



Please Don't Feed the Wildlife

Feeding a wild animal at your house may seem harmless, but feeding wildlife can have serious effects for both the animals and humans.

- Human food is not made for animals. It can cause disease, mouth and throat injuries to the animal and even death.
 - Feeding wildlife can make them dependent on humans as a source of food and they may become unable to survive on their own.
 - Wild animals can lose their natural fear of people once they become used to humans feeding them. It puts people at risk, especially children.
 - Wild animals can be unpredictable. A wild animal may see people, including children, as a threat and may attack to defend itself.
 - Wild animals that become used to being near humans may have to be destroyed to ensure human safety.
 - Wild animals may follow the scent of food or improperly stored garbage to a home or cabin, which can lead to damaged property.
 - Make sure you properly store garbage and any pet food left outside.
 - Getting too close to wild animals is a risk for people, because they sometimes carry diseases, such as rabies.
 - Feeding an animal changes its normal behavior, making it difficult to tell if it is coming close because of a disease or because it is looking for food. This can result in healthy animals being killed.
 - Hand feeding a wild animal is especially dangerous because there is no guarantee that an animal knows where the food stops and your fingers begin.
-