

Feeding wildlife can be harmful

Regular feeding can cause:

- Injury and death
- Poor nutrition
- Spread of disease to people and animals
- behaviour change, including aggression towards people
- Pollution
- Overcrowding
- Delayed migration
- Unwanted pests

Wildlife being fed can be a nuisance to you and your neighbours, causing issues like noise, property damage and droppings.

Instead of feeding, there are a number of other things you can do to enjoy spending time with wildlife

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Wildlife artwork by Nadia Rose (Gunditjmara) of Namaro Creative

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Living with Wildlife Feeding wildlife



Victorians are lucky to be able to share the environment with a diverse range of native wildlife.

Native wildlife have adapted to living in urban areas. They find their own food and do not need human assistance.

Processed seeds, bread and other human food are not part of an animal's natural diet and may make them sick.

Read more here:

https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/word_doc/0032/409883/Feeding-wildlife-2019.docx

We can all work together to keep our wildlife wild and healthy.



Did you know?

Birdfeeding in urban areas changes the balance of introduced and native bird populations. Studies in urban New Zealand have shown that introduced sparrows and doves increase in number with feeding, and native species such as the Grey Warbler, decrease in number. These population changes stop, when feeding stops^.

Councils have local laws that may apply to feeding wildlife. Contact your local council to find out more.

^Galbraith, J.A.; Beggs, J.R.; Jones, D.N.; Stanley, M.C. Supplementary feeding restructures urban bird communities. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 2015, 112, E2648–E2657



Instead of feeding wildlife...

Plant a wildlife-friendly garden.

Observe wildlife from a distance. Take photos

Install a bird bath. Change the water regularly.

Participate in community wildlife science projects and events like the Aussie Bird Count.

Learn more about your local wildlife.

Download and use citizen science apps.

Visit our website to find out more
<https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/>

