## HOW TO DETER WILD ANIMALS YARD CLEANUP CHECKLIST

Wild Animals will keep returning to your property if they can find easy sources of food, water or shelter. Before deploying any repellents or deterrents, remove all attractants from your garden or yard.

<ol> <li>Do not feed wildlife. This teaches animals that humans are a source of food. We want them to believe the opposite. Table scraps and leftovers should never be left outside.</li> </ol>
<ol> <li>Keep pet food indoors. Pet food left outdoors will attract wildlife to your property and can cause territorial behaviors to develop around that food source. Ask your neighbors to do the same.</li> </ol>
<ol> <li>Remove bird feeders and excess bird seed from your lawn. Bird seed will not only attract birds, but rodents, rabbits, squirrels and raccoon too, which will in turn attract larger predatory animals.</li> </ol>
<ol> <li>In the summer, remove fallen tree fruit. This attracts rodents, which will in turn attract larger predatory animals.</li> </ol>
<ol><li>Secure garbage and compost containers with tight fitting lids and 'bungee cords', making them inaccessible to scavenging animals.</li></ol>
<ol> <li>Keep pets indoors at night. Keep chicken coops or livestock pens locked and secure. Hardware cloth bent into an 'L' shape will discourage wild animals tunneling under pens or fences.</li> </ol>
<ol><li>Keep a clean and tidy yard. Remove old wood piles, junk piles, fallen trees, hollowed logs and long grass where animals can take shelter.</li></ol>
<ol> <li>Keep sheds and buildings in good repair. Fix any holes. Close off any crawl spaces or areas beneath decks and porches. Screen all attic, porch or foundation vents with heavy duty wire mesh.</li> </ol>
<ol> <li>Prune or remove tree limbs hanging over the roof. Cut back vines clinging to walls and trees. Seal up any broken soffits or vents around roofline or attics.</li> </ol>
10. Use fencing to reduce access to vegetable or ornamental gardens and ponds.

