

## Humane Solutions

Do you have a raccoon in your chimney? A skunk under your deck? Critters munching the garden?

Humane Solutions to wildlife conflicts are based on respect and understanding of our urban wildlife. Permanent and effective solutions are possible without resorting to lethal control methods or trapping and relocating. Conflicts are not permanently resolved by removing the animal.

Larimer Humane Society discourages the use of live traps to relocate problem animals, and we may need to receive approval from the Colorado Division of Wildlife to do so. Relocating individual animals away from their home range, without altering the habitat, is merely a short-term solution. Relocating animals will cause more long-term problems for the homeowner by actually increasing the local population. By removing existing animals you invite others to come in and compete for the new resources created by the available territory, resulting in more animals than you had before in a relatively short period of time. Due to increased resources, litter size tends to increase as well. If an animal is removed from a habitat, other types of animals requiring the same resources may move into the area to take advantage of the increased food/resource availability.