**PROS**

- The animal is out of your yard...until more come to fill the vacancy

**CONS**

- Trapped animals often injure themselves trying to escape
- Traps do not discriminate and often do not catch the intended targets
- If traps are not checked frequently, trapped animals can die of heatstroke, hypothermia, starvation, and more
- Mothers can be separated from their young
- Animals introduced into an unfamiliar environment will:
  - starve or dye of thirst because they do not know where food and water are
  - be killed by territorial animals
  - contract diseases they had not been exposed to in their territory
  - introduce diseases or parasites they have to an area that did not previously have them
- Relocating an animal changes the balance of both the ecosystem from which they were taken and the ecosystem to which they were introduced
- The underlying issue that brought the animal to your space in the first place has not been solved. More will come.

*FLIP OVER FOR ALTERNATIVE MEASURES TO TRAPPING*
Do you have...

- Holes in your fence?
- Pet food outside?
- Garbage cans that are easy to knock over?
- Piles of wood, plastic, or other materials that are not moved frequently?
- Ground-level vegetable gardens?
- Fallen fruit below your trees?
- Ripe fruit on your trees?
- Easy access to water in your yard?
- Garage doors, windows, or other openings to your house that are frequently left open, especially at night?
- Spaces below your house or shed that animals could dig under to build dens?
- Easily infiltrated compost containers?

If you answered "yes" to any of the questions above, your yard may be a tempting home for wildlife.

Instead of trapping and relocating, consider...

- Mending all holes in fences and placing chicken wire around the bottom to prevent small mammals
- Securing trash cans with bungee cords
- Keeping pet food indoors
- Keeping all openings to the house closed
- Clearing away piles of rubbish or wood
- Picking ripe fruit
- Removing easy access to water
- Putting heavy gauge mesh on openings, vents, and below sheds to prevent denning
- Trimming vegetation away from your house so animals cannot climb onto your roof or gutters
- Putting cayenne pepper on your lawn and in bird seed to deter mammals
- Putting up owl boxes to control rodent populations

Please call our Helpline if you need extra advice:

(805) 681-1080