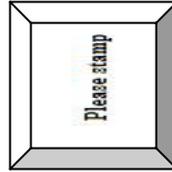


You Can Help Stop The Spread!

- Report observations, sign, and damage
- Do not disturb family groups and promptly report seeing them
- Enroll property in NYSDEC eradication program
- Share your concerns with local elected officials and legislators



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 _____

For Animal Observations

Number of Animals Observed _____

Adults _____ Young _____

Damage Type (check all that apply)

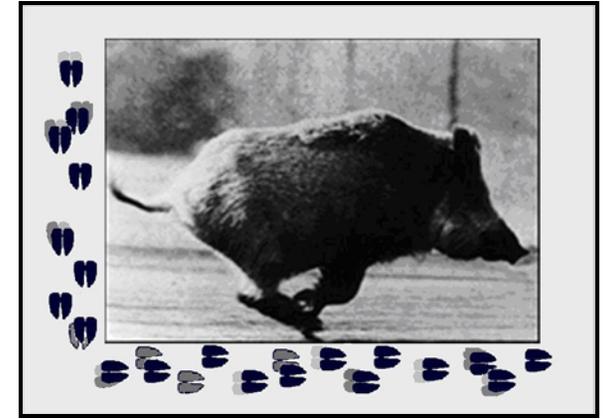
- Crop Pasture Residential Forest
 Wetland Other _____

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

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

**Feral Swine in
Central New York**

STOP THE SPREAD!



Partners for Eradication

**New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation**

Bureau of Wildlife
1285 Fisher Avenue
Cortland, NY 13045
(607) 753-3095 ext. 296

**Cortland County Soil and Water
Conservation District**

**Onondaga County Soil and Water
Conservation District**

**Skaneateles Lake Watershed
Agricultural Program**



Why Are Feral Swine a Problem?

Feral swine, also referred to as feral hogs, Eurasian and Russian Wild Boar, are all 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.



Photo courtesy of USDA

Feral swine are an aggressive invasive species that causes serious agriculture and environmental damage and can 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 the United States are believed to have originated from escapes from both farming operations and enclosed game and swine shooting establishments. 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 few predators all contribute to rapid population increases and expansion into new areas.

What Can We Do To Eliminate The Problem?



Photo from NYSDEC Region 7 Bureau of Wildlife

Working in cooperation with NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District, Cornell University and the United States Department of Agriculture, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has initiated an effort to eliminate these feral swine populations. Removal of groups of feral swine occurred in several locations in 2008, and the program is continuing in 2009.

Hunting feral swine is legal with a small game license, but hunters must take care to avoid shooting privately owned swine. Additionally, 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 is the result of their rooting or wallowing behaviors in crop fields, lawns, wetlands, and forests.

Crops, Pasture, and Forest Damage



Damage photos courtesy of USDA



Wallowing



Tracks

Feral swine tracks closely resemble deer tracks, however 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.



Track photos NYSDEC Region 7 Bureau of Wildlife

