

TIPS FROM THE ANIMAL WARDEN

The time of the year is here to begin going out doors more. I know all of you are anxious to begin those yard clean ups, and preparing your gardens and flower beds. One important cleaning chore most people overlook is (YOUR BASEMENT WINDOW WELLS) For those of you who are not familiar with wild animals, I would like you to be prepared for a possible visit from a few that like to make homes in nice cozy places. One of those places is your window wells. A few of the little furry creatures include; Cats, Opossum, and the striped skunk. With last falls leaves and other debris, these ingredients make wonderful nursery items. Many times in the past I've received panic phone calls from residents with a skunk family living in their window well, and the aroma is permeating their homes and basement dens and play rooms.

THE TIPS ?

- 1) Clean out your windows completely of all debris.***
- 2) Shop for well covers at hardware stores or build or have them built for you.***
- 3) If you are not able to do this try some moth-balls or flakes. Some times this is effective in repelling these creatures.***
- 4) If you should get a skunk in the well and it is too deep to get out, slowly ease a board or large branch into the well and walk away. It should manage on its own.***
- 5) Do we have baby skunks? Call animal control during regular work hours.***
- 6) DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REMOVE ANY ANIMALS YOURSELF. Call animal control and I'll deal with it.***

I hope you have a great summer.

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