

# Welcome!

## Contending with Vertebrate Pests Around Schools



### Reminders

- ▶ Check your speaker settings if you don't hear music now
- ▶ Participants' mics will remain muted
- ▶ Download the presentation from the Files Pod
- ▶ Use the Chat and Q&A Pods to enter comments/questions
- ▶ Questions will be addressed during the Q&A or later by email





# Contending with Vertebrate Pests Around Schools

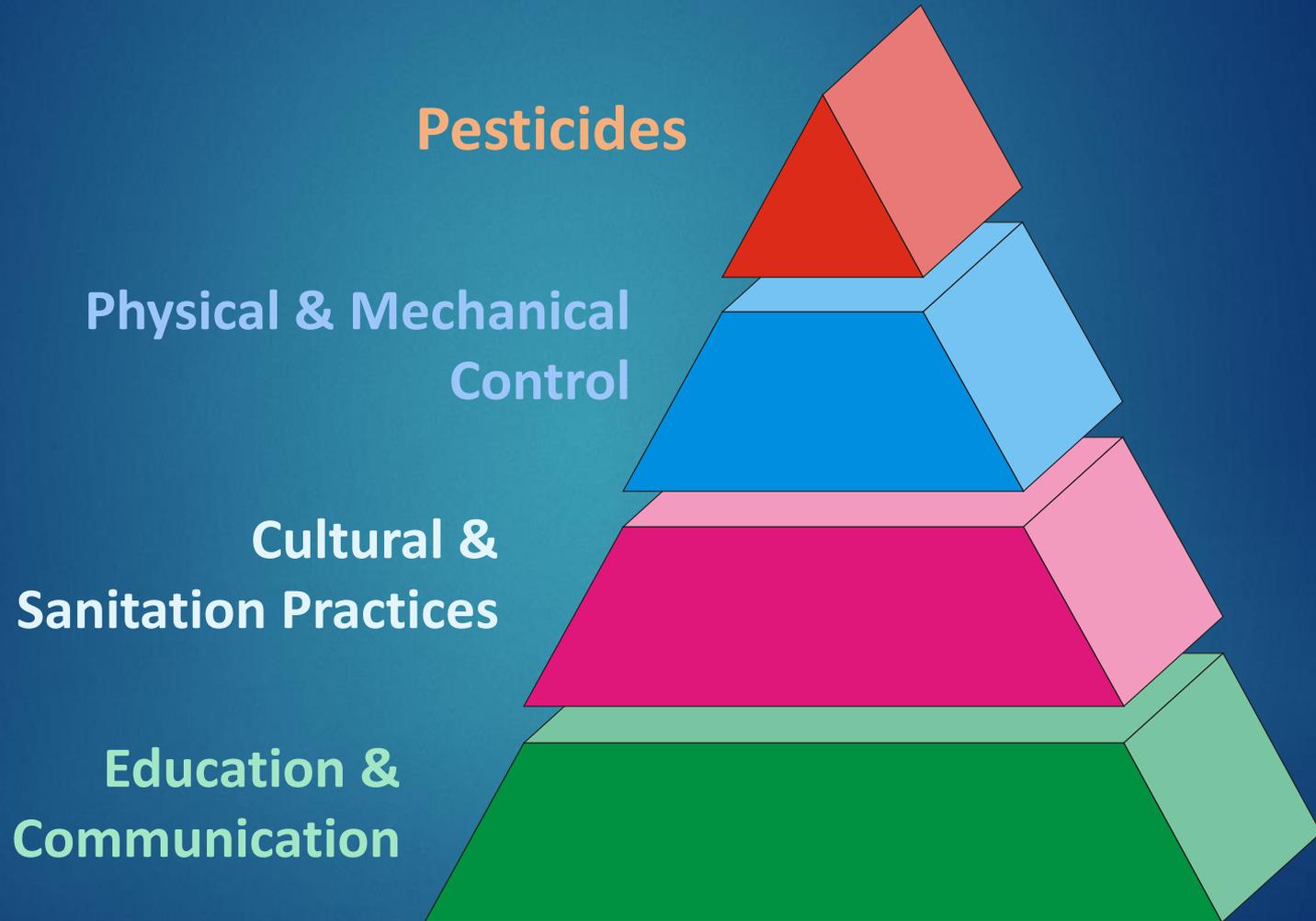
# IPM Refresher



- ▶ Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a smarter, usually less costly option for effective pest management in the school community.
- ▶ A school IPM program employs common sense strategies to reduce sources of food, water and shelter for pests in your school buildings and grounds.
- ▶ IPM programs take advantage of all pest management strategies, including the judicious use of pesticides.



# IPM Basics



# School IPM Key Concepts

- ▶ Inspection, monitoring and identification of pests
- ▶ Pest prevention and avoidance through exclusion and sanitation
- ▶ Treatments minimize impacts on health and the environment
- ▶ Everyone has a role - custodians, teachers, students, principals, and pest management professionals



# Benefits of School IPM

- ▶ **Smart:** addresses the root cause of pest problems
- ▶ **Sensible:** provides a healthier learning environment
- ▶ **Sustainable:** better long-term control of pests
- ▶ **Savings:** may reduce energy and pest management costs over time



# Most Common Vertebrate Pests

## What we will cover today:

- ▶ Squirrels,
- ▶ Raccoons, Foxes,
- ▶ Feral Cats
- ▶ Deer, Black Bears



## What was covered in a past webinar:

- ▶ Rodents (Mice and Rats)



## What will be covered in future webinars:

- ▶ Bats
- ▶ Moles, Voles and Gophers in Turf Pest Webinar



# Presenters



## Stephen Vantassel

- Author, Consultant, Expert on Wildlife Damage Mgmt.
- Former coordinator - Internet Center for Wildlife Damage, UNL School of Natural Resources
- Program Coordinator for One Health Nebraska
- Ph.D. dissertation on humans' relationship with animals
- Widely published magazine and journal articles, and two books, *The Wildlife Removal Handbook* and the *Wildlife Damage Inspection Handbook*



## Mark Hardin

- IPM Specialist, Howard Co. (MD) Public School System
- Previously Entomologist and IPM Coordinator, Smithsonian Institution
- Co-author of numerous scientific publications



## Marcia Anderson

- EPA's Center of Expertise for School IPM
- PhD in Environmental Management
- Landscape Architect,



# Control of Tree Squirrels



STEPHEN M. VANTASSEL CWCPT™  
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# Tree Squirrels

