Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program

The <u>Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program</u> provides financial assistance to producers whose livestock, poultry and honey bees have been damaged by wildlife.

To be eligible for compensation, a producer must:

- Be a sole proprietor, corporation, partnership or unincorporated association;
- Have a valid <u>Farm Business Registration</u> number (FBR) or approved documentation issued by the ministry for new/retired farmers that do not qualify for an FBR number, or have a religious exemption approved by the <u>Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs Appeal Tribunal</u> or a confirmation letter provided by the <u>Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario</u>;
- Have a Premises Identification number (available from the <u>Provincial Premises Registry</u>) or a confirmation letter provided by the <u>Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario</u>, unless a Premises Identification number is not available in that particular area;
- The weight of poultry injured or killed must be more than 25 kilograms;
- Must demonstrate to the valuer that reasonable effort has been taken to prevent incidences of wildlife damage to livestock, poultry, beehives, bee colonies or beehive related equipment to be eligible for a claim;
- Apply for compensation under the program using the application form;
- Be in compliance with and remain in compliance with all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws; and
- Fully cooperate in any audits that may be initiated in relation to any compensation the applicant receives under the program.

The program provides 100 per cent of the value of the loss up to the prescribed maximum compensation values.

For the list of maximum compensation values, please refer to Schedule A of the program guidelines.

How to Apply - For Livestock and Poultry Damage

Where the producer discovers that livestock or poultry has been injured or killed and to the best of the producer's knowledge and belief such injury or death was caused by wildlife, the producer shall notify the municipality **within 48 hours** of discovering the injury or death. The Clerk will, within 3 days of receiving notification, send a valuer who will make a full investigation and then submit a written report **within 10 business days** after receiving notification, to the municipality, the producer and the <u>Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food</u> and the <u>Ministry of Rural Affairs</u>. Where it is determined that the claim is valid, the municipality is not liable to pay more than is required under the program guidelines.

If livestock and poultry damage is caused by a **dog** that is not habitually kept on the premises of the producer of livestock or poultry, the producer is not eligible for compensation through this program. If damage is caused by dogs, the municipality will determine if compensation would be payable in accordance with the <u>Protection of Livestock and Poultry from Dogs Act.</u>

Livestock Evaluators

If you believe your livestock and/or poultry have been injured or killed as a result of Wildlife:

- Call the <u>municipal office</u> immediately for a livestock evaluator
- Do not remove the carcass from the attack site as the valuer will want to examine the area