

## TOP 10 MYTHS ABOUT WILDLIFE CONTROL (DEBUNKED!)



**Separating Fact from Fiction for Minnesota Homeowners.** Wildlife control is often misunderstood. Misconceptions can lead to costly mistakes, unsafe DIY attempts, or recurring infestations. This guide debunks the top myths and provides accurate, practical advice.



## Myth 1: “I Can Trap and Release Wildlife Anywhere I Want”

**Reality:** Releasing animals without proper permits is illegal in Minnesota. Trapping without addressing entry points often results in the animal returning or creating new problems elsewhere. Professionals follow local regulations and ensure safe, legal removal.

## Myth 2: “All Bats Should Be Killed”

**Reality:** Bats are a protected species in Minnesota. They play a vital role in controlling insects. Humane exclusion methods allow bats to leave safely while preventing re-entry, avoiding unnecessary harm.

## Myth 3: “Raccoons Only Come Out at Night, So They’re Harmless During the Day”

**Reality:** Raccoons may be active during the day if food or shelter is scarce. Daytime activity can indicate illness or young in the area. Approach with caution and call professionals if spotted indoors.

## Myth 4: “I Don’t Need Wildlife Control If I Haven’t Seen Damage Yet”

**Reality:** Many signs of infestation are hidden—inside walls, attics, or crawl spaces. Early intervention prevents costly repairs, property damage, and contamination from droppings or urine.



### **Myth 5: "Exclusion Is Expensive and Not Worth It"**

**Reality:** Professional exclusion is an investment that prevents repeated intrusions and long-term property damage. DIY sealing often fails because wildlife finds alternative routes.

### **Myth 6: "Wildlife Only Invades Dirty or Neglected Homes"**

**Reality:** Even well-maintained Minnesota homes are at risk. Animals look for warmth, shelter, and nesting spots—not dirty homes. Seasonal patterns often drive wildlife inside.

### **Myth 7: "Once I Remove the Animal, the Problem Is Solved"**

**Reality:** Removing wildlife without repairing entry points, sealing gaps, and cleaning contamination almost always leads to re-infestation. True wildlife control is removal, plus exclusion and prevention.



### **Myth 8: “Repellents and Scare Devices Work Long-Term”**

**Reality:** Most repellents, ultrasonic devices, and lights offer only temporary results. Animals quickly adapt. Physical exclusion and habitat modification are far more effective.

### **Myth 9: “I Can Handle Any Wildlife Problem Myself”**

**Reality:** Wildlife control can be dangerous. Bats carry rabies, raccoons and squirrels can bite or scratch, and rodents can damage wiring and insulation. Professionals have the training and tools to safely remove animals.

### **Myth 10: “Wildlife Control Is Only Needed in Rural Areas”**

**Reality:** Minnesota cities and suburbs see plenty of wildlife issues. Urban raccoons, bats, and squirrels often target attics, roofs, and garages. Even townhomes or condos are not immune.



## Key Takeaways

- Wildlife problems are common and often hidden.
- Professional removal and exclusion are safer, legal, and more effective.
- Prevention—sealing entry points and removing attractants—is essential.
- Acting early protects your home, health, and peace of mind.