- ▶ Gray/Fox Squirrels
- ▶ Red Squirrels
- ▶ Flying Squirrels

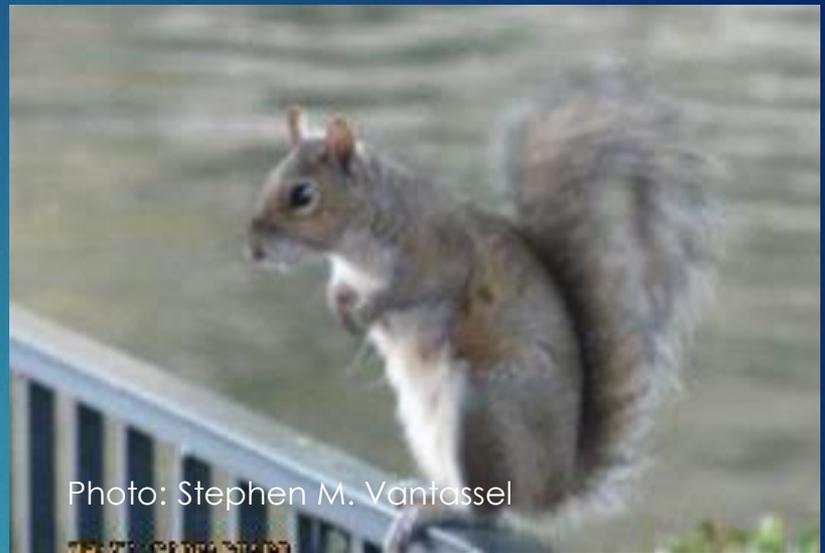


Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Ken Thomas

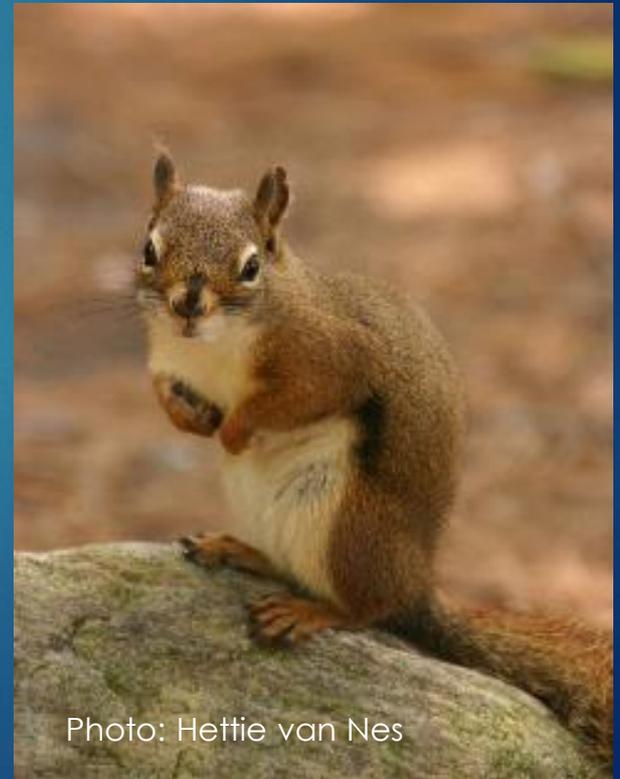


Photo: Hettie van Nes



# Gray/Fox Squirrels

- ▶ Gray squirrel has white-tipped hairs
- ▶ Fox squirrel has orange-tipped hairs
- ▶ Albino squirrels uncommon
- ▶ Black fox squirrels occur throughout the U.S.

Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

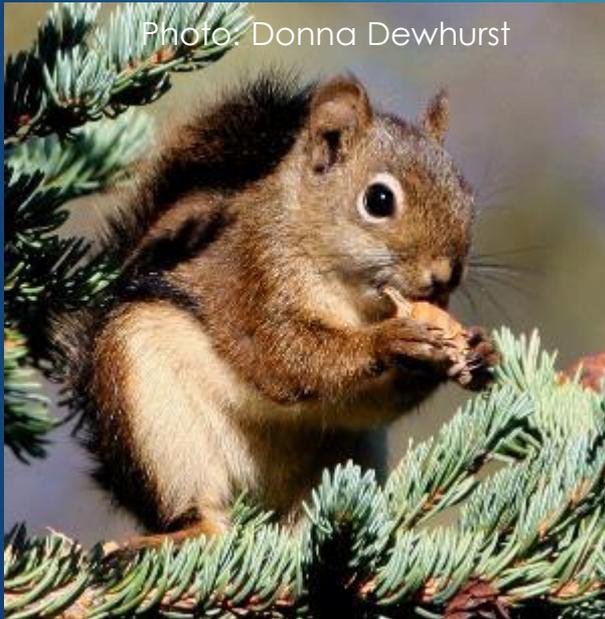


Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Red Squirrels & Flying Squirrels

- ▶ ½ size of gray/fox
- ▶ Evergreen trees
- ▶ Aggressive/vocal



- Smaller than reds
- Skin flaps & Flat tail
- Gregarious
- Mature woods
- Typhus



# Tree Squirrel Biology

- ▶ Fox/Grays 1 year of age.
  - ▶ Mate Jan and June.
  - ▶ Gestation ~45 days.
  - ▶ About 3 to 6 young occur in each litter.
- ▶ Fliers & Reds have similar biology
  - ▶ Mate spring (southern squirrels may mate 2x year)
  - ▶ Gestation ~33 days
  - ▶ 1 to 7 young



Gray squirrel pinkies



# Tree Squirrel Diet

- ▶ Gray/Fox

- ▶ Scatter cache
- ▶ Mast

- ▶ Red

- ▶ Hoard cache
- ▶ Will feed on eggs & small animals

- Flier
  - Don't store
  - Fungi



Photo: Ed Austin/Herb Jones



# Gray/Fox Squirrel Abilities

Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Middens

Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

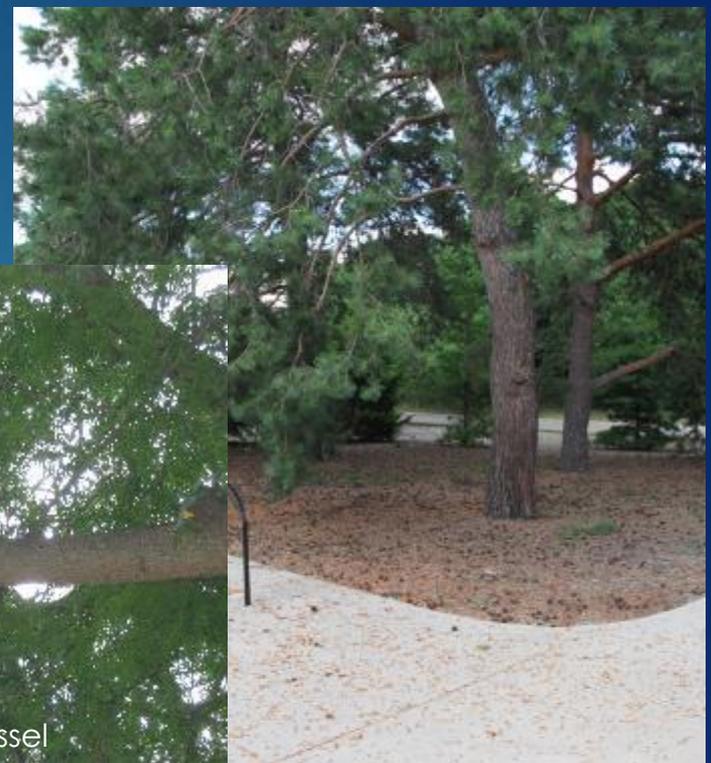


Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Hole Sizes

- ▶ Gray/Fox squirrel
  - ▶ 2 to 3 inches
  
- ▶ Red squirrel
  - ▶ >1-inch
  
- ▶ Flying squirrel
  - ▶ <1-inch

Photo: Cody escadron delta

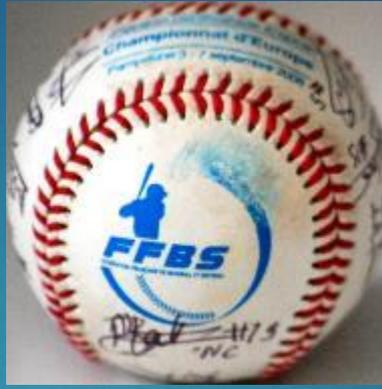


Photo: Paolo Neo



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Inspecting for Holes



# Gray/Fox Holes



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

## Reds

- ▶ Can enter at ground level



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

# Flying Squirrel Sign



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Habitat Modification

Cut back branches 10'  
from roof



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

Secure trash cans



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



“Squirrel-proofed” Feeder



# Resource on Proofing Feeders

<http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/epublic/live/ec1783/build/ec1783.pdf>

Or search terms

“UNL NebGuide

Selective Bird Feeding”



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Know how. Know now.

EC1783

## Selective Bird Feeding: Deterring Nuisance Wildlife from Bird Feeders

**Lisa Pennisi, Assistant Professor of Practice, School of Natural Resources**  
**Stephen M. Vantassel, Project Coordinator — Wildlife Damage Management**

Feeding birds is a fascinating activity and a wonderful way to connect families and children with nature. Attracting songbirds, for example, allows us to watch their behavior, listen to their songs and calls, appreciate their beauty, develop observation skills, and enjoy nature in our backyards.

Unfortunately, bird feeders often attract unwanted guests that can cause a great deal of expense by consuming seed, damaging feeders, and even invading your home. This Extension Circular offers practical solutions to attract the birds you want while keeping out squirrels (Figure 1), mice, rats, chipmunks, raccoons, deer, opossums, insects, and non-native and undesirable birds such as starlings, House Sparrows, and pigeons.

