



Somers Animal Control Animal News, April, 2017

Spring has finally arrived! With the arrival of nice weather many of us will be cleaning out sheds, barns, cellars and attics. We may discover some unwelcome guests like mice, chipmunks and squirrels. Many people use poison to eradicate these critters. Some poisons can have a devastating effect for birds of prey and cats. The mice which ingest the poison are then eaten by a bird of prey or cat. The unintended victim will unfortunately sicken and most likely die as a result. Rodent poison can also be deadly if ingested by your pet. The good news is there are safer options available. The traditional snap trap is nothing new but reasonably safe. Recently a few new products have come on the market. Rat-X is safe for pets and wildlife. It is made from 100% natural ingredients and guarantees to kill the rodents within a week. Another option may be an electronic mouse trap; the mouse enters the trap and is delivered a bolt of electricity killing it instantly. Eliminating rodents in any way is always an unpleasant but necessary task to reduce the risk of damage and disease in our homes. Any of the safe options above will keep our pets and wildlife out of harm's way.

Pet Tip of the Month

During the warmer months our pets will be spending more time enjoying the outdoors, increasing the possibility of coming in contact with wildlife. It is crucial that all of our pets are vaccinated for rabies. Rabies can be contracted by coming in contact with a rabid animal by a bite, scratch or contact with bodily fluids such as saliva or blood. It is important to seek the proper medical attention for you and your pet immediately if an incident has occurred with a wild animal or domestic animal whose vaccination status is unknown. **It is also important to contact Animal Control and report an incident or a suspected rabid animal.** Raccoons and skunks are known to be nocturnal but it is not unusual to see them during the day. They may come out during the day if they are hungry or have been disturbed. If however an animal is acting strange, unbalanced, aggressive or otherwise appears sick please alert Animal Control so it can be addressed. It is important for our community that everyone be responsible pet owners and vaccinates their pets. **Low cost vaccination clinics are available.** Tractor Supply in Enfield, CT holds a weekly vaccination clinic the information is available at <http://tractorsupply.com>. Petco in Enfield, CT also has a low cost weekly vaccination clinic. More information is available at <http://www.vetcoclinics.com>. Please take advantage of these low cost clinics and keep your pet(s) vaccinated for rabies. As a reminder please vaccinate our feline friends as well. Even if you have an indoor cat they have been known to sneak out of the house for a change of scenery.

Coyote Update

The coyote incident reporting form is available on the Town of Somers website. We encourage you to use the form should any incidents involving coyotes arise. Questions regarding hazing techniques should be directed to Somers Animal Control Officers. As always if you have any questions or concerns regarding animals, wild or domestic, feel free to call Somers Animal Control at 860-763-0623.

As a reminder if you see a coyote, with a pup, do not attempt to haze that particular coyote.