

Humane Deterrents FOR COMMUNITY CATS

Do you have community cats in your garden? Try these humane ways to keep free-roaming felines out of your yard so they won't dig up your flowers or use your landscape as a litter box!

Use scent deterrents:

- **Spread coffee grounds or citrus peels in the area where you would like cats to avoid.**
- **Dilute ten drops of essential oil in a spray bottle and spray around your plants. You can also soak cotton balls in the oil and place them around your garden.**
 - **Citronella, lemongrass, eucalyptus, tea tree, and peppermint are all scents cats that drive away cats.**

Keep in mind that these scents diminish over time, so reapplication will be necessary.



There are several plants that are smelly to cats that you can put in your garden to deter cats:

**Rosemary (*Salvia rosmarinus*)
Lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia*)
Lemon thyme (*Thymus citriodorus*)
Geraniums (*Pelargonium* spp.)
Lemongrass (*Cymbopogon citratus*) and
Citronella (*Pelargonium citrosum*).**

Use digging deterrents:

Cats like to dig in exposed soil, so try to reduce the amount of open space with something cats won't like to put their feet on.

Lay down scat mats, chicken wire, and mulch to prevent digging. You can also use rough rocks, pine cone pieces, and crushed eggshells.



Install motion activated devices:

There are devices that repel cats by emitting high frequency sounds that humans can't hear. Make sure to purchase a device designed for the outdoors and is for larger animals rather than insects or rodents.

It is well known that cats don't like water, so installing a motion activated sprinkler around the perimeter of your property will startle them to run away.

