

Large Mammals (Raccoons, Skunks, Cats)



Raccoons are common in the Pacific Northwest and are talented animals with a variety of skills. They like to forage for food in your garbage cans and pick up the left over pet food on your deck. They love to eat the fish from your outdoor pond. They are primarily active at night. If they get into your attic and have babies they can cause a major problem. They've also been known to kill a cat or small dog. The only way to eliminate them is by live trapping and removal. This should be done by a wildlife company, such as Critter Control (1-800-CRITTER).



No mistaking a **skunk**, with its white stripes on the back, and the distinctive odor when he sprays. They're members of the weasel family and found throughout the US, Canada and Mexico. They typically eat beetles, larvae and earthworms, but will also eat eggs and fallen fruit. To help prevent them pick up pet food at night, keep garbage cans tight and pick up fallen fruit and vegetables. The only method of removal is live trapping.



Feral Cats are the offspring of lost or abandoned cats. Stray cats may be lost or abandoned, but still are usually accustomed to contact with people. The feral cat has never had human contact and is typically too fearful and wild to be handled. They can be a problem in a commercial setting, such as a food warehouse or manufacturing plant, as they can contaminate food and damage equipment and electronics. They must be trapped in a live trap and taken to an animal shelter. Further information can be obtained from the Humane Society of the United States (www.hsus.org).



Possums (or more correctly Opossums) are occasionally a nuisance. They have a long rat-like tail, five-toed feet, sharp teeth and hairless ears. They are actually a relative of the kangaroo, and raise their young in a pouch. They are usually harmless. In rare circumstances where they take up residence in an attic a wildlife trapper may be needed to remove them with a live trap.



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