

Preventing Unwanted Wildlife Encounters

In the process of attracting wildlife to your yard, you may find yourself with some unwanted guests. Food put out for birds is also eaten by squirrels, mice, opossums and raccoons. Flowering plants readily attract hummingbirds and butterflies, as well as rabbits and deer. Fruit bearing trees provide food for skunks, coyotes and rodents. An animal may like your yard so much it decides to live there. Depending on your tolerance level, you may be thrilled to have these animals around, or you may not. When it comes to unwanted wildlife, prevention is always best.

Tips for Controlling Wildlife

- Check your house thoroughly for holes or loose boards that could allow access to your wildlife neighbors and replace or repair them. Place wire screening over any vents coming out of your house. Make sure your deck or porch has a fence or barrier to prevent animals from getting underneath it.
- If you have a chimney, have it professionally capped.
- Avoid setting out food (table scraps, bread products, pet food, etc.) that may attract scavengers like raccoons and opossums.
- If you have fruit trees, pick up fallen fruit on a regular basis.
- Keep garbage cans in a secure area or use metal cans that animals cannot chew through.

Tips for Controlling Wildlife (cont.)

To avoid creating a possible den or hiding place:

- Trim high vegetation up 18 to 20 inches from the ground.
- Thin out large flowering plants. Trim back tree branches at least three feet from roof.
- Stack firewood tightly to keep animals from making a home in loosely stacked wood.
- Trim back vegetation along fencing.
- Check fencing for repair or fill in areas where animals are getting through or under.



**Report coyote activity to:
(562) 567-9810 or
WhittierWM@cityofwhittier.org**



City of Whittier



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Prevent unwanted pests by checking areas of concern around your home.

