I Have an Animal Living Under My Deck/Porch I Have an Animal Living Under My Deck/Porch Flint Creek Wildlife Rehabilitation Are you willing to leave the animal undisturbed? When possible, leaving the animal alone is the best solution. Usually animals living under decks or NO porches are not a bother or threat. If you have dogs and you are worried about an encounter between the wild animal and your dog, then simply walk outside before letting your dog out and clap several times. This will alert wild animals like opossums, raccoons and skunks, and they will scurry off to safety. Once you've given the wild animals a few moments to find cover, then proceed to let your dogs outside. Small dogs let outside should always be attended – especially at night. Do you know where the animal is gaining access? Do not block access point until animal has Animals usually gain access to porches and safely moved out from under the deck or decks through open spaces, holes in lattice porch. Place radio under the deck or porch or by digging a hole. Inspect the area and play loud talk radio - as loud as you around the porch or deck do locate the

can stand - 24 hours/day. Also put flashing lights (flashing large bulb Christmas lights or strobe lights work well) and leave lights on 24 hours/day. Do not reach your hand in any hole the animal might have dug! Animal will usually move out from under the deck or porch within 2-3 days. Do not block access the first time animal leaves since it may have babies and may need to make several trips to move all of the babies. Continue to leave radio playing and lights flashing for 24 hours after you've last heard the animal and sprinkle flour or sand around the area to ensure that you don't see any footprints before you cover the access point. If you cannot have the permanent repair done immediately, secure 1/2"x1/2" hardware cloth (available at the hardware store) over the opening until the permanent repair can be made. If your deck or porch has lattice around it, remove the lattice and run 1/2"x1/2" hardware cloth across before reinstalling the lattice.

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