



CITY OF SUGAR LAND

Animal Services

October 22, 2009

Dear Property Owner:

We have been diligently working to get a handle on the feral hog situation that is affecting your neighborhood. We have been in contact with Texas Parks and Wildlife, The Fort Bend Agri-Life Extension Office, Wildlife Biologists for the State, Zoonosis Control for our region, several feral hog trappers and the City of Sugar Land's Police Department. After much discussion, we have formulated a plan to put into action an extensive trapping program to help deal with this situation and its affect on public health and safety.

We will be trapping for the next several weeks, if not months, to try to make a dent in the population of feral hogs moving off the Brazos River. The hogs are using the levy system as a mode of travel and the cool weather and rain are causing them to be more active. We will be setting up several sizes and styles of traps, some in close proximity to the subdivisions and some in other areas. **I cannot caution you enough**, that if you come across one of these traps, please do not approach. This is regardless of whether there is an animal in the trap or not. Your scent near that trap or on that trap will make that trap ineffective. If there is an animal in the trap, you are putting yourself in danger. Please let your children know that it is not safe and by all means please keep your pets away from the traps as well. Some of these hogs will reach 400 pounds if not more in weight, have very powerful jaws and tusks that can cause significant damage. If you notice an animal in a trap please call Animal Services immediately at 281-275-2364 (ADOG). These traps will be checked several times a day by our staff as well as, the trappers we have contracted with. Furthermore, the trappers will be out at all hours checking traps, rebaiting them and hauling off animals. Police dispatch will be notified when the trappers are out and about and they can be contacted at 281-275-2525 if you have questions as to the men you are seeing.

Again, we are looking out for your health and safety. Please do not approach the feral hogs in the traps or out, if you feel your safety is at risk please call police dispatch, and please continue to report feral hog sightings and damage to Animal Services so we can continue to track the hogs, their numbers and make adjustments to our traps. We appreciate your cooperation and patience in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Ketchum, Animal Services Manager