



Peter the Original Possum & Bird Man

POSSUMS RATS BIRDS BEES TURKEYS BATS

Wildlife Evacuation & Proofing Newsletter

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SERVICES:

- Possum Removal
- Possum 'Proofing'
- Rat Treatments
- Pigeon Trapping
- Pigeon Shooting
- Pigeon Treatments
- Bird 'Proofing'
- Lice Treatments
- Bee Removal
- Wasp & Nest Removal
- Dead Inspections & Removal
- Male Brush Turkey Relocation
- Chimney Proofing

**POSSUM BOX / HOUSE
APRIL & MAY SPECIAL!
Only \$25, usually \$33**
when picked up from our
Head Office in Newmarket



Got things that go bump in the night?

We live in a land with an abundance of unusual wildlife and most of us have to come to terms with sharing our habitat with some of them. Many of our species are unique to this continent and all native wildlife in Australia is protected under law. This means that it cannot be caught, relocated or kept without a wildlife permit.

Cars, domestic cats, dogs and development all threaten the survival of much of our native wildlife including possums. As our urban sprawl expands into what was once native bush, the possum has had to find man-made alternatives to the hollow logs or holes in trees that it prefers to nest in during the day. Living in the suburbs means that loose roof tiles, under house storage or gaps on the roof structure provide an appealing nesting alternative.

The first sign of trouble may well be the incredibly loud thumping sound they make on your roof as they head out for the night. Apart from the damage they cause in the ceiling from extensive chewing, an annoying feature of having a possum sharing your home is the loud banging, scratching and bumping noises they make when they come back from their night's outing as they nestle in to sleep at the unfortunate hour of around four or five in the morning.

Possums are highly territorial creatures, using their scent to mark out a territory, including the access points to their nesting site. Once they have made your home their home, they will fiercely protect it against any other possums who try to move into their territory. The fights that ensue as a result can be very traumatic for the possums, as well as being extremely disruptive to the sleeping residents in the home.

As cute as they may look, possums have dangerously sharp claws and teeth and have been known to lash out and bite, so under no circumstances should you attempt to catch or handle the possum yourself. Once the furry invader has been evacuated, steps can then be taken to ensure that the access points to the home are blocked off to avoid any future damage or disruption. A small nesting box attached to a nearby tree in the garden is the kindest way to provide the evicted lodger with an alternative home so that it may continue to thrive in its' own territory without disruption to its' human neighbours.



HOW TO INSTALL A POSSUM BOX

Put the possum box in tree facing any direction other than West. Put it up a minimum of two metres, three to four metres is better. Use rope threaded through hose, to protect the tree. It is best to rub some fruit on the outside of the box and also place fruit in the box to encourage the possum into its new home. If the possum has not found the box after one month, you may want to try a different location. Possums can be as fussy about their homes as we are!

Pigeon poop a public liability

If a flock of feral pigeons has invaded your home or business, now, more than ever, is the time to get rid of them. Recent increases in public liability claims have been known to include claims from exposure to pigeon dung, which contains many harmful bacteria and fungi, as well as injury from slips on pigeon droppings. Highly corrosive and known to cause rust, pigeon droppings have even been blamed for contributing to a bridge collapse in

the United States!



Apart from an abundance of parasitic lice, pigeons also attract other annoying pests into

your home or business such as ticks, rats and cockroaches. After hatching, pigeons prefer to nest in the same area so when they have moved in they won't leave the site until they are removed by an experienced professional.

Immediate removal is essential to avoid the risks associated with droppings accumulating anywhere in the building. Adequate measures should also be taken to deter nesting in crevices. The damage they can cause due to a dangerous build-up of the highly acidic droppings will not only lead to expensive cleaning bills and deterioration of building structures but now may even lead to potential law suits.



WHERE WE SERVICE

Our head office is based in Newmarket, but our servicemen are located across Brisbane, so we can send a local representative to your property.

We service all of Brisbane, from the Inner City to Bayside Suburbs, North to Caboolture, West to Ipswich and South to Beenleigh.

FOR INJURED WILDLIFE CALL WILDCARE ON
PH: 5527 2444 (Brisbane & Gold Coast Carers)

WILDCARE AUSTRALIA Volunteers Needed

Wildcare Australia operates a 24-hour wildlife emergency service and is always looking for new volunteer wildlife rehabilitators to rescue and rehabilitate sick, injured and orphaned wildlife and return them to the wild.

Even if you do not have the time or facilities necessary to become a Volunteer Wildlife Carer there are many other ways in which you can help such as rescues, administrative activities and sewing. More details on each of these as well as a Membership Application Form can be found on the website at www.wildcare.org.au. Or, you can call one of the telephone volunteers on 07 5527 2444.

Join today to help support Australia's wildlife!

Winter means more rats

There are few creatures in the world that are guaranteed to send shivers down most people's spines. Spiders, of course, and definitely snakes, but the event most likely to illicit shrieks of fright has got to be the unexpected sight of a big black rat.

You've probably even caught sight of one in recent weeks as the weather cools down and they begin to move in from the cold outdoors finding many cozier, warmer nesting places inside our homes. Rats will chew through anything, including electrical wiring and walls causing extensive damage. Leaving out pet food and water may also encourage the rats to come inside.

Rats will find their way through the smallest crevices into pantries and cupboards and may sometimes sit there quite brazenly as you open the door. Finding plenty of sources of food and water in your home makes it a much more attractive proposition to the rat who, like us, would much rather avoid the chilly winter air outside. The rat you spot is potentially just one member of a large family as they are shy. However they breed profusely, make a mess, spread diseases and can carry ticks and fleas into your home.

