

Make a difference to your local environment

Plant a native garden.

Native gardens planted with plants that are local to your area will provide animals with food and habitat. Think about different animal species - ponds for frogs, logs for lizards, flowers for butterflies and trees for possums.

Put up a nest box.

There are all kinds of animals that need them, possums, sugar gliders, parrots, microbats, waterfowl.

Practice responsible pet ownership with your cats and dogs.

Millions of small mammals, birds and lizards are killed by domestic and feral cats. Dogs can also pose a threat.

Learn to live with Possums

We have cleared the bush to make way for houses. We have left very few old trees with hollows behind, and the possums have nowhere to go. They are slowly getting evicted.

Brush-tails are very adaptable, and sometimes solve their own housing problem. They simply move into ours. And, that's where the problem begins. So what can we do?

Trapping and removal does not work for a number of reasons

It seldom solves the problem, since another possum usually moves in to occupy the newly vacated territory in your roof.

Relocated possums may displace other wildlife, such as parrots, owls or gliders, from hollows. Relocated possums are at high risk of being killed by cars, foxes or dogs, they will battle with the local possums for a den site. All possums, like all other native animals are protected, under the Wildlife Act 1975. They must not be harmed in any way.

Shooting or poisoning is completely illegal.

Research has shown that nearly 100% of relocated possums DIE within a very short space of time.

There is a solution

Make or buy a nest box

If the possum has built a nest in your roof, locate this (at night) and remove it. Place it inside the new possum-box to encourage it to move in to the new location.

When the possum is out, block up your roof.

You can also place a light in the roof and leave it on for three days (and nights).

Although we cannot possibly hope to replace the countless natural hollows lost in the bush, our towns, cities, and farms. The fact remains there is an awful lot of displaced wildlife competing for an ever decreasing amount of this prized real estate. With some thought and simple planning, we can all really make a difference, in our suburban gardens, and rural properties.