

# Animal Safety

## Using caution on the job

Use these safety tips to avoid dangerous interactions with animals.

### DEER



#### Unpredictable

If you see a deer standing near the road, it isn't uncommon for it to run out toward your vehicle rather than run away from it.

#### Herds

If you spot one deer, keep an eye out for a few more, as they usually travel together.

#### Time of Day

Deer are generally most active in the early morning and at dusk.

#### Don't Swerve

If a collision is unavoidable, slow down, but try not to swerve, as this could cause more damage to your vehicle.

#### In Case of Collision

Don't attempt to remove the deer, as an injured deer may harm you. Pull off to the side of the road if possible; turn on your hazard lights and alert the authorities.

### DOGS



#### Detecting a Dog

Evaluate any site you enter for the presence of a dog. Check for food bowls, toys, chains, ties, dog doors and feces.

#### Maintain Awareness

##### Enter Yards with Caution

Dogs can become aggressive when startled or frightened. If entering a yard, make some noise—rattle a fence or your keys or sound your car horn.

##### Approaching Doors

Many attacks happen at front doors, where dogs may push through screen doors or even open a solid door. Stand back from the door to allow space for a reaction if necessary.

##### Ask for Help

It is your right and obligation to ask the owner to restrain his or her dog.

#### Self-defense

Don't turn and run; attempt to lock eyes and firmly say, "NO!" Turn to the side to minimize exposure, or put an object between you and the dog—use your forearm if nothing else is available.

A dog's weak areas are: feet, legs and throat. Strike these areas if the attack continues.

### BEARS



*Go away bear.*

#### Remain Calm

Do not run from a bear; refrain from making sudden movements and back away slowly. Try to make yourself appear larger if possible.

#### Minimize Perceived Threat

Speak in a calm, yet stern voice and give the bear the opportunity to leave.

## Other Creatures

These may be less common, but it's good to be knowledgeable about how to react in the event of an encounter.



### Snakes

90% of bites occur in the ankle area

- Wear 8" high boots

70–80% of snakebites occur while trying to capture or kill the snake

### Mountain Lions

Do not approach and never run

Try to make yourself appear larger

Do not crouch, as you could appear more like a mountain lion's typical four-legged prey



### Wild Hogs

Quick movements or sounds will usually cause the pig to run off

### Livestock

Do not enter pens without permission

Cows with calves can be aggressive and can charge unexpectedly

Bulls are extremely aggressive

- Don't turn your back to a bull
- Don't run

