

Animal Control

All wildlife within the Village of Harwood Heights is the property of and protected by the State of Illinois.

The Village of Harwood Heights would like to remind residents that trapping wildlife without a permit and poisoning wild animals is illegal in the State of Illinois. To trap a wild animal, including chipmunks, you must obtain a permit from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Animals cannot be relocated in the Forest Preserves or on private property without the property owner's permission.

Under normal conditions, nuisance wildlife removal from private property other than in the living quarters is the responsibility of the property owner. Private agencies are available to assist property owners with this task. These agencies will charge a fee for their services. Payment of this fee is the responsibility of the property owner. The Village of Harwood Heights does not endorse any specific agency, nor does the Harwood Heights Police or Public Works trap or remove wild animals.

Some private agencies providing wildlife removal are:

- A. B & H Animal Control630-816-9938
- B. Critter Control847-991-9909
- C. ABC847-870-7175

Animal populations are allowed to flourish when food and shelter are abundant. Residents can protect their property from damage and keep wild animal populations down naturally by animal proofing their homes. A simple example of animal proofing is to make sure you have a chimney cap that is secure and not old or damaged to prevent raccoons and birds from nesting there. Animal proofing your home from raccoons, skunks, squirrels, birds, bees, wasps, bats, opossums, etc. can help. Here are some things you can do:

- Install professional animal proof chimney caps
- Install window well covers
- Install screens for attic fans, stove, dryer and bathroom vents

Check with an Animal Control Professional and the Village Building department. Covers, caps and screens must meet all fire and safety codes while keeping out rain, snow, debris and acting as a spark arrester and providing ventilation

For stray dogs and cats only, call the Harwood Heights Police Department animal control officer at (708) 867-4353