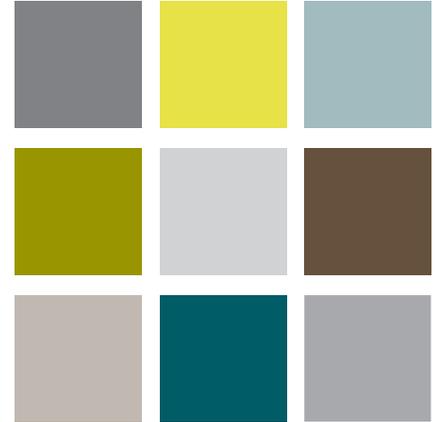


# Urban Wildlife Damage Management Impact Statement



## SUMMARY

Many factors have contributed to increases in conflict between wildlife and humans in Ohio. SENR Wildlife Extension specialists work to reduce human-wildlife conflicts by offering a variety of educational resources to Ohio's citizens and communities.

## SITUATION

While some wildlife species are displaced by urban expansion and development, others can be quite successful in these environments, such as white-tailed deer, Canada geese, raccoons, rodents, and rabbits. The creation of green spaces, parks, and recreational areas within urban environments are often ideal homes for wildlife. In addition, urban homeowners interested in landscaping or gardening within their backyards often provide another attractant to wildlife. All these circumstances can lead to increases in human-wildlife conflict. As Ohio's wildlife co-exists with humans in urban environments, resource managers, volunteers, city and local planners, municipalities, and communities are charged with the task of solving the conflicts that arise. Resources such as educational programs and publications are often requested to educate Ohio homeowners, cities, and communities that are dealing with wildlife damage.

## RESPONSE

The SENR Extension Wildlife specialists have addressed the need for information on human-wildlife conflict in urban areas by providing a number of educational tools to Ohio communities, resources managers, and Extension volunteers such as the Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists and Ohio Master Gardeners. These tools include



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public programs, in-service workshops, Extension volunteer trainings, conferences, and publications on wildlife damage management in urban environments. In addition, the Ohio Community Wildlife Cooperative was created through a partnership between OSU SENR Extension, the City of Dublin, and the Ohio Division of Wildlife to address the needs of city and local planners, municipalities, and other's responsible for managing wildlife and wildlife conflict in city and community green/recreation areas.

## **IMPACT**

A total of 49 programs were conducted in the past 2 years with 1,732 participants in attendance; 468 Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists and Master Gardeners were trained in effective ways to reduce wildlife damage and human-wildlife conflict, a new fact sheet on feral swine damage management was written, and a chapter on managing and preventing wildlife damage was written for the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association Training Manual. The Ohio Community Wildlife Cooperative has sponsored 4 all-day conferences in which professionals delivered programs on wildlife conflict management strategies for a variety of species to over 250 community leaders, city planners, and resources managers. A total of 78 communities, cities, townships, and park districts were represented.

## **Contact Information**

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