### Strategies for Deterring Unwanted Wildlife

For best results, implement as many of the following strategies as possible, and continuously monitor for effectiveness. While these strategies are effective, some animals are more persistent and may require additional effort.



Figure 1. Fox squirrels can scale shepherd's crook henners.

# Secure Vents & Chimneys



Wrong



# Secure Openings

- ▶ Stink Pipes
  - ▶ Squirrels become trapped in these.
  - ▶ A.K.A. Roof Vent Pipe Covers
  - ▶ Use caution in northern climates
- Ridge-vents
  - Frequently not secured.



# Baffles



CritterGuard™ and homemade devices.

Only utility professionals should work on power lines



# Tree & Post Guards

- ▶ Flashing
  - ▶ 3ft wide
  - ▶ At least 4 ft. above ground
  - ▶ 1/4-inch shives between tree & flashing
  - ▶ Overlap for growth



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Frightening Devices

Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# USELESS



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

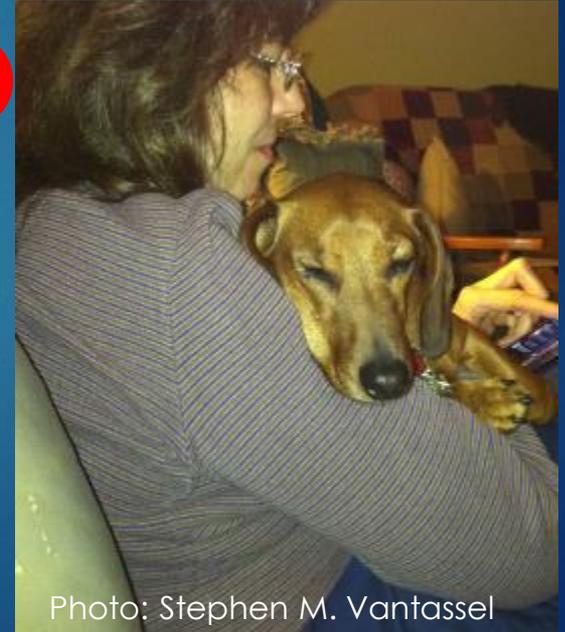


Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Hazing—Being Unwelcoming

- ▶ *May* work at a den site
- ▶ Be persistent. Success may take weeks.
  - ▶ Pole rattling at hole
  - ▶ Lights, i.e. strobes



Strobe lights are touted but no scientific research to back them



# Repellents—limited use

- ▶ Predator Urine
  - ▶ Fox & Coyote--
- ▶ Taste Repellents
  - ▶ Use where squirrels gnaw
  - ▶ E.g. Havahart Critter Ridder
    - ▶ Capsaicin, Black pepper, Piperidine
  - ▶ E.g Ropel®
    - ▶ Denatonium saccharide



# NO MOTHBALLS



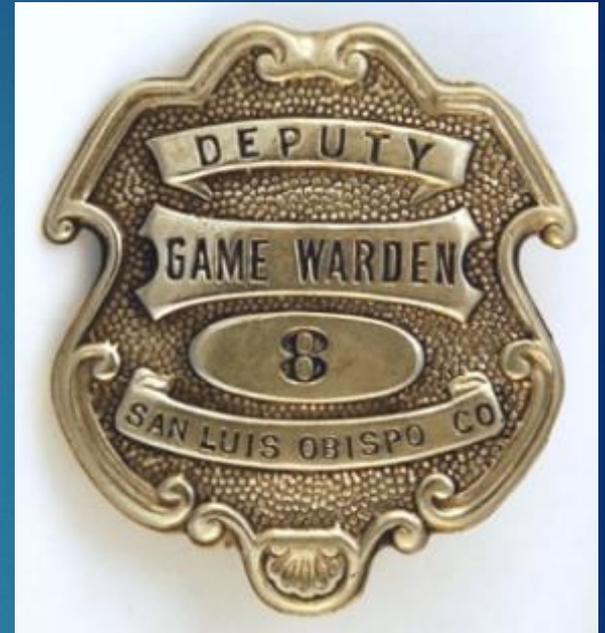
Photo: Magnus Manske

- ▶ Naphthalene-anticipated carcinogen
- ▶ Paradichlorobenzene-possible carcinogen
- ▶ Injurious to animals
  - ▶ Abdominal pain, vomiting, seizures, & tremors
  - ▶ Kidney damage
  - ▶ Liver damage



# Legalities

- ▶ Tree squirrels are typically protected by state game laws.
- ▶ Some communities ban the use of certain devices to control wildlife.
- ▶ Check laws carefully before initiating control.



# Toxic Baits & Fumigants

- ▶ None registered for tree squirrels
- ▶ Unclear how many squirrels killed by toxicants due to improper claims of “mice”.



# Trapping Safety

- ▶ Wear appropriate safety equipment, e.g. gloves when handling traps and animals
- ▶ Avoid setting traps in areas with high human/pet traffic
- ▶ **Check traps daily.** Don't set them if you can't check them the next day



# Humane Cage Trapping

- ▶ Use smallest size cage traps
- ▶ 5x5x18" spring-loaded door
- ▶ Cover 50% of cage
- ▶ Consider weather conditions



# Trapping Gray/Fox

- ▶ Location, location
- ▶ Off the ground is best (be sure they are secure!)
- ▶ Set traps along travel route



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Trapping-Grays/Fox

- ▶ Kania Trap
- ▶ Tunnel Traps (UK Humane standard)



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

Set lethal traps out of reach and public view.



# Trapping (Reds/Fliers)

- ▶ Use enough rat traps.
- ▶ Set traps inside protective container when trapping outside.
- ▶ Pre-bait
- ▶ Baited with peanut butter and seeds.
- ▶ Keep out of view of birds.



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# One-way Doors

- ▶ Outside nesting season
- ▶ Harden the house
- ▶ Good to use in conjunction with traps
- ▶ Excellent on flyers



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Trapping-Positive



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

Good to use in conjunction with baited traps

Guaranteed to catch “guilty” squirrels



# Knowing You're Finished



Avoid powerlines

Monitor paper for at least **3 days** during good weather



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# Disposition

- ▶ Relocation-not practical unless rescue
- ▶ Translocation-not humane, possibly illegal



