

Foxes

Natural History

The fox is generally a nocturnal animal but they may often be seen sunning themselves at any hour of the day. During the winter months, they may forage for food during the day because of the difficulty in finding adequate food source. The fox is a predator whose food usually consists of small rodents, birds, eggs, and rabbits. The fox also eats nuts, berries and fruits. Litter size is about 4 to 5 kits, which are born in March or April.

What deters fox from your residence?

- Human activity
- Ammonia soaked rags
- Repellents developed to keep dogs / cats of lawns -
- Flood lights or motion detector lights. Motion detector lights usually work the best.

Fox in a Den

Roll rags into a tight ball and tie with twine. These should be the size of a tennis ball. Soak these in ammonia. Throw the ammonia balls in the entrance hole of the den.

Bang on the top of the den with a shovel, making as much noise as possible.

Place a radio, tuned to a talk program, at the main entrance of the den.

Slowly, over a period of days, destroy the den in increments.

Fox Living Under a House or Deck

*Note: A fox living under a house or a sun deck will usually occur in the spring. It will usually be a family.

Human activity in the area will make the fox feel uncomfortable and will usually make them move.

Any of the methods under, "Fox in a den", can be used. The rags and ammonia and the radio are probably the most practical thing to try first.

Fox in a Chicken Coop

Build a secure cage for your fowl. This will keep them safe from all predators, including domestic dogs and cats, not just fox.

Use heavy gauged wire or fencing. Be sure to sink the wire/fencing 8 to 10 inches into the ground. A secure cage will consist of buried wire/fencing, sturdy walls, and an enclosed top.

Use an electric fence. Stay with high voltage, low amperage, so that it is safe for your fowl, pets and other wildlife.

Fox Teasing a Dog

Keep the dog in the house or in the garage at night and early morning for a few days. The fox will lose interest and stop coming around.

Fox have quite a sense of humor, and seem to enjoy watching the dog running back and forth and barking.