

To encourage the possum to enter and use the possum box as its new home, if possible, remove the nest from your roof as it has the scent of the possum and place it in the possum box.

Alternatively if this is not possible, place a piece of apple or banana at the entrance to the box to encourage the possum to investigate.



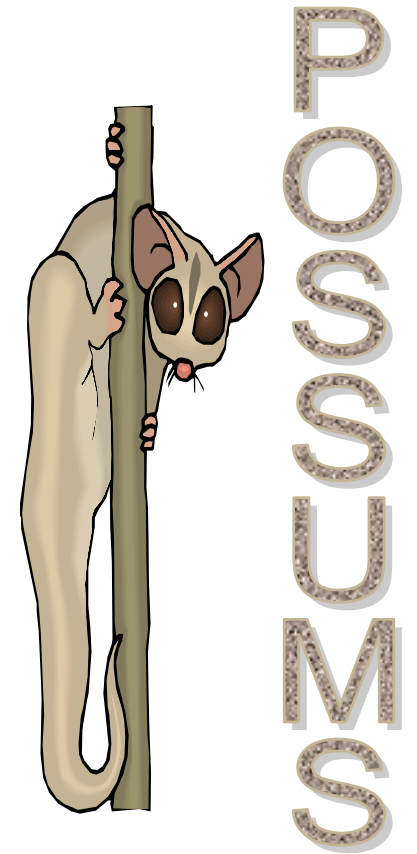
Once the possum has been given a new home, it is important to ensure access to your roof is no longer possible.

There are a number of ways to avoid the possum returning to your roof and they are as follows:

- Trim any overhanging branches to remove access to the roof (Council approval may be required)
- Stuff any suspected access points with crumpled newspaper during the day, when the possum leaves at night they will be pushed out, thus indicating where the possum is getting in
- Undertake any repairs required between 8pm and 10pm as this is when the possum will be feeding and out of the roof
- Place a light in the roof for a few days and nights. This will deter the possum as they like the dark to sleep
- It may be a good idea to place a strong smelling substance such as disinfectant or some camphor blocks near the access point or in the roof to destroy the possums scent and encourage it to go elsewhere

***Further information on possums or assistance with trapping of possums can be obtained from Urban Wildlife Services on 0419 015 257.***

# City of Ryde



[www.ryde.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au)

Customer Service 9952 8222



## POSSUMS

In the wild possums naturally live in tree hollows. With the decline in natural bushland, many of these homes have been destroyed. As possums are territorial animals, they are not easily relocated and so they sometimes seek safe shelter in your roof.

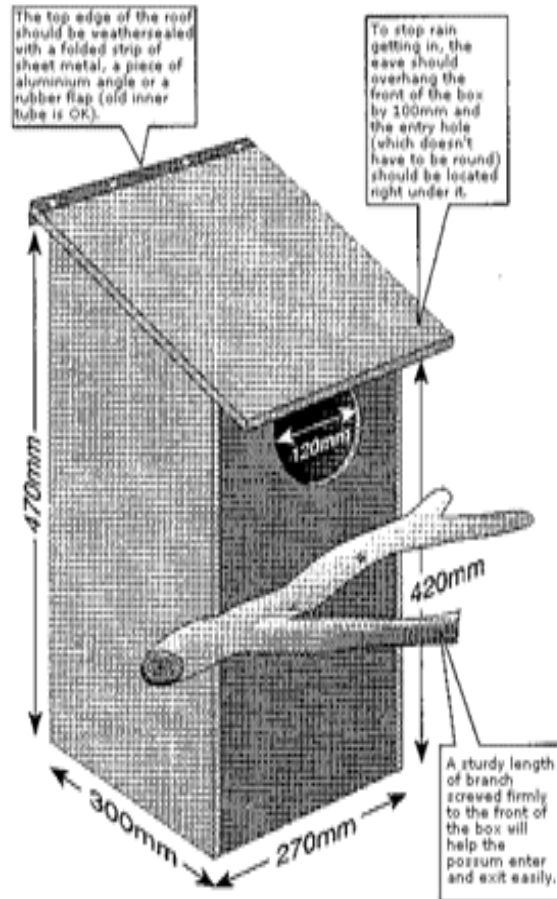
Possums are protected by law in NSW and therefore a permit must be obtained from National Parks and Wildlife Services before any attempt is made to remove the possum. National Parks and Wildlife Services can be contacted on (02) 9472 8949. There is no fee for the Permit.

To ensure the possum is captured and unharmed Council has a number of possum traps, which are available for hire to residents on a weekly basis. These traps are available at the Customer Service Counter. It is advisable to phone ahead to check availability.

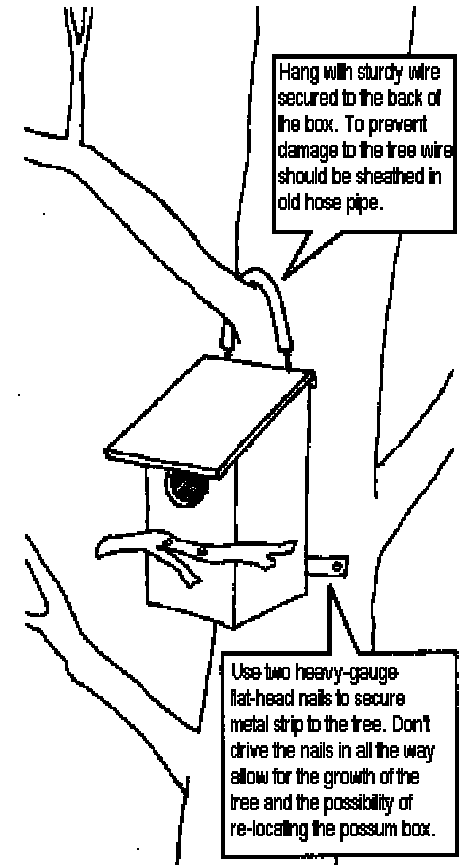
To ensure the possum does not return to your roof you will need to provide an alternative home.

A possum box can be a good option and can be easily made.

It is best constructed from 12mm marine ply, but can be made from any material (except chipboard which disintegrates rapidly outdoors).



To protect the possum from domestic cats and dogs place the box at least 4m from the ground.



Alternatively, possum boxes may be purchased from Kalkari Visitors Centre, Ku-ring-gai National Park, Bobbin Head. The Visitors Centre is operated by Volunteers and is open 364 days of the year from 9am to 5pm. The cost of a possum box is approx. \$25.00. For further information or assistance please contact Kalkari Visitors Centre on (02) 9472 9300.