

Dear owner/manager,

A concerned local has delivered this letter to you because they have noticed that you stock fruit-tree netting that poses a danger to wildlife.

A net that you can poke a finger through is not safe for wildlife as they easily become entangled and trapped in the net. Most birds and animals (mainly flying foxes) trapped in these nets will need to be euthanized as the injuries can be very severe. Animals that survive can take weeks or months of costly rehabilitation before they can be released back into the wild.

We are a small charity depending on volunteers to rescue sick, injured and orphaned wildlife. You can help us and wildlife by removing this unsafe netting from sale. Happily, there are safer alternatives that you can stock that allows people to protect their fruit without endangering wildlife.

Wildlife Safe Netting is any netting that you cannot poke a finger through. The net should always be tightly installed and tied around the tree trunk. Mesh bags around bunches of fruit are even better as people can avoid the risk of falls from a ladder and the fruit is easier to get when they want to pick it.



Thank you for your assistance.

Regards,

Dr Megan Davidson
Chief Executive Officer

ceo@wildlifelifevictoria.org.au

THE LAW IS CHANGING

From September 2021 it will be illegal to sell or use netting on domestic fruit trees unless it has an aperture no bigger than 5 x 5 mm fully stretched.

*Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulations
2019*