

Fox control

Foxes are part of the urban environment and are sometimes seen in streets, parks and backyards, particularly at night.

In most cases, foxes avoid people and pose little risk to human safety. However, as an introduced pest animal, they can impact local wildlife and pets. Taking simple steps around your property can help discourage foxes from settling in residential areas.

Why foxes can be a problem

Even in urban areas, foxes can:

- Prey on native birds, reptiles and small mammals
- Attack backyard poultry and small pets
- Establish dens in gardens or under buildings

Foxes are highly adaptable and can travel long distances, meaning they can quickly move into areas where food and shelter are available.

What you can do

The most effective way to manage foxes is through prevention. If food and shelter are limited, foxes are less likely to stay.

Remove food sources

- Do not feed foxes
- Secure rubbish and compost bins
- Bring pet food indoors overnight
- Pick up fallen fruit and food scraps

Reduce shelter

- Block access under decks, houses and sheds
- Maintain gardens and reduce dense vegetation
- Remove stored materials or debris that could provide cover

Who to contact

If you are experiencing fox activity on your property, you can contact Agriculture Victoria for advice on 13 61 86 or visit www.agriculture.vic.gov.au

If fox activity continues, or you suspect a den on your property, consider engaging a licensed pest controller.

Licensed pest controllers can:

- Assess fox activity on your property
- Recommend prevention measures
- Carry out lawful and humane control where appropriate

Not all control methods are suitable in residential areas, so professional advice is recommended.

Council's role

Council does not provide a fox removal service.

If you suspect a fox den on private land, you can speak with the property owner or take steps to manage fox activity on your own land. Where a fox den is confirmed on private land, Council may issue a dangerous property notice to the property owner.

If you suspect a fox den on public land, please contact Council so it can be investigated.