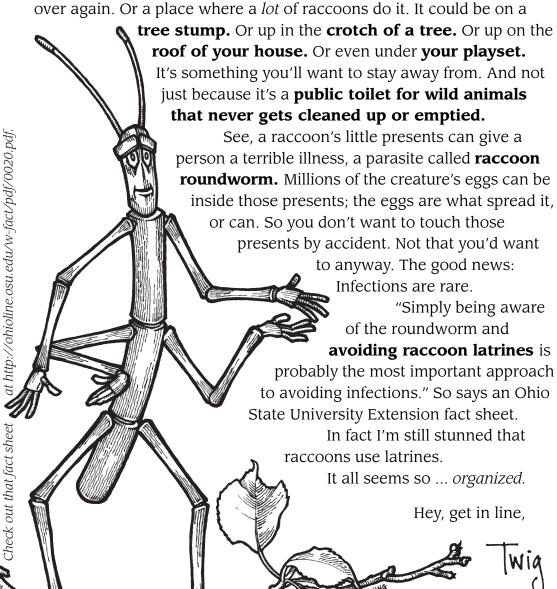


Q. Dear Twig: What's a raccoon latrine?

A. It's a place where a raccoon goes to the bathroom over and over and over again. Or a place where a *lot* of raccoons do it. It could be on a



From your scientific friends at The Ohio State University — specifically, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (www.oardc.ohio-state.edu) and OSU Extension (extension.osu.edu).



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For the week of Aug. 2, 2009

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Notes: The fact sheet is called "Raccoon Roundworm: Facts and Prevention." Wildlife specialist Stan Gehrt of Ohio State and Kristen Page of Wheaton College (Illinois) wrote it. The first photo in it? A raccoon caught in the middle of using a latrine. "Taken!" it seems to be saying. Or, maybe not. Adult roundworms live in a raccoon's small intestines. They usually don't make the raccoon sick. But the larvae can sicken and even kill not just people (again, fortunately, infections are rare) but dogs, mice, birds, rabbits, rodents and others. Also try "Raccoon Roundworm" at http://www .michigan.govdnr/0,1607,7-153-10370_12150_12220-27261--,00.html. The first photo in it is gross. (Sooo ... Yes! Check it out!)

Section of Communications and Technology

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