

Attachment 4: Policies and regulations related to human-wildlife conflict in Ontario

Provincial	
<i>Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 (the “Act”)</i>	
Hunting and trapping	Under the Act, a person that hunts or traps wildlife requires a licence, which is administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.
Private property and human-wildlife conflict	<p>Subsection 31 (1) permits a property owner to harass, kill, or capture wildlife <i>if</i> he/she believes, on reasonable grounds, that wildlife is damaging or is about to damage their property.</p> <p>The Act also permits residents to hire or ask an agent to respond to wildlife conflict on their property. The following four categories of people are authorized to act as agents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed trappers, • An employee or agent of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to animals (OSPCA), • Member of resident’s immediate family, • Person whose main business is removing wildlife (i.e. wildlife control operators)
Important Restrictions	<p>There are important restrictions to how residents as well as hunters/trappers can respond to wildlife issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may not cause unnecessary suffering to any wildlife • You may not use poisons and adhesives to kill, capture, or injure wildlife. • You may not capture, kill or harass endangered species • You may not kill Canada geese without the authorization from Environment Canada • You may not capture, kill or harass a white-tailed deer, unless you are in possession of a Deer Removal Permit issued by MNR • You are not permitted to damage or destroy the dens of furbearing mammals unless you are a licensed trapper. This rule does not apply to the dens of foxes or skunks.
Live-capture of wildlife	<p>If you live-capture an animal, and do not kill it humanely, you <i>must</i> within 24 hours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release it within 1 kilometre of the capture site and in similar habitat wherever possible • If injured, sick, or orphaned, deliver it to an authorized wildlife rehabilitator

Municipal	
<i>City of Toronto's Wildlife Strategy, 1999</i>	In 1999, the Board of Health as part of its response to the prevention and control of raccoon rabies adopted a Wildlife Strategy for the City of Toronto. Although most of the strategy focused on rabies prevention, in the case of nuisance wildlife concerns, it emphasized the city's focus "on informing and educating the public in an effort to create an environment where both [wildlife and humans] can co-exist free from conflict." The goal of public education was to promote the removal of wildlife attractants, staying a safe distance from wild animals, as well as the vaccination and supervision of family pets.
<i>Coyote Response Strategy, 2013</i>	In September 2013, City Council adopted the Coyote Response Strategy to identify appropriate actions to coyote issues in the City of Toronto. The Strategy is based on best practices in other jurisdictions and focuses on investigating and determining appropriate responses to coyote-human encounters, including public education, information sharing, and in specific circumstances, removal of the coyote (s).
<i>No-feeding provision on park lands</i>	Chapter 608, Parks, Subsection 608-36 specifically prohibits the feeding of wildlife within public parks.
<i>Relevant property standards by-laws for public lands</i>	Chapter 548, Littering and Dumping of Refuse, 548-3 makes it an offence for anyone to place, dump or deposit a quantity of waste (i.e. organic waste, which consists of all food materials, including fresh, frozen, dried, cooked, prepared foods and leftovers) on any land within the City.
<i>Relevant property standards by-laws for private property</i>	<p>Chapter 629, Property Standards, Sections 9, 10B and 22A requires all yards and any other part of a private property be kept free from refuse, garbage, pests and conditions that may attract pests or constitute a health, fire or other hazard. Garbage and refuse that is kept on private property has to be stored in receptacles.</p> <p>Chapter 548, Littering and Dumping of Refuse, 548-4 prohibits, in part, the placing or depositing of any waste on any land, except as required or permitted under commercial and residential waste by-laws. Section 548-5 also requires the owner of land on which refuse has been placed or deposited to immediately clean and clear the refuse from the land.</p>

