

For everyone's safety, please do not feed wildlife.

Feeding wildlife may seem harmless and the kind thing to do, but it can have serious impacts to both wild animals and the community. Here are a few reasons why:

- It alters their natural instincts. Wild animals are skilled foragers and hunters and don't need food from people.
- It conditions them to expect food from people and may increase their presence which can create problems for the community.
- Human food is very unhealthy for animals. Wild animals can find higher-quality food on their own.
- Feeding small animals like birds, squirrels or rabbits may attract rodents and larger predators such as foxes and coyotes.
- Feeding wildlife also increases the risk of transmitting diseases such as avian influenza to large animal populations.

Help keep wildlife wild and the community safe:

- Properly dispose of food and garbage at home and in parks.
- Avoid leaving food out or feeding pets outdoors.
- Practice ethical wildlife photography – do not lure or bait animals for a photo.
- Keep bird feeders and your property clean.
- Appreciate wildlife from a safe distance.
- Learn how to co-exist peacefully with urban wildlife in Toronto.

Report wildlife feeding to 311.

Feeding wildlife is prohibited in Toronto under Municipal Code Chapter 349, Animals Bylaw and Chapter 608, Parks Bylaw.

