

Safety Tip!

from the Department of
Environmental Health and Safety

To report a safety issue on campus, e-mail: ksouza@rwu.edu or cconley@rwu.edu

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Animals in Residence Halls and Academic Buildings

Although not frequent, wild animals can easily enter through open windows and propped doors. Students and staff should exercise care so that they do not have any unwanted visitors in their living quarters or office space, risking the possibility of being bitten and damage to possessions. In all cases, immediately report any animal found inside a campus building to Public Safety at 254-3333.

You should avoid contact with the wild animal, evacuate the space, and, if possible, close doors to the area that the wild animal is located. If possible without risking injury, leave the exterior windows open to allow the animal to return back outside. Public Safety will contact the appropriate outside resource to remove the animal. They will also determine who in the room may have been exposed. The room should stay secure until cleared by animal control personnel. If you have had potential exposure you should seek medical care. If the animal is captured and tests negative for rabies, there will be no need for immunization.

Window screens in residence halls and common spaces should be kept in place and in the closed position to prevent entry by animals. Students and staff should contact the Facilities at 254-3136 immediately to report any missing or broken screens.

Reminder

- Do not handle and avoid contact with any stray animals on campus, including the cat population.
- Do not leave doors or windows open where animals are able to access buildings.
- Do not feed any stray animals. Leaving food outside, unless arranged through Paws Watch, has unintended consequences by attracting rats and other rodents.
- If you see an animal acting sick or aggressive contact Public Safety (3333) or Environmental Health & Safety (3494) immediately.