Photo: Dirk Franke



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Disposition

## Never kill squirrels in public view

- ▶ Euthanasia
  - ▶ CO<sub>2</sub>
- ▶ Humane Killing
  - ▶ Drowning

## Carcass Disposal

- ▶ Trash (3mm bags; ask trash company)
- ▶ Cremation



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

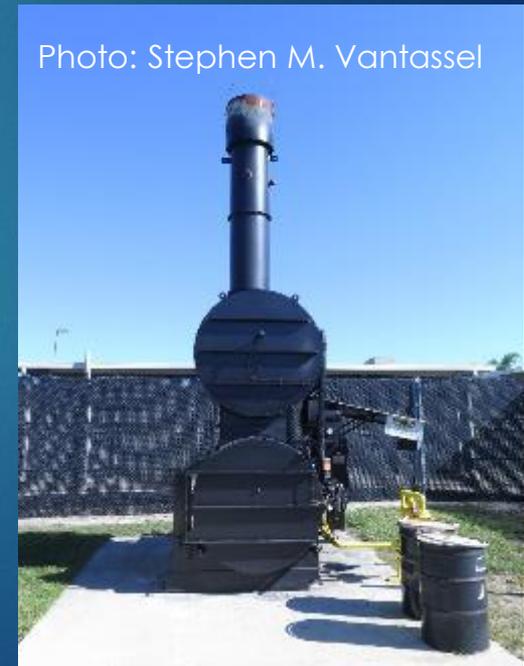


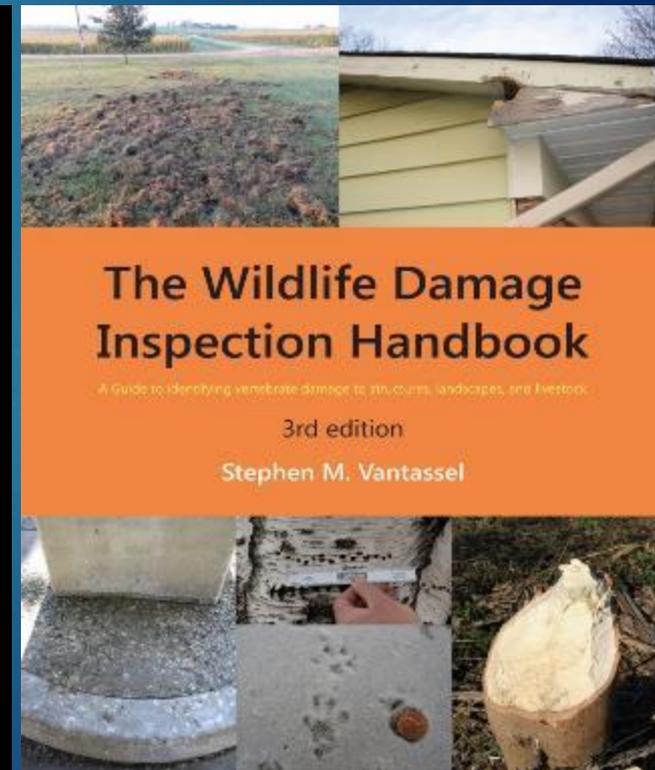
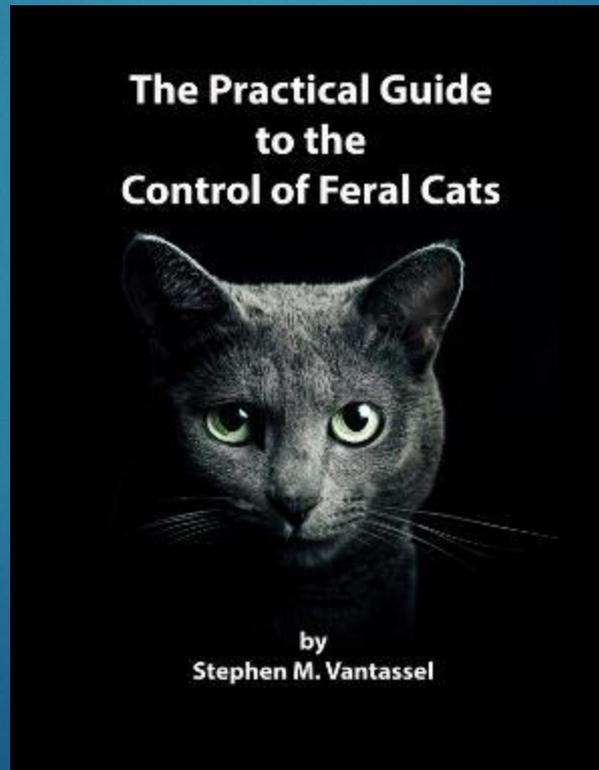
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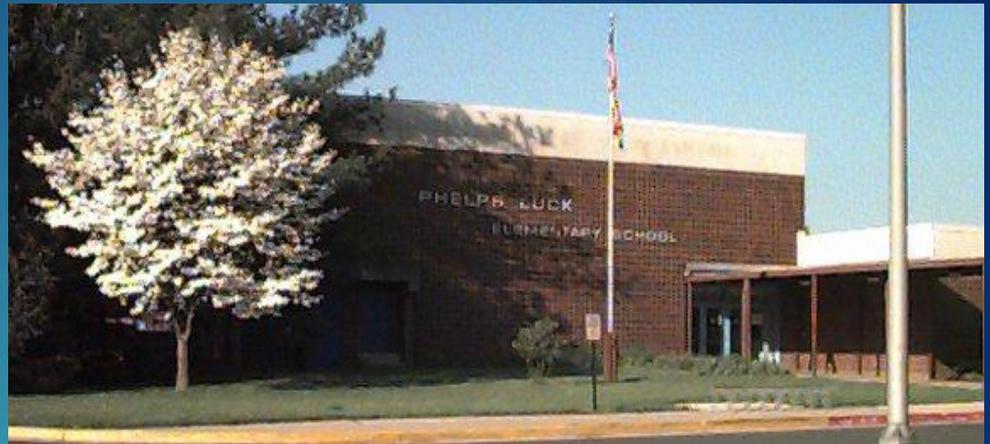


# Questions?



- ▶ Stephen M. Vantassel
- ▶ [stephenvantassel@hotmail.com](mailto:stephenvantassel@hotmail.com)
- ▶ <http://wildlifecontrolconsultant.com>





Mark R. Hardin

IPM Specialist

Howard County Public  
School System



# Vertebrate Pests and School IPM

- ▶ DO WE NEED TO CONTROL THEM?
- ▶ A number of factors will determine whether we will use control tactics to control

# Vertebrate Pests and School IPM - QUESTIONS

- ▶ What animals frequent your school properties?
- ▶ What is their Biology?
  - ▶ Range?
  - ▶ Food?
  - ▶ Nesting/Denning locations?
- ▶ Are there safety risks involved in their presence?
  - ▶ Do their dens or burrows create a safety risk?
  - ▶ Do they potentially pose a health hazard?
- ▶ Why are they on School property? (food issue?, neighborhood sanitation issues, Denning or living there?)

# Will we try to control or remove them from school property?

## ▶ MAYBE!

- ▶ If they, or their activities, are a risk to students, staff, or visitors to schools – YES
- ▶ If they are part of the normal environment and pose no direct risks – NO
- ▶ If regulatory restrictions prohibit control (bats during certain times of year) – NO
- ▶ If they can humanely be caught and removed and they are potentially a risk – YES? MAYBE?

# Knowing normal and evaluating the health of wildlife



- ▶ If Rabies is suspected, not only move to trap or control wildlife, but also contact local Wildlife Control Offices
- ▶ Know behavior: Ex. Raccoons have in some areas become acclimated to being active during day when our trash and food is available
- ▶ Recognize issues such as mange – not human health issue, but dangerous for wildlife

# Common issue: Mange



HEALTHY FOX

Fox with Mange are often reported as Rabid or as another animal including legendary Cryptid creatures like a Chupacabra

FOX WITH ADVANCED MANG



Michelle Strom Gazette.net

# Examples

- ▶ Groundhogs who dig burrows under classrooms, or in places where the dens are tripping hazards require removal, those on field edges do not
- ▶ Healthy Fox, Skunk or other animals whose dens are on our property or are not in a risky place often require no control effort.
- ▶ Even some unhealthy animals (i.e. Fox with Mange who are not denning on our property) are often not subject to trapping – it would be ineffective on our property and there is no direct human health risk. This is subject to the behavior of the animals – are they shy around people?, etc.
- ▶ Deer who feed and move through school property are not always subject to control measures (but see Dr. Anderson's presentation in this program)

# Other Factors

- ▶ Trash and trash receptacle management



# A Nuisance wildlife story

- ▶ A deck
- ▶ an entomologist
- ▶ A Principal
- ▶ Two Pest control technicians
- ▶ One QA officer/Expert



The Problem? Fox scat on the ramps and decks of portable classrooms, every morning requiring staff to clean the ramps before school opens



