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Top 10 Tips for keeping local wildlife safe.

Generally, we must acknowledge that we coexist with other creatures on this planet, and they do not comprehend human boundaries or our notions of ownership. These are our top 10 tips for helping to keep wildlife safe where you live.

1 Bonfires & fireworks

Remember to build or reconstruct a bonfire right before lighting it. Light it on one side to prevent trapping wildlife inside. Choose a location for the bonfire that is away from other plants and trees. When setting off fireworks, make sure to keep them a safe distance away from woodlands and trees.



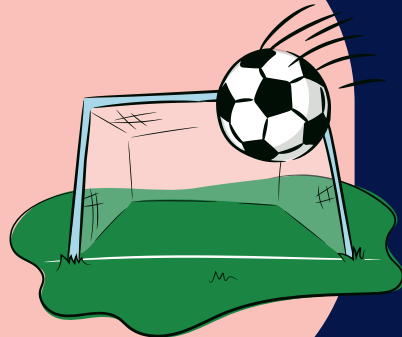
6 Waste disposal

Dispose of waste properly by engaging licensed contractors only. If you are uncertain about the correct disposal method, reach out to your local council for guidance. Additionally, store chemicals in secure containers that wildlife cannot access. Dispose of litter in bins or take it home, and cut up netting or plastic packaging to prevent harm to wildlife.



2 Netting & fencing

Remove sports netting and electric fencing when not in use. If in constant use, secure the netting 12-24 inches above the ground overnight using cable ties to prevent wildlife entanglement. Also, remember to promptly repair or replace any damaged sections.



7 Cats & dogs

Cats and dogs rank in the top 10 causes of wildlife casualties. Keeping cats indoors at night significantly decreases wildlife casualties. Think about using a Birdsbesafe® collar. When walking dogs in areas where there could be ground-nesting birds or young wildlife hidden in tall grass and bushes, consider keeping them on a leash. If you have hedgehogs visiting at night take your dog out into your garden on a lead.



3 Do no harm

It's important to refrain from using poisons in gardens or sheds. Avoid setting any traps, including snap traps, glue traps or fly papers, that could harm unintended animals, causing distress, injury, or even fatality. Placing traps or poisons in areas where non-target animals may be affected could be against the law. Guns and catapults just cause pain and suffering and can be illegal to use.



8 Be respectful

If you encounter a wild animal, maintain a safe distance and show respect for its wild nature. Keep an eye on children to help prevent disturbance. It's best to refrain from approaching animals, especially for photo opportunities, especially when resting, such as seals on beaches or swans on river banks, to prevent causing them distress.



4 Road casualties

If you come across a deceased wild animal on the roadside, take note of the location. When you travel along that road again, stay alert for other animals crossing. Keep an eye out for animal road signs and exercise extra caution when driving in the dark.



9 Feeding wildlife

Avoid improper feeding with unsuitable food types or in locations that could endanger wildlife. Offer food sparingly and infrequently to prevent dependency. Steer clear of fatty, salty, spicy, and processed foods, and do not feed near buildings or hazardous zones.



5 Trees & hedges

Try to refrain from cutting down trees in the spring and summer months. When maintaining garden hedges, only trim the new growth during these seasons. If you must trim a hedge or tree, make sure to check carefully for nesting birds to prevent disturbing them, which is illegal.



10 Professional help.

Sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife require specialized care. It is important not to try to care for them on your own. Always entrust injured animals to a wildlife rescue organization registered with the British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council. In cases of critical condition or severe injuries, seek immediate veterinary help.

