

Possum Management

The Corporation of the Town of Walkerville 66 Walkerville Terrace, Gilberton SA 5081 T (08) 8342 7100 F (08) 8269 7820 www.walkerville.sa.gov.au

This information guide provides an outline on managing possums

If you hear things in your roof that go bump, scratch, hiss, cough, screech or growl in the night, chances are you have a possum in residence.

Possums

With a reduction in natural habitats due to urbanisation, native animals including possums are often forced to live in close quarters with Humans.

The most common species encountered in natural and urban environments are the common Brushtail Possum and Common Ringtail Possum.

Characteristics of the Common Brushtail Possum

- Approximately the size of a domestic cat, males are generally larger than females
- Dense fur, which varies in colour from light to dark grey on the back and a creamy coloured belly.
- Black brushy tail and long ears (50 – 60mm)

Characteristics of the common Ringtail Possum

- Smaller than the Brush Tail Possum
- Small round ears and small eyes
- Fur is grey on the back with a rusty colour on the side
- The tail is long and prehensile (adapted for gripping) and covered with fine white fur

Possums and the law

In South Australia Possums are protected (i.e. safeguarded against collecting, hunting, or other activities) under the provisions of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972.

Possums on your property

If the possum is not creating a problem, then there is no need to act. If the possum is causing a problem, assess the nature and extent of the problem before deciding whether there is any need to take action.

Walkerville Council does offer Possum Traps for hire, however a *'Permit to Trap and Release'* **must be obtained**. This permit can be obtained from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Fauna Permit Unit. They can be contacted on (08) 8124 4972.

Once a permit has been obtained, a copy must be given to Council before a Possum Trap can be released for hire. The cost to hire a possum trap is a \$100.00 deposit and an ongoing fee of \$10.00 per week. The possum must be released 50m away from where it was captured.

If you would any additional information, please call a Customer Service Officer on (08) 8342 7100 or email walkerville@walkerville.sa.gov.au

