

## Gates—Access and Egress

Gates are only as good if they are used as intended; kept closed before and after use. Large driveway gates can be electrified for ease of use. Man gates for easy passage can be added next to the main gate. One-way gates can help trapped animals escape.



This example of a 'One-way' gate shows the interlaced wire is bent outward to allow the animals to escape, but not enter back through the gate



Example of a safe main gate with man gate for easy access.

## Tips for being Deer Smart

Reduce risk of conflict in your neighbourhood:

**Habituated deer** are especially hard to remove from a neighbourhood once they have established themselves. It is important to think about how to deter deer from being comfortable in our neighbourhoods and yards. We should reduce the chance of severe injury or death caused by a deer, elk, mountain goat or sheep getting tangled in fences.

**NO Feeding** - deer do not need unnatural food sources and feeding encourages them to become habituated and territorial. Many communities have a No Feeding Deer Bylaw.

*Cont. on back flap*

## Tips for Being Deer Smart

**NO Welcome Mat** - Make your yard feel unsafe for deer. Clear brush away from the perimeter to reduce 'cover' and discourage bedding down areas.

**NO Loitering** - Discourage deer from hanging around on your property. Make them feel vulnerable so they move on. Direct a garden hose at them, or use a loud shaker can.



For more information on reducing Human—Wildlife conflict visit:

**WildSafeBC**— [www.wildsafebc.com](http://www.wildsafebc.com)

**RDOS Living With Wildlife In BC**—  
<http://www.rdos.bc.ca/departments/public-works/wildsafe-bc-bear-aware/living-with-wildlife-in-bc/>



For more information contact RDOS  
**WildSafeBC Community Coordinator: Zoe Kirk**  
T: 250-490-4110 E: [zkirk@rdos.bc.ca](mailto:zkirk@rdos.bc.ca)

**Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen**

101 Martin St.

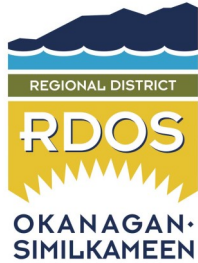
Penticton, BC

T: 250.492.0237 F: 250.492.0063

TF (BC/Alta): 1.877.610.3737

E: [info@rdos.bc.ca](mailto:info@rdos.bc.ca)

## Public Works Department



## Fencing to Reduce Conflict with Deer



## Fencing - Good or Bad?

Many property owners fence the perimeter or portions of their property as a preferred landscaping option. Other property owners and some commercial growers have fenced specifically to keep deer and animals out.

Some fencing is well constructed and is safe for humans and the wildlife it keeps out. Some can be very dangerous to deer and other wildlife and cause horrible suffering as the animal struggles and in many cases die, stuck in the fence.

Fencing companies that specialize in deer fencing can consult with a property owner to show how a properly constructed and maintained fence reduces any risk of a deer or other wildlife getting trapped or stuck in the fence.

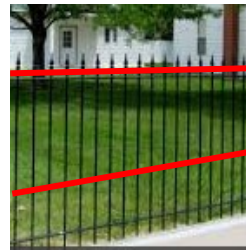
**Two fencing styles known to cause injury or death: wrought iron and barbed wire.**

**Wrought Iron** fences are a major source for potential injury to a deer. Not intentionally of course, but many railing patterns and especially those with pointed pickets rising above the top or mid rail are the most likely to injure or impale a deer.



Simple design modifications to fencing installations or retrofits for existing installed wrought iron fencing can make a big difference. No property owner wants to have to put an animal out of its misery, or cut it down from the fence.

This fence is a good design with narrow openings and flat top bar.



This fence could be retrofit by removing the finials (pointed tops) and adding a cross member at the top and the two foot mark.

Modifications to this fence could be as simple as installing a top rail just above the pickets and below the post cap (shown in red)



**Avoid** using **barbed wire**. If it is already installed, insure that the fence lines are taut, maintained and a 'smooth wire' is installed above the last strand of fence with flashers or small flags. This shows the animals where the top is, reducing injury as they know to scale it much higher or better yet, avoid the fence altogether.



Commercial producers install deer or bear fencing to reduce crop losses. Some of these are expertly done. This fence is taut, and reinforced by electric wires. To be effective, all fences need to be maintained and re-tensioned.



Some fences poorly constructed, either too low and /or not flagged or maintained, posing potential entanglement and death for a deer.



Many local regulations prohibit using barbed wire

