden or in the area where you keep your garbage or composter. Warning: Both moth balls and ammonia can be toxic to humans or pets if too much is used in a confined space from which pets and children are not excluded (such as a garage or garden shed).
- **Always cover composters and garbage cans**. Use a bungee cord or a heavy weight to keep the lid in place.
- **Make sure that bird feeders, especially suet feeders are on slippery poles** or on wires which raccoons cannot climb.
- **Make sure that all raccoons or other animals have left before sealing up holes in any part of the building**. This is especially important between May and July when there may be young.

- **Block the entrances to a raccoon den** once you are sure that all animals have left. You can use sheet metal. Repair siding and holes in buildings, and use heavy rustproof screening to cover open-air vents or chimneys.
- **Trim all overhanging tree branches** or any other structure that animals might use to get on to the roof of a residence or detached building.

-30-

Contact:

Adam McAllister
Ministry of Natural Resources
(705) 755-1551

Disponible en français

For more information visit rabies.mnr.gov.on.ca