Help keep your neighborhood healthy and nuisance-free

- Don’t feed raccoons, squirrels, pigeons and crows. These animals can find food on their own. Feeding them leads to overpopulation and causes disease to be spread.
- Educate others why it is important not to feed them.
- Keep garbage cans covered.
- Don’t leave pet food outside.
- Refrain from feeding birds. Bird seed will attract nuisance animals and rats.
- It is against the law in King County to create conditions that can provide a food source for rodents. (KC BOH code Chapter 8.06)
- Enjoy wildlife from a distance. These animals are not domestic pets!

Living with Wildlife Series
produced by the WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife
http://wdfw.wa.gov/wlm/living/index.htm

Directory of wildlife control operators
http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/nuisance/nwco.html

PAWS Wildlife Center
Phone: 425-787-2500 ext 817
www.paws.org/about-wildlife-center.html

How to clean up a raccoon latrine

Prevent rodent infestations
www.kingcounty.gov/healthServices/health/ehs/rats.aspx

King County rodent regulations, Code Title 8
www.kingcounty.gov/health/BOH

Remember to:
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Public Health-Seattle & King County
Environmental Health Services
Zoonotic Disease Program
206-263-9566
Available in Alternate Formats.

IF YOU CARE DON’T FEED US

Feeding wildlife can cause
- Property damage
- Disease risks
- Rat and mouse problems
- Noise disturbance
- Wild animal bites to you or your pets
- Community litter
- Neighbor disputes

Rats & Mice
Raccoons
Pigeons & Seagulls
Crows
Eastern Grey Squirrels

Neighborhood nuisances & disease carriers

March 2014
Birds

- Wild birds can spread diseases to each other and to people.
- Wild birds can carry biting mites that may infest homes.
- Excess bird seed can attract rodents.
- Build up of pigeon or seagull feces can be slippery, smelly, visually unpleasing and cause property damage.
- Large flocks of birds create a noise nuisance for neighbors.

Feeding wildlife is unhealthy for your neighborhood!

Raccoons

- Raccoons accustomed to humans often become aggressive and unafraid.
- People and pets can be attacked and become agitated and uncooperative.
- Raccoons are not native to Washington.
- They can be found in attics.
- Raccoon droppings are cat-sized & may contain seeds and partially-digested berries.
- When raccoons are infected with roundworms, their droppings can contain millions of roundworm eggs that can survive in soil for years.

Feeding raccoons could spread disease to Mrs. King’s garden.

Rat & Mice

- Rodents carry diseases and pests, and can cause property damage.
- Rodents are attracted by pet food, bird seed, chicken food, tree fruit, garbage, and dog droppings.
- Prevent rodent problems by not feeding wildlife.

Eastern Grey Squirrel

- Eastern Grey Squirrels are not native to Washington.
- They can cause property damage by nesting in attics of homes and buildings.
- Eastern Grey Squirrels are not native to Eastern Grey Squirrels.

Preventing Raccoon Problems

- Do not feed raccoons!
- Cover garbage cans securely.
- Properly maintain your compost pile.
- Secure your pet door so they can't come into your house.
- Secure your yard so that raccoons can't enter.
- Prevent your attic from becoming a raccoon nest.

Healthy Environment

A neighborhood's cooperation helps support a healthy environment.

Raccoon Risks

- Raccoons may be attacked by raccoons, cats, dogs, and other wild animals.
- Their bites can be painful.
- Their droppings can be传播 diseases.
- Raccoon droppings can cause property damage.
- Raccoon droppings can attract pests.

Prevent Squirrel Problems

- Do not feed the birds.
- Do not put pet food outside.
- Check bird feeders for signs of squirrels.
- Remove bird feeders when squirrels are a nuisance.

Swallowing roundworm eggs (on contaminated produce or dirty fingers) can result in serious illness.

Feeding Raccoons in the Neighbor's Garden

Raccoons dropped feedings in Mrs. King’s garden.

Mrs. King told her neighbor about the hazards that feeding raccoons created. Her neighbor had not been aware of diseases spread by raccoon feces and that feeding raccoons makes them lose their natural fear of people and turn aggressive.

He stopped feeding the raccoons and the raccoons eventually left the neighborhood for an area where they could find food in the wild. Mrs. King paid a wildlife control expert to remove the contaminated soil so she could find food in the wild.

Raccoon droppings in the neighbor's garden.

Raccoon droppings are cat-sized & may contain seeds and partially-digested berries.

Mrs. King was alarmed to learn that the droppings were from raccoons. As a nurse she knew that raccoon feces carried roundworm eggs. The roundworm eggs could be in her garden soil presenting a risk to her and her young grandson, too.

Preventing Squirrel Problems

- Do not feed squirrels!
- Cover garbage cans securely.
- Properly maintain your compost pile.
- Secure your pet door so they can't come in your house.
- Prevent squirrel problems by not feeding wildlife.