# A Nuisance wildlife story

▶ A family of fox



▶ Dogs and their owners

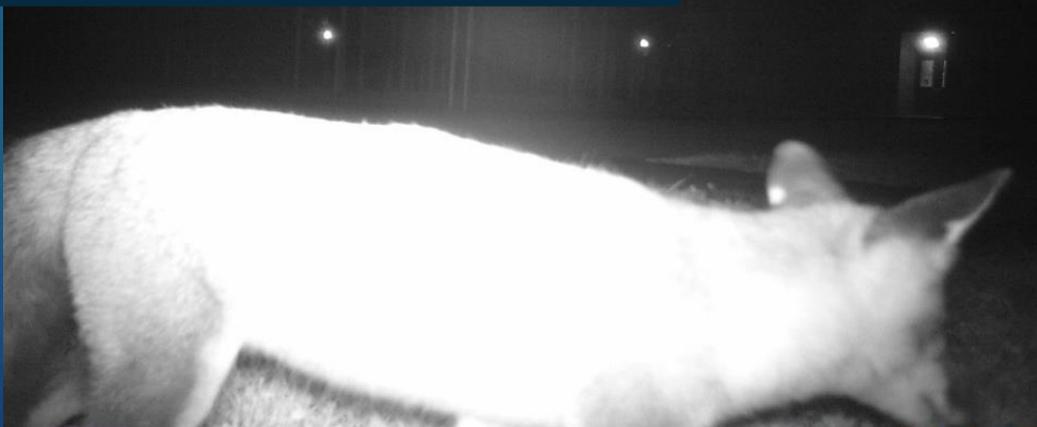






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PRIMOS



064F

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TRUTH CAM35

# Solution



- ▶ Involved:
  - ▶ School staff – Principal/Custodial
  - ▶ Facility staff – IPM Specialist
  - ▶ Contracted staff – PC Technicians/QA officer
  - ▶ Community involvement (Dog walkers)
  - ▶ Technology – truthCam
  - ▶ Investigation – biology of fox and territories

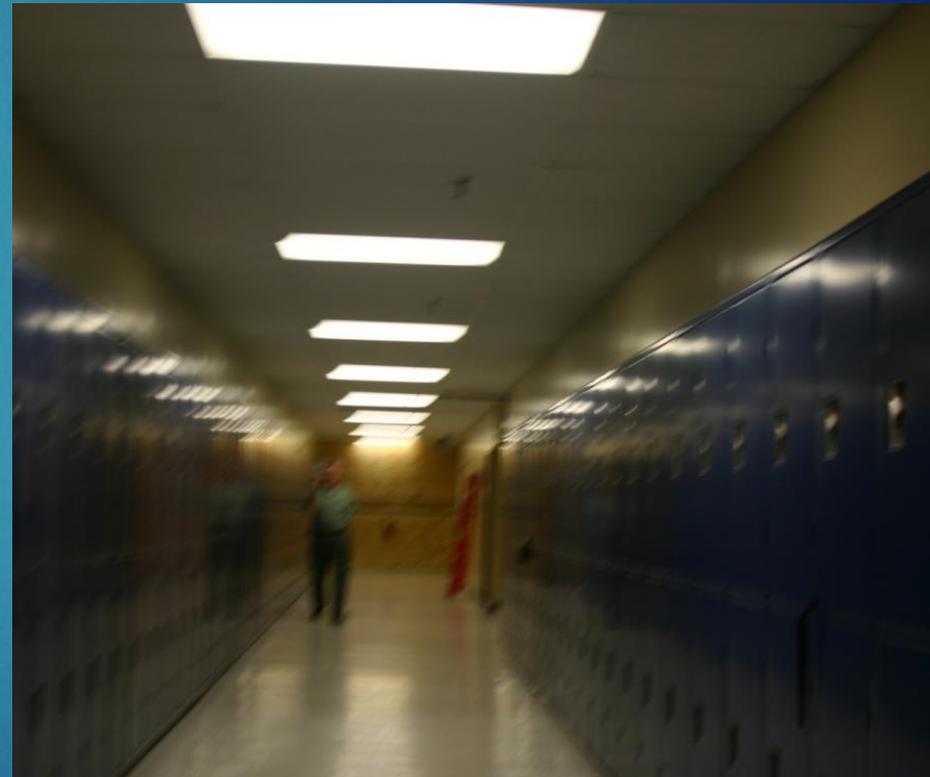
# Another Nuisance wildlife story

- ▶ The Science hallway had a visitor

Before, the media center had a visitor that was trapped and removed

The school was under construction and had many entry points and trash issues.

Just in case: ANY wildlife in the school NEEDS removal



The Science hallway had a visitor



Inside classroom was evidence of entry by the raccoons and even footprints on the wall – some bloody where they had injured themselves getting in and out





R.I.P.

Kermit

&

Backie.

(You will be missed!)

May 8, 2006

Cherry, Purple, Yellow  
and Red

Cherry

Ceiling tile material had dropped down into some of the classroom supplies











Photo: Erin Farrell

# Wildlife and Schools



- ▶ Wildlife are part of the environment surrounding our schools/our schools are part of their environment
- ▶ Not all need trapping or control
- ▶ Understanding their biology and behavior is essential to determining when control is necessary
- ▶ When wildlife pose a real health risk they need removal or we may need to alter our environment or the wildlife's behavior to assure a safe school environment

# Control of Feral Cats



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

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# Problem #1-The Law

## Domestic

- Animal Control
- None
- Cruelty laws



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

## Wild/Feral

- Div. of Wildlife
- Hunting seasons
- Wanton waste laws



Photo: USFWS



# Problem of Identification

Indoor  
Cat

Owned

Free  
Range  
Cat

Feral  
Cat

Not Owned



# Gap in the Law

Animal Control?

Division of Wildlife?



Who controls Feral Cats?

Bottom line-

Make sure you find out before

**ANY LETHAL CONTROL OF FERAL CATS!!!**



# Problem #2-Public Relations

## ► Feral Cat Lobby

- Vocal
- Relentless

## Key Groups

- Alley Cat Allies
- HSUS
- Host of local groups
- Self-appointed crusaders

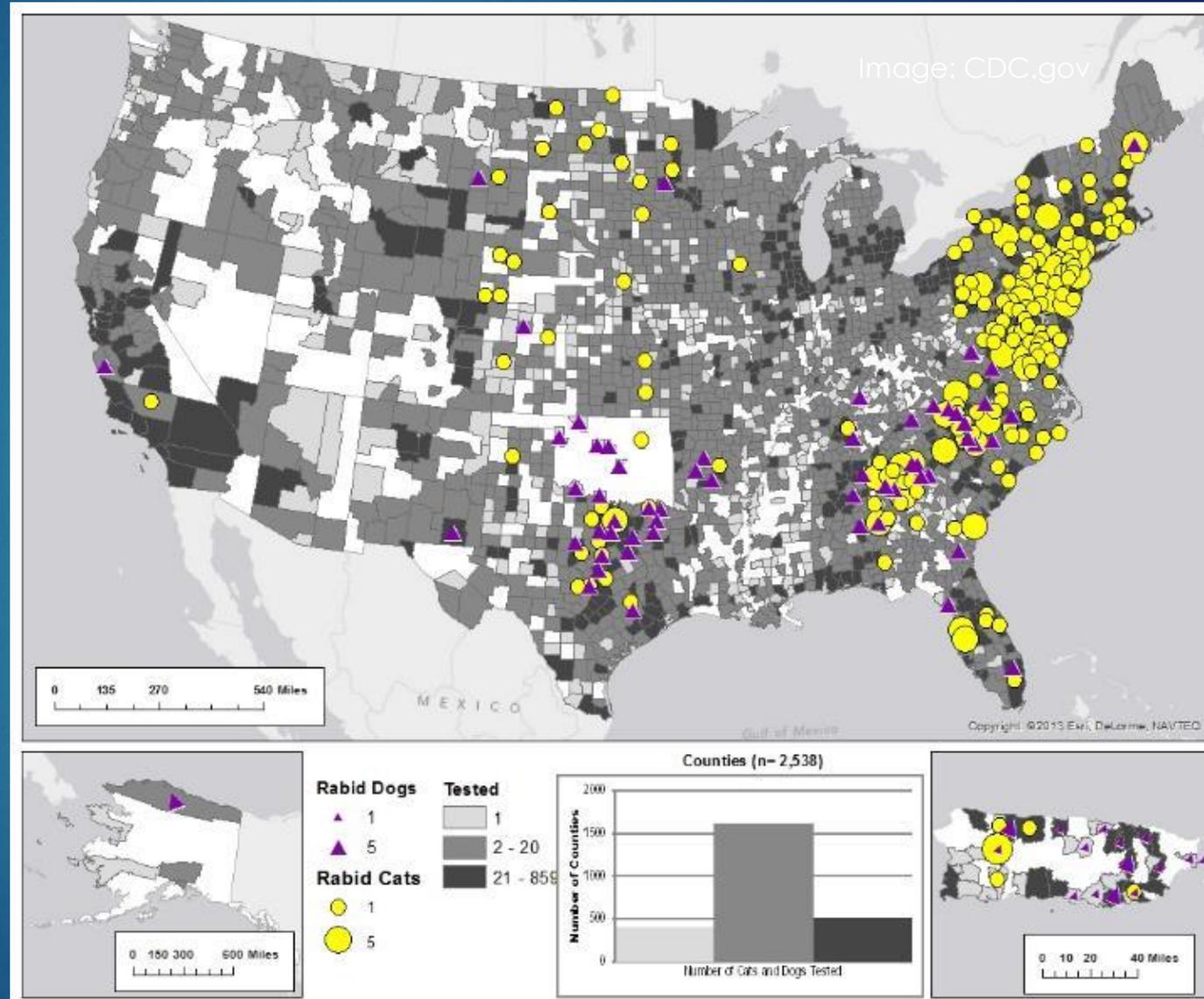


Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Why Control Free-range Cats?

