

# Living with Desert Wildlife

## Marana's Environment

Marana is a beautiful community. Much of its beauty comes from the natural environment, including wildlife. The following wildlife can pose a threat to your pets:

- Javelina
- Bats
- Raptors
- Owls
- Coyotes
- Bobcats
- Mountain Lions
- Rattlesnakes

## What Attracts Wild Animals to Your Home?

- Food sources such as pet food placed outdoors, the smell of food in the trash, or small animals such as rodents or small pets.
- Drought
- Wildfires

## Wild Animal Facts

- Some owls and hawks can easily pick up a 5lb pet. Other very large winged wildlife could attempt to pick up pets up to 10lbs.
- Javelina can broad jump 6ft high, run 25mph, and are good swimmers.
- Coyotes can jump over fences up to 8ft high, and bobcats can jump even higher.
- Rattlesnakes can climb walls and trees. They can also fit through openings as small as 1/3 inch.

## How to Keep You and Your Pets Safe

- Do not approach wildlife.
- Do not feed wildlife.
- Keep pets on leashes, and watch your pets while they are outside.
- Consider covered dog runs for small dogs if left alone in the yard.
- Keep your pets rabies vaccinations current.
- Keep shrubbery and grasses trimmed.
- Carry a walking stick when out for hikes and walks.

## What to do When You Encounter Wildlife

- Safely remove yourself and your pet from the situation.
- Loud noises can scare off wildlife.
- Never handle a bat, dead or alive, with your bare hands. Call your local animal control agency for direction on how to handle bat encounters.
- **If relocation is necessary, please consult a professional who has a wildlife service license from the Arizona Game and Fish Department. A current list can be found at:**  
[AZGFD.com/wildlife-conservation/living-with-wildlife/wildlife-control-businesses/](https://AZGFD.com/wildlife-conservation/living-with-wildlife/wildlife-control-businesses/)
- **For more information, visit the Arizona Game and Fish "Living with Wildlife" webpage at:**  
[AZGFD.com/wildlife-conservation/living-with-wildlife](https://AZGFD.com/wildlife-conservation/living-with-wildlife)