

# Problem / Solution

## 1 Squirrels are nesting in my attic!



In a confined space like an attic, you can use a very inexpensive scent deterrent to encourage the mother to move the family to a different location. Take a plastic bucket, like an ice-cream pail, and pour 2 inches of household bleach into the bottom. Next, take a sponge or rag and place it into the liquid to act as a 'wick' and evaporate the bleach into the air. While this does not harm the animals, it mildly stings the eyes and nose of the mother and makes your attic an undesirable place to den. Once the family has moved on, make sure to seal up all entrances with secure wire mesh!

## 2 My pet has been sprayed by a skunk!



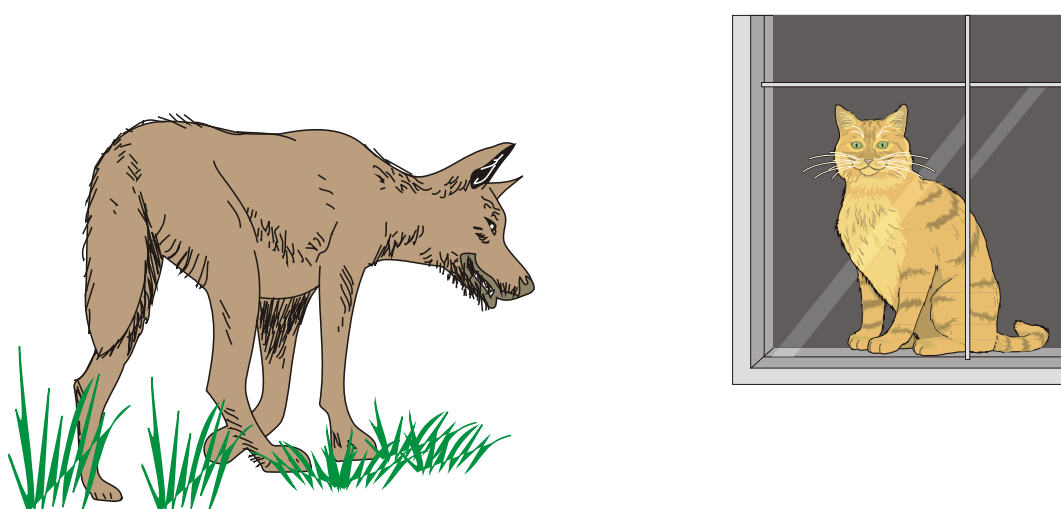
You can create a paste using baking soda and hydrogen peroxide. Slather this over the entire coat of your pet, and any affected household surfaces. Massage it well into the fur and then rinse the paste away using warm water. Another effective agent is common household vinegar. The acidic vinegar can be liberally applied to floors and walls. Sunlight, however, is the best solution. The oils contained in the spray will naturally degrade when exposed to the sun and the elements.

## 3 I am getting dive bombed by crows!



During certain times of the year, many different species of birds will have their young living on the ground. The babies have left the nest but are not yet flying. They are known as "fledglings" and can remain on the ground, learning how to fly and find food, for up to a week in some cases. Parent crows, as well as other species, are very protective of their young during this vulnerable period and will aggressively swarm any perceived threat, including humans. The best solution is to avoid the area, as the crows are only there temporarily. If you have to go near the fledglings, or past a nest, take an umbrella with you as a portable barrier.

## 4 I have seen a coyote in my yard!



Coyotes adapt quickly to environmental changes and new food sources. This, coupled with their exceptional sense of smell, vision, and hearing, has enabled them to survive in and adapt to urban life. In order to discourage coyotes from visiting your house, make sure any food sources are secured and any garbage is picked up. Never intentionally feed them! Trim and clear any shrubbery that provides cover for coyotes or their prey and make sure your pets are kept inside for the night. If you see a coyote, you can actively discourage them by making loud noises or spraying them with a hose.

## 5 I've found a baby animal, I want to keep it as a pet!



While it might be human nature to want to care for a young animal, it is not a good idea to try and raise a wild animal as a pet. Wild animals have certain instincts that allow them to survive in nature and these instincts are not well suited for a domestic lifestyle. Also, if an animal becomes too used to people, it can never be returned back to its natural environment because it would not have the skills it needs to survive. Wild animals also have very specific dietary needs, which most people are not set-up to provide. If you find a young animal needing assistance, please contact your nearest wildlife rehabilitator or veterinarian.

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