

This is a message from the Department of Animal Services Wildlife Division.  
Summer 2007

A dry summer means more wildlife forays by both predators and prey species around our homes for access to water and food. City of Los Angeles residents are reminded to minimize odors and the availability of food rewards throughout their property.

**Guidelines to avoid negative Encounters with Wildlife:**

- Do not leave small children or pets outside unattended.
- Remove or thin down dense brush that could provide cover for wildlife where an encounter is likely.
- Trim trees 5 feet from the roof eaves or band trees to prevent access.
- Don't allow creeping vines or ivy type plants to grow on the wall of your home up to the roof.
- Put out garbage on the day of pick-up, not the night before. Store in a sturdy building or place in tightly closed containers that cannot be tipped over.
- Do not leave pet food out outside when your pet is not there to eat it, especially at night.
- Pick up fallen fruit.
- Remove sources of water when possible, especially in dry climates. Standing water in bird baths and fountains should be drained at night. Pet water dishes should be brought in when your pet is indoors.
- Hang bird feeders out of reach and avoid ground feeding of birds & squirrels. Put away bird feeders at night to avoid attracting rodents and other coyote prey.
- Keep barbecues clean and grease free.
- Cover compost piles may attract wildlife, do not put meat, fish and other pungent vegetable or fruit scraps in compost piles. Add lime to reduce odors and accelerate decomposition.
- Never feed predatory wildlife. LAMC 53.06.5 Feeding of Non-domesticated Mammalian Predators (Badgers, Bobcats, Bears, Coyotes, Mountain lions, Opossums, Raccoons, Skunks, etc.)
- Never feed Big Game animals CCR §251.3. Prohibition Against Feeding Big Game Mammals (Deer)
- Install motion-sensitive lighting and sprinklers around the periphery of your home.
- Provide secure enclosures for rabbits, poultry, etc. Chicken wire will not protect the animals. Use at least 16 or 18 gauge welded wire. Bring the animals indoors at night if possible.
- Landscape with deer-resistant plants.
- Repairs damaged fencing and enclose gardens with 6-8 foot fencing when possible (A variance may be needed for fences over 6 feet.)
- Be sure to seal holes and spaces around your home to prevent entry.
- Consider using commercially prepared deer repellents (available at garden supply stores.)
- Scare wildlife such as coyotes away when ever they are observed.
- Never approach wildlife as the consequences of approaching or feeding wildlife can be serious. You are responsible for your own safety as well as the safety of wildlife.
- Although most predatory animals come at night, Encounters with Coyotes and some other predators can happen at any time.

Wildlife sightings and issues can be reported to Los Angeles Animal Services at (888) 452-7381 Tips about wildlife please visit: [http://www.laanimalservices.com/aboutani\\_wildlife.htm](http://www.laanimalservices.com/aboutani_wildlife.htm)