

# Solutions to Cat-Related Issues\*

There are a number of humane deterrents on the market, and we recommend their use over other potentially lethal methods.

- ScareCrow: With this motion-activated sprinkler, an infrared sensor responds to motion and releases a three-second blast of water. The sprinkler, which “fires” 1,000 times on one nine-volt battery, covers an area approximately 45 feet by 35 feet. To purchase ScareCrow, search online or call Contech, the manufacturer, for the nearest retailer: 800-767-8658.
- CatStop: This deterrent uses a motion sensor and emits a high-pitched, ultrasonic alarm that cannot be heard by humans but will frighten most cats and small dogs. You place the unit facing the area you want to protect and it covers about 300 square feet. CatStop can operate up to nine months on one nine-volt battery and is a good choice for areas where children may be at play. To purchase CatStop, search online or call Contech, the manufacturer, for the nearest retailer: 800-767-8658.
- CatScat: These harmless mats or carpet runners are made of flexible plastic spikes. Place on the ground with spike side up to discourage cats from digging.

Here are a few other ideas for deterrents:

- Concrete pavers, river rocks, large pine cones, chicken wire (sharp edges down) or large pieces of bark to cover loose soil, discouraging cats from eliminating there.
- Plant the herb Rue or sprinkle dried rue, or Coleus canina (often called the “scaredy-cat plant”), decorative plants that repel cats.
- Generously sprinkle any of the following on the ground in areas where you want to deter cats: cayenne pepper, mothballs, coffee grounds, pipe tobacco, lemongrass oil, citronella oil, eucalyptus oil or mustard oil, citrus or lemon scents, garlic, ammonia, or vinegar. The scents diminish over time, so re-applying is necessary.
- Neutralizing urine smell: OdoBan, Nature’s Miracle, Fizzion and Simple Solution are effective natural enzyme products that are available at pet supply stores or online.
- Establish a litter box. Creating a sandy area that you clean regularly will help keep the cats from eliminating in areas where you do not want them to eliminate.

## Ultrasonic Devices

Ultrasonic device covers the area to be protected with an infra-red field. When a cat's motion within the field is detected, the device emits a high frequency alarm that is imperceptible to people but highly startling and annoying to cats. Ultrasonic devices can be used in all types of weather, but if batteries are needed, they may need to be replaced more often in colder temperatures.

- Bird-X Yard Gard (it's bird friendly! Also comes in a solar powered version.)
- Spray Away Hydro-Remote Animal Repellent Sprinkler by Havahart (photo)
- Orbit Yard Enforcer
- PestBye Jet Spray

\*Resource: <https://resources.bestfriends.org/article/solutions-cat-related-issues>