- ▶ Disease
  - ▶ Rabies
  - ▶ 2012



# Why Control Free-range Cats?

- ▶ Disease
  - ▶ Toxoplasmosis
    - ▶ Survives in soil up to 18 months<sup>1</sup>
    - ▶ Children exposure increases risk of skizophrenia<sup>2</sup>
    - ▶ Significant risks for immunocompromised



# Exclusion

- ▶ Secure hiding places
- ▶ Cover sand boxes
- ▶ Stop feeders



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Trapping Safety

- ▶ Wear appropriate safety equipment, e.g. gloves when handling traps and animals
- ▶ Avoid setting traps in areas with high human/pet traffic
- ▶ **Check traps daily.** Don't set them if you can't check them the next day.
- ▶ Ideally, check two or more times a day



# Cage Trapping

- ▶ Estimate pop. size
- ▶ Use 10x12x30 cage traps or larger for each cat
- ▶ Cover 50% of cage
- ▶ Consider weather conditions
- ▶ Pre-bait for several days prior to trapping!



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Baiting



Photo: Stephen-M. Vantassel

- ▶ Dry Cat Food
- ▶ Catnip
- ▶ Chicken skin
- ▶ Moist cat food

● **BE PREPARED to catch skunks!!!**



# Trapping Tips

- ▶ Location, location
- ▶ Set traps along travel route
- ▶ Soil or padding on cage floor
- ▶ Hide traps
- ▶ Use two-door traps (8x8x30) at pinch points



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Knowing You're Finished

- Cork holes with newspaper
- Stick test
- Monitor paper for at least 3 days during good weather



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Disposition

## Never kill cats in public view

- ▶ Euthanasia
  - ▶ CO<sub>2</sub>
  - ▶ Humane Society
    - ▶ Adoption
    - ▶ Lethal injection

## Carcass Disposal

- ▶ Trash (3mm bags; ask trash company)
- ▶ Cremation



Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel

Photo: Stephen M. Vantassel



# Resource on Cat Control

<http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/epublic/liv/e/ec1781/build/ec1781.pdf>

Or search terms

“UNL NebGuide  
Feral Cats”

Nebraska **EXTENSION**  
Lincoln Know how. Know now.

EC1781

## Feral Cats and Their Management

Aaron M. Hildreth, Project Technician—School of Natural Resources  
Stephen M. Vantassel, Wildlife Damage Project Coordinator  
Scott E. Hygnstrom, Vertebrate Pest Specialist

### Introduction

Feral cats are domestic cats that have gone wild (Figure 1). They cause significant losses to populations of native birds, small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, can transmit several diseases such as rabies and toxoplasmosis, and may be a general nuisance. However, many people are sympathetic to feral cats and provide food and care for them. Managing feral cat populations is controversial. Before choosing a management strategy, it is important to understand public interest and research-based information regarding management options. This Extension Circular provides research-based information on the management of feral cats.



Figure 1. Feral cats roam freely across urban and rural areas. (Photo Credit: Austin Hill)

### What are Feral Cats?

used to reduce the number of mice and rats that resided around settlements. Over time, the process of domestication changed the wild cat into a separate species called the domestic or house cat (*Felis catus*).

Today, domestic cats can be classified into four categories (indoor, limited-range, free-range, or feral), based on whether they are owned, tame, or acclimated to human contact, and allowed to roam extensively outside (Table 1).

Owned cats are under the direct care of an owner; likely to have access to medicines, and receive medical care and vaccinations. Indoor cats are tame and confined to their owner's home or other buildings. Limited-range cats are tame and allowed outside but typically do not leave the owner's or neighboring properties. Free-range cats, such as barn cats, are not confined by their owner. Food and water are often provided daily, but the cats are allowed to roam freely on and off of the property. Some free-range cats are tame, while others

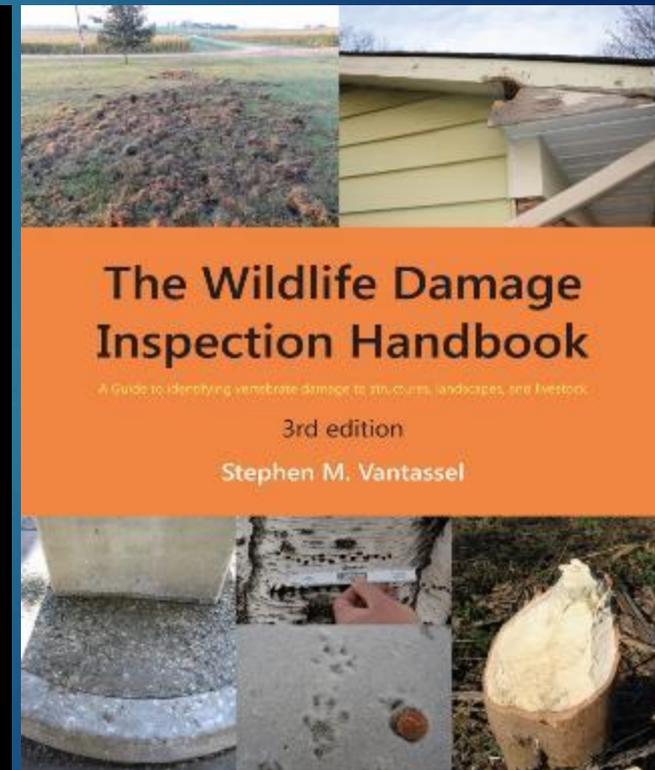
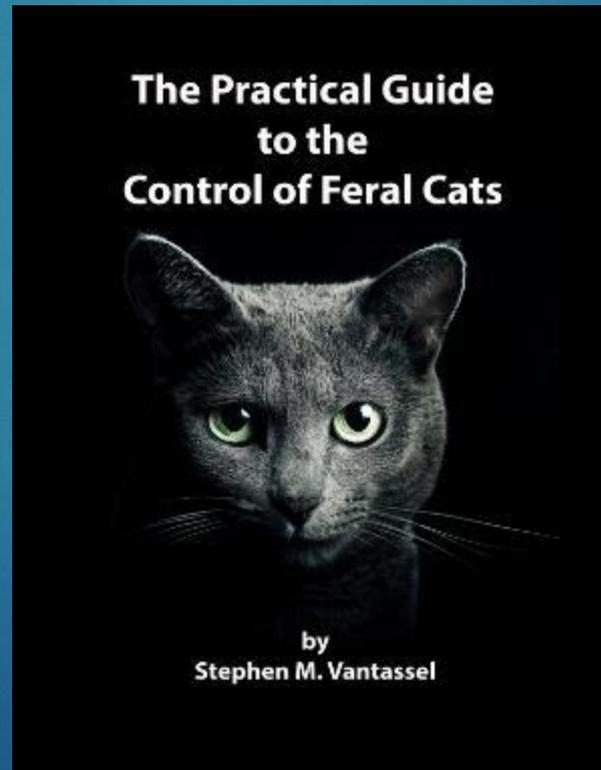
Classification	Owned	Tame	Allowed Outside
Indoor	Yes	Yes	No
Limited-range	Yes	Yes	Yes, but confined to owner's or neighboring property
Free-range	Yes	Yes and No	Yes
Feral	No	No	Yes



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# Questions?

