



Article 32

- Resolution to file a Home Rule **petition** in the state legislature to ban First Generation Anticoagulants on all properties within **Arlington's** borders.

By Laura Kiesel of Save Arlington Wildlife

What Are FGARs?



- Stands for “First Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides”
- Includes warfarin, diaphacinone, and chlorophacinone.
- Interferes with Vit K production, interfering with blood-clotting.
- Rodents have developed a robust resistance to these poisons (while their predators have not), which is why we have SGARs.
- Animals can be affected by firsthand/direct consumption of bait, or in the case of predators, usually by secondary or tertiary exposure.

FGARs A Problem for Wildlife



Eastern Screech Owls and American Kestrels are 30 times more sensitive to diphacinone than other birds, including lethal sensitivity.



Chloropacinone interfered with the thermoregulation of hawks.



Diphacinone exposure linked to serious/fatal cases of mange in fur-bearing mammals like bobcats.

An Escalation: The Case of the Arlington Gray Fox

Reported By

Dr. Yuntao Zhang, PhD, Chemist

Animal Id:

GRAY FOX 7/19/25

Specimen Desc:

LIVER

Warfarin

< 5.00

ppb

Dicoumarol

< 5.00

ppb

Diphacinone

< 5.00

ppb

Coumachlor

< 5.00

ppb

Chlorophacinone

681.81

ppb

Brodifacoum

47.56

ppb

Difethialone

< 5.00

ppb

Bromadiolone

438.47

ppb

Date Reported

August 15, 2025




FGARs Are Deadly to Pets and Children as Well



Pets: Cats and dogs are frequent casualties.



Children: Exposure rates have increased in the past decade, between an estimated 60 and 80%. 

The children impacted are primarily low income and BIPOC.

What About Controlling Rodents?

- ARs do not reduce rodents on the population level in any open ecosystem.
- Rodent numbers are actually climbing with the rise in use of ARs.
- Sanitation and exclusion are known to be most effective combined with rodent contraception, deterrents, supplemental trapping (SMART boxes) and dry ice.



**A single gray fox consumes
between 1,500 and 3,000
rodents per year.**



Photo of fox by Robert Martinez

Precedent

- California's moratorium is on all ARs.
- State legislation seeks to ban both SGARs & FGARs in the state.
- Current legal petition requests ban on both FGARs & SGARs.
- Several municipalities in MA currently are voting on HR petitions for both generations of ARs.



Widespread Support

- Arlington Conservation Commission
- Sustainable Arlington
- Friends of Spy Pond Park
- Mystic River Watershed Association
- MSPCA
- Select Board