

# INTERACTING WITH WILDLIFE IN OAKLAND COUNTY

Feeding and interacting with wildlife can have serious negative effects on both animals and humans. Here are some reasons why you should never feed or interact with a wild animal:

## HUMAN FOOD IS NOT MADE FOR ANIMALS.

Our food can cause injuries, disease, or even death for animals.



## ANIMALS CAN BECOME AGGRESSIVE.

Animals used to being fed lose their natural fear of people and can pose a risk to humans, especially children.



## ANIMALS RELY ON BEING FED.

Wild animals can become dependent on handouts and unable to survive on their own.



## ANIMALS CAN CARRY DISEASES.

Getting too close to a wild animal is dangerous due to the diseases they can carry, such as rabies.



## HOW YOU CAN DO YOUR PART KEEPING WILDLIFE AND OUR COMMUNITY SAFE:

- **Never feed wildlife.**
- **Never touch or interact with wildlife.**
- **Keep a distance from wildlife at all times.**
- **Throw all food away in a closed container.**



# CONTACTS FOR WILDLIFE INCIDENTS

If you see a wild animal in distress, leave it alone. In most situations, it's best to do nothing. If there is an incident that needs professional attention, listed below are contacts for specific cases:

## DOMESTIC ANIMALS & LIVESTOCK

Oakland County Animal Control:  
**248-858-1090** Weekdays: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

## BABY & INJURED OR SICK ANIMALS

Baby animals should be LEFT ALONE. Under most circumstances, the parent will return.

- Find nearby licensed rehabber at: **[www.MichiganDNR.com/DLR](http://www.MichiganDNR.com/DLR)**
- Howell Nature Center Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic: **517-548-5530**, Tuesdays through Sundays 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Call rehabilitation clinic before dropping any animals off.

## INJURED OR DECEASED ROADSIDE DEER

- Injured deer in the road or posing a threat to humans: **Call 911.**
- Injured deer not in the road and not posing a threat: Leave alone if possible, or call the Oakland County Sheriff's Office non-emergency number: **248-858-4950.**
- Roadkill: Road Commission for Oakland County Department of Customer Service: **877-858-4804**, weekdays: 7:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m. After hours/weekends: **248-858-4895.**

## BITE INCIDENTS

- If a person or pet is bitten by a mammal (such as a dog, raccoon, skunk or bat) or a rattlesnake, they should **seek medical advice and treatment immediately.**
- If bitten by a bat or carnivore (skunk, fox, coyote, raccoon, etc.) or if disease is suspected, also contact: Oakland County Health Department: **248-858-1280**, weekdays: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. After hours/weekends: **248-858-0931** (ask for the administrator on call).
- If you see or are bitten by a Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, please fill out the survey found in the QR code below after seeking medical advice and treatment.

***Oakland County Parks does NOT  
accept wildlife drop-offs.***

For questions, email: **[ParksNR@oakgov.com](mailto:ParksNR@oakgov.com)**