- ▶ Stephen M. Vantassel
- ▶ [stephenvantassel@hotmail.com](mailto:stephenvantassel@hotmail.com)
- ▶ <http://wildlifecontrolconsultant.com>





# Contending with Vertebrate Pests Around Schools

Center of Expertise for School IPM

# Exclude Deer



- Deer are hungriest in Spring
- Deer are primary hosts of ticks

# Exclude Deer with Fencing

- ▶ Exclude deer to control ticks
- ▶ 8- 10' fencing is most effective
- ▶ Tall, deer-resistant shrubs near fence
- ▶ Irregular fence top
- ▶ Double fence
- ▶ Angled fence
- ▶ Exclusion wire atop 8' fence
- ▶ Slanted, 7-wire fence
- ▶ Fishing line

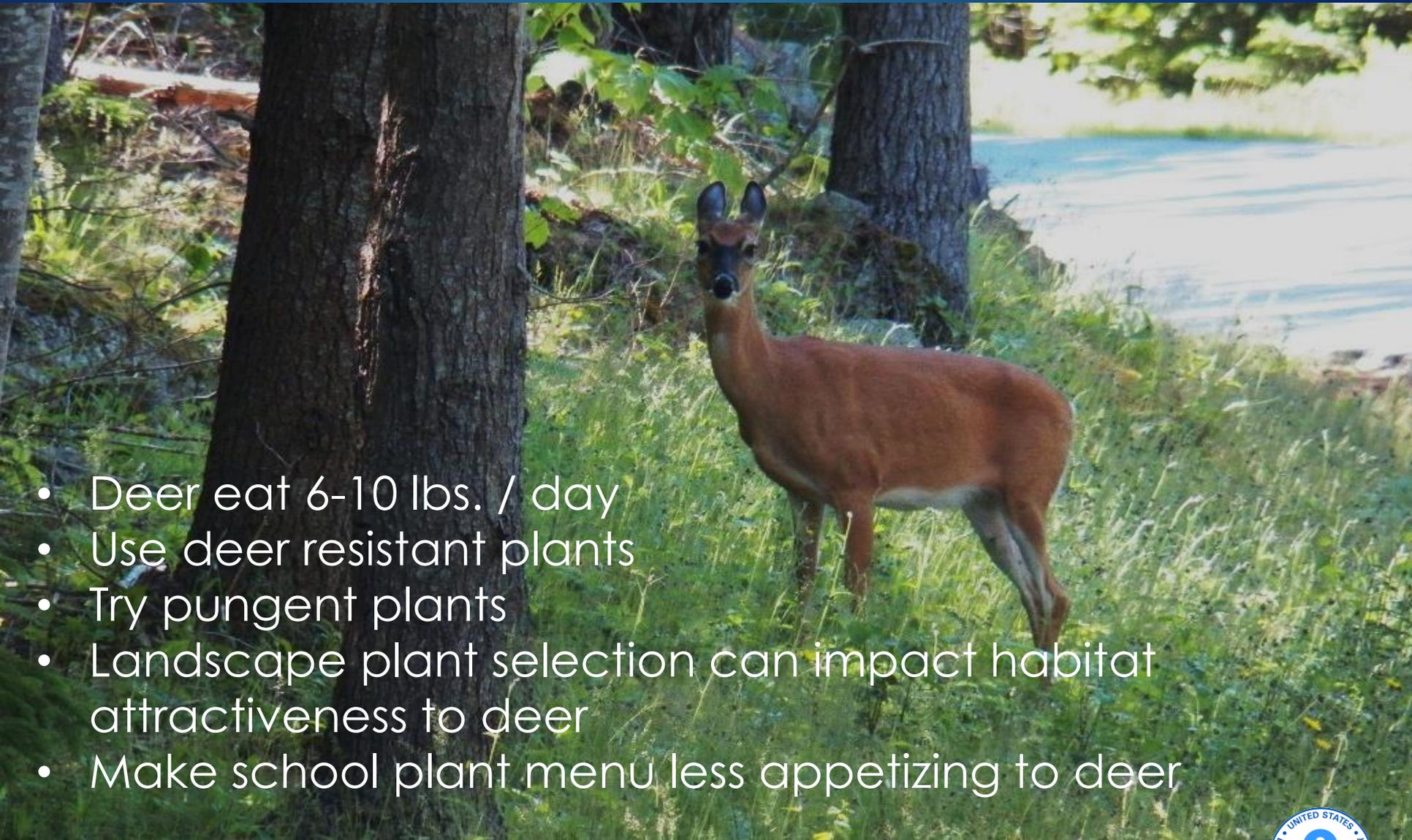


# More on Deer Exclusion



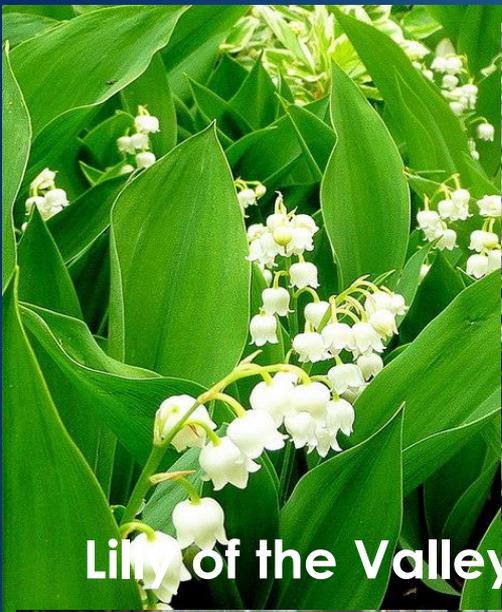
- ▶ Hungry deer are persistent
- ▶ Protect trees from browsing
- ▶ Discourage feeding deer

# Plant Selection Impacts Deer Attraction



- Deer eat 6-10 lbs. / day
- Use deer resistant plants
- Try pungent plants
- Landscape plant selection can impact habitat attractiveness to deer
- Make school plant menu less appetizing to deer

# Deer Resistant Plants



Lily of the Valley



Liriope



Sage



Daffodil



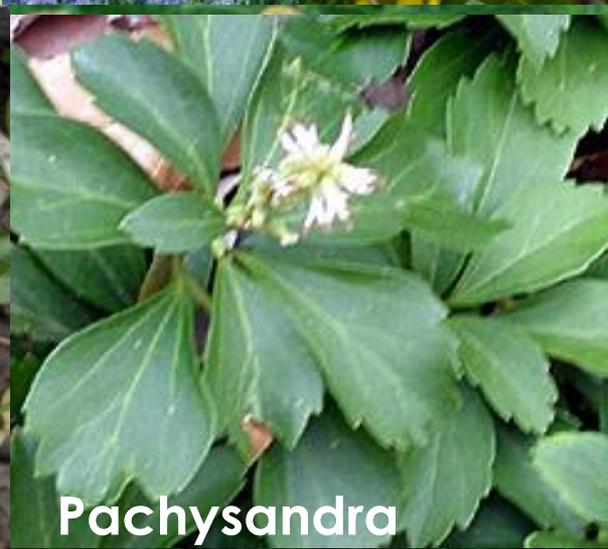
Lavender



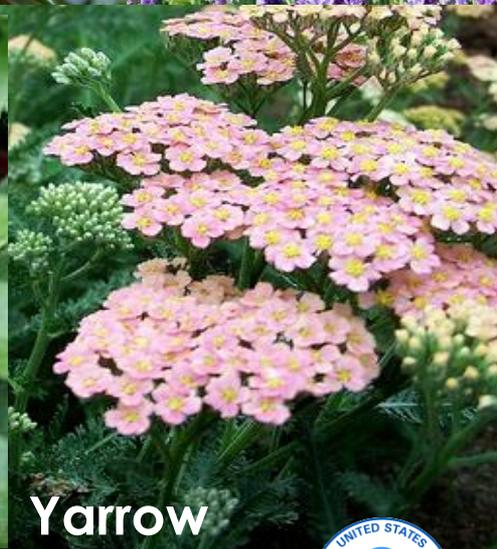
Lambs Ear



Myrtle



Pachysandra



Yarrow

# Deer Resistant Shrubs



# Plants Susceptible to Deer Browsing



Impatiens



Tulips



Shasta Daisy



Hosta



Sunflower



Coneflower

# Plants Susceptible to Deer Browsing



Dogwood



Apple



Holly



Azalea



Rhododendron



Arborvitae

# Deer Repellents

- ▶ Most need reapplication after rain
- ▶ Rotate through the growing season to avoid acclimation
- ▶ Some target the sense of smell
- ▶ Some deterred by taste
- ▶ Many are EPA and state regulated
- ▶ Check your state regulations



