

Raccoons in the Neighborhood



Many Kentuckians are fortunate to have large and diverse wildlife populations in community open spaces and backyard settings. The attractive and popular raccoon is a good example of wildlife that thrives in city and residential neighborhoods.

Raccoons often come in close proximity to human residences, children, and pets and when confronted can bite. It is best to **avoid contact with raccoons or any wild animals that are behaving abnormally**, have lost their fear of humans, are approachable, uncoordinated, or appear sick.

Do not feed wildlife, especially raccoons, as they can lose their fear of humans and become a neighborhood challenge to you, your children, and pets. Always keep your garbage secured in a sealed container. Cat food should not be left outside at night as this draws raccoons to the area to eat. Please remember to keep family pets up-to-date on vaccinations for preventable diseases like Rabies and Canine Distemper.

By respecting raccoons and other urban wildlife, we can reap the benefits of living with the wildlife that share our space.



To report disease in wildlife, please call the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources at 1-800-858-1549