



# Why does feeding wildlife **DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD?**



## **WILD ANIMALS THAT ARE FED CAN LOSE THEIR FEAR OF HUMANS AND BECOME AGGRESSIVE.**

Aggressive behavior can result in injury to people or pets, which often ends poorly for the wild animal, too. The chances of vehicle collisions also increase when wild animals become too comfortable around people and roadways.

## **WILD ANIMALS CAN SPREAD DISEASE.**

Attracting animals to a food source can lead to disease outbreaks that can harm or kill wildlife. Feeding or closely interacting with wildlife can also expose you and other people to disease.



## **FEEDING INCREASES CONFLICT BETWEEN WILDLIFE AND HUMANS.**

Wildlife being fed on even one property can lead to serious issues in the entire neighborhood, like aggressive encounters with pets, attraction of predators and public health concerns around feces accumulation.

## **FOOD PROVIDED BY PEOPLE CAN HARM OR KILL WILDLIFE.**

Wild animals have specialized natural diets. Food provided by humans does not provide proper nutrients and can cause health problems and even kill wildlife.



# HOW CAN YOU LIMIT CONFLICT WITH URBAN WILDLIFE?

- ✓ **Supervise pets.**  
Keep cats indoors (or in catios) and dogs on a leash.
- ✓ **Remove or secure attractants**  
like garbage cans, compost piles, and pet food.
- ✓ **Be proactive!**  
Seal attics, sheds, garages, chimneys, and other spaces to keep wildlife out.
- ✓ **Communicate with your neighbors**  
and share these tips. A community effort is essential to prevent problems with wildlife.



American robin

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP WILDLIFE?



Anna's hummingbird



Give wildlife space and enjoy viewing from a distance.



Leave wildlife alone. Call ODFW before picking up or moving wildlife.



Bird houses and bat boxes are a great way to support local wildlife.



If you're going to put up birdfeeders, find ways to make them squirrel and rodent-proof. Clean feeders regularly to prevent spread of disease.



Use native plants to provide natural sources of food and to attract pollinators.



Oregon Department  
of Fish and Wildlife

### WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Learn more about living with Oregon's wildlife by visiting [www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living\\_with/](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/) or scanning the QR code.