# Non-Chemical Deterrents

- ▶ Sewage fertilizer or mulch product
- ▶ Aluminum pie pans
- ▶ Flashing lights
- ▶ Motion activated lights
- ▶ Motion activated sprinklers



# Habitat Modification



- ▶ Trim trees and brush allowing sunlight to penetrate
- ▶ Reduce moisture to reduce tick habitat
- ▶ Keep grass mowed
- ▶ Remove leaf litter at lawn edge

- Keep playground equipment away from woodland edges
- Trim trees and shrubs at woodland edges to for less deer browsing
- Create 3' wood chip or gravel border between turf and woods

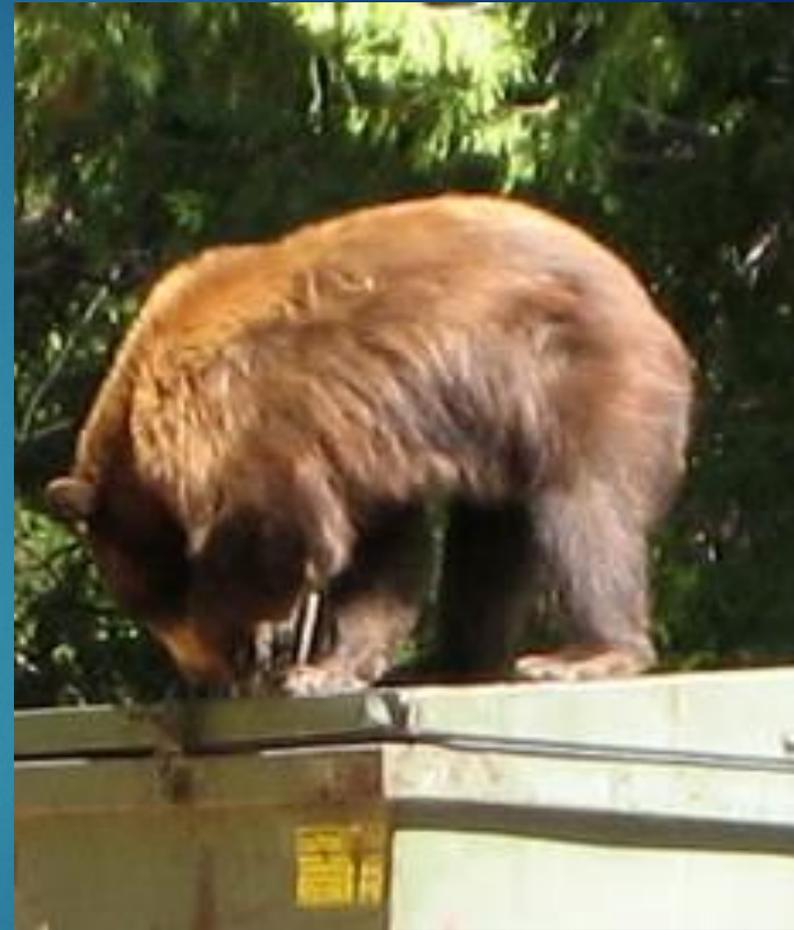
# Please Don't Feed the Bears

- ▶ Garbage is the #1 bear attractant
- ▶ As populations increase - more people live and recreate in areas occupied by bears
- ▶ Human-bear conflicts are increasing
- ▶ Bears can smell food from over a mile away
- ▶ Normally bears are shy
- ▶ Their need to find food overwhelms fear



# Bear Characteristics

- ▶ Black Bears – males 600+lbs
- ▶ Omnivores
- ▶ Color: Black, brown, reddish
- ▶ Range 10-50 miles
- ▶ Not typically aggressive
- ▶ Breed at 2-3 years in NJ; 5-6 years in MT (Suburbia v/s wilderness)
- ▶ Cubs stay with mom 2 winters



# Garbage: Recipe for Damage and Disaster



- ▶ Bears easily become dependent of food source
- ▶ Dependency on un-natural food = disaster and damage
- ▶ Takes weeks to reacclimate
- ▶ Bear /Human conflicts caused by ignorance

# Use Bear Resistant Dumpsters



- Secure garbage
- Bear resistant containers, shed, caddy, dumpsters
  - Reduces bear incidents
- Never overload dumpsters
- Tie bags, keep lids closed tight to reduce smells
- Place – do not throw
- Heavy fencing - electric

# Have a Bear Plan



- ▶ Everyone is in a safe place
- ▶ Bear has clear escape route
- ▶ Scare the bear: loud noise
- ▶ Scan for what attracted the bear
- ▶ Secure food source
- ▶ Plan for event days

# Educate: Be Bear Aware

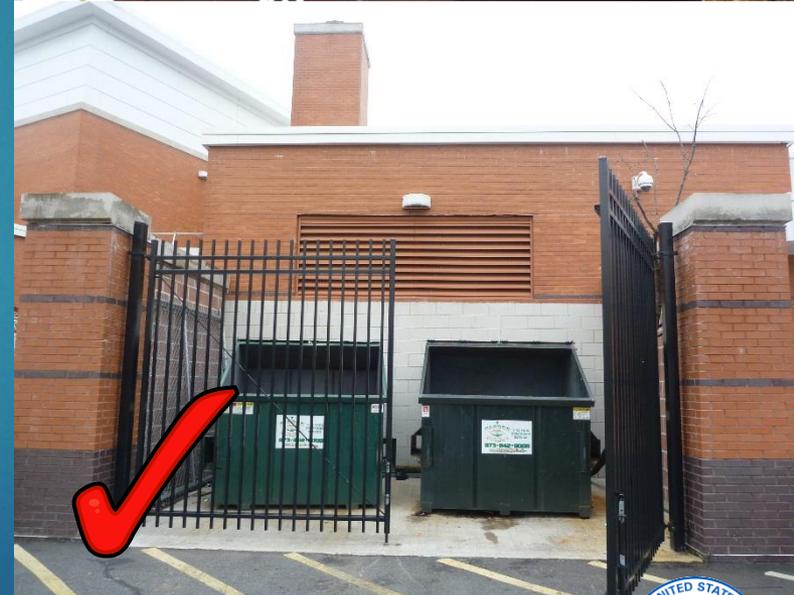
- ▶ Educate surrounding neighborhood
- ▶ School distribute bear awareness fliers home
- ▶ PTA / HAS; Youth: 4-H / Scouts
- ▶ Feeding bears is illegal in many states
- ▶ Meet with local wildlife agency for more information



# Surrounding Neighborhood

## More on Education:

- ▶ Bears will eat anything
- ▶ Compost attracts
- ▶ Birdfeeders and seed attract
- ▶ Pet food attracts
- ▶ Outdoor grills, fire pits
- ▶ Fruiting trees and dropped fruit attract



# Steps to Prevent Most Pests



- ▶ Place Garbage containers away from building entrances
- ▶ Dumpsters should have close-fitting lids and be kept closed
- ▶ Report holes or breaks to waste management vendor to replace
- ▶ Keep area around dumpsters clean and free of debris
- ▶ Clean garbage cans & dumpsters frequently- prevent waste build-up
- ▶ Keep dumpsters on a hard impermeable surface

Photo: Thurner Hoff



Questions?

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