




You Can Help Stop The Spread!

-  Report observations, sign, and damage
-  Do not disturb family groups and promptly report seeing them
-  Enroll property in government eradication program

Feral Hog Observation and Damage Report

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone number(s) _____
 Best time to contact you: _____

Observation Type (check all that apply)
 Animals Rooting Wallow Tracks

Location(s) of Observation
 (Town and nearest crossroads)
 1 _____
 2 _____

Date(s) of Observation(s) _____

For Animal Observations
 Number of Animals Observed _____
 Adults _____ Young _____

Damage Type (check all that apply)
 Crop Pasture Residential Forest
 Wetland Other _____

Please fold, tape, stamp, and mail this brochure or call Mike Putnam at (607) 753-3095 ext 296 with this information. Thank You.



Tape Here



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
 BUREAU OF WILDLIFE, REGION 7
 Attention Mike Putnam
 1285 FISHER AVE.
 CORTLAND, NEW YORK 13045-1090

**Feral Swine in
Central New York**

STOP THE SPREAD!



Partners for Eradication

- Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Onondaga County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program
- Upper Susquehanna Coalition
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Why Are Feral Swine a Problem?



Photo from NYSDEC Region 7

Feral swine are also referred to as feral hogs and Eurasian or Russian Wild Boar, all of which are considered the same species *Sus scrofa*.

Feral swine have become a problem for landowners and the environment in many areas of the country including Central New York.

Feral swine are an aggressive invasive species that can cause serious agriculture and environmental damage, degrade water quality, and threaten human health.

Major problems associated with feral swine include:

- Crop damage
- Pasture and lawn damage
- Spread disease to livestock and native wildlife
- Bacterial and viral water pollution
- Predation on ground nesting birds and their eggs, amphibians, and reptiles.
- Damage to wetlands and riparian zones
- Destroy native plants on the forest floor and reduce forest regeneration
- Soil erosion and associated problems
- Spread and establishment of other invasive species

How Did This Problem Arise?

Feral swine in Central New York are believed to have originated from escapes from farming operations and enclosed shooting facilities. Feral swine reproduce in the wild, and over time descendants of domestic stock tend to look more like wild boar. Large litter size, two litters per year, ability to eat many types of food, and lack of natural predators set the stage for rapid expansion of localized feral swine populations and associated problems into new areas.

What Can We Do To Eliminate The Problem?

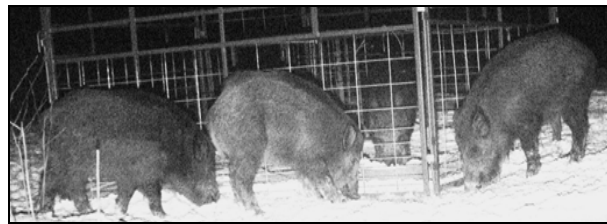


Photo from NYSDEC Region 7

In cooperation with NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Cornell University, and the US Department of Agriculture, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation initiated an effort in 2008 to eliminate feral swine populations in Central New York. Private landowners willing to authorize government access to their properties have facilitated the removal of feral swine groups in several locations.

Currently, hunting feral swine is legal with a small game license, but hunters must take care to avoid shooting privately owned swine. Hunters who see groups of swine are asked to report the location, but not to pursue them, as disrupting these groups reduces the prospects of successful eradication. As always, respect posted property and landowners wishes.

Identify and Report Feral Swine, their Tracks, Sign, and Damage

Typically damage from feral swine results from their rooting or wallowing behaviors in crop fields, lawns, wetlands, and forests.

Crops, Pasture, and Forest Damage



Damage photos courtesy of USDA



Track photos NYSDEC Region 7 Bureau of Wildlife

Tracks

Feral swine tracks closely resemble deer tracks but the toes of feral swine are more turned out than deer. The size of feral swine, cattle, and deer tracks vary with the age and sex of the animal but the general shape will resemble those shown below.

