

PREVENTING PROPERTY DESTRUCTION DUE TO WILDLIFE

Local wildlife, especially feral pigs and coyotes, may make their way out of the hills and into Dublin neighborhoods in search of a food source. There are several steps that property owners can take to prevent wild animals from destroying property:

- Use a biological or chemical application that will reduce the number of invertebrates (grubs) living under your grass and landscaping.
- Consider a landscape that contains little or no grass.
- Water your lawn less, particularly during the summer and fall. This makes your lawn less attractive to the invertebrates, which makes your lawn less attractive to the pigs. Drought tolerant grasses are recommended.
- Avoid fertilizers, compost, and mulch that may contain bone meal, blood meal, or other organics that attract pigs or other wildlife to your yard.
- Consider installing temporary or permanent low fencing around your yard. (Note: The City of Dublin does not have a right to overturn any homeowner association rules that may prevent or regulate fence installation.)
- Use motion sensitive devices that will detect the animals' movements. These devices can be used to produce bright light, or even a water stream that will frighten the animals.
- Small pets should be kept indoors and only go outside when attended to by owners. Keep rodents at bay.
- Secure your garbage, and make sure no food is left outside for pets or wildlife to get it.
- Pick up acorns, fruit, or other food sources from your yard.

If you see a wild animal in your neighborhood or on a local trail, please contact Dublin Police Services at 925-462-1212. For your own safety, if you encounter a wild animal:

- Be calm and move slowly away from the animal. Do not approach or attempt to feed the animal.
- Keep a safe distance and do not corner or provoke the animal (e.g., by using a flash while taking pictures of it).
- If you see adult wild animals with their young, leave them alone. These are potentially more dangerous because they may attempt to defend their young.
- If you are in the area with your dog, keep your dog leashed and maintain control of your dog at all times to prevent injury.