

Thanks for the email about seeing the fox. At this point it doesn't sound like the fox is doing anything out of the ordinary. Seeing them during the day is typical this time of the year because they are looking for food to feed their young which sometimes makes them venture out at all hours of the day. If you don't like them nearby I would suggest scaring them anytime they are seen so they get the hint to stay clear of people (and houses). Loud noises, spraying them with a garden hose if close enough will give them the hint.

If people in the neighborhood happen to still be feeding birds, have them take down feeders and clean up the seeds. These feeders attract prey (birds, mice, squirrels..etc...) which in turn attract the fox looking for an easy meal. Other attractants include bbq grills, compost piles, garbage, dog and cat food..... these should also be cleaned up. Additional information can also be found on the NYSDEC website under nuisance animals.

In regards to pets, red fox are opportunistic and will sometimes feed on stray cats or small dogs. (Rare but can happen) Keeping pets under supervision/on a leash should be enough to keep the fox away from them. The food sources mentioned above are more likely to attract them than a pet would.

At this point it doesn't sound like the fox is doing anything unusual, and as mentioned above, I would try to scare it away when seen. The presence of fox in the area will probably never go away, so learning to accept their presence is best. If they become aggressive or lose fear of humans, then a NWCO (Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator) could be contacted to remove them (for a fee) .

If you have further questions, please call our office 607-753-3095 x247

Thanks, Bill

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