



Bobcat

Bobcats are found all throughout California and they are more common than most people realize. Sightings in urban and suburban settings are becoming more and more common. Adult male bobcats on average can weigh 20 to 30 pounds and can average 3 feet in length. Females are much smaller and may weigh less than a typical large house cat.

They can be various shades of buff and brown, with dark brown or black stripes and spots on parts of their body. The backs of the ears and the tip of the tail are black. They have ruffs of hair on the side of the head, that look like side burns and short ear tufts.

Due to their elusive nature and caution around humans, bobcats are rarely seen. In areas inhabited by humans, they usually limit their activity to night hours. However, it is not uncommon to see them during daylight hours and can be active during anytime of the day.

Bobcats are solitary animals. Males and females are only together for the short time required for mating. They typically have a litter of about three kittens between April and July. Young bobcats usually are on their own when they are about 8 months old.

Ways to deter bobcats:

Don't feed wildlife: Feeding wildlife attracts small animals and rodents to your property that bobcats feed on.

Keep dogs and cats indoors: When left outside at night, small dogs and cats become prey for bobcats. Bobcats have the ability to jump fences 6 feet or more in height.

Don't put up bird feeders: Bobcats are attracted to the many birds and rodents that come to feeders.

Feed dogs and cats indoors, and clean up after them: Pet food, water, and pet droppings attract small mammals

Scare devices such as motion detected lights, loud noises, and radios will deter bobcats until they realize that they are not life threatening.

No chemical fumigants, repellants, or toxicants are currently registered for bobcats.

Mission Viejo Animal Services Center receives many reports of bobcat sightings each year. Officers will respond if the bobcat is injured, sick or deceased. Or, if involved in a bite with a human or domestic animal.



MISSION VIEJO
ANIMAL SERVICES

Serving the cities of Mission Viejo, Laguna Niguel,
Aliso Viejo, Laguna Hills & Rancho Santa Margarita
28095 Hillcrest
Mission Viejo CA 92692
(949) 470-3045
cmvas.org