

# Wildlife Management Safety

Living a self-sufficient life style, homesteading, or prepping does not necessarily mean you will be living in the country but most people who have a plan to do it all themselves will have a large area to live on. You can, of course, start with small steps while still living in the city or even an apartment but at some point you will need more space. In general, those interested in a self-sufficient life style, homesteading, or prepping will have a place out of town. With living out of town comes wildlife. Although, some kinds of wildlife have adapted to living in towns and cities. When it comes to dealing with wildlife there are some basic cautions that will help keep both you and the wildlife safe and happy.

**Educate Family:** Teach family members about safe wildlife interactions.

**Identify Local Wildlife:** Learn about the wildlife species common in your area.

**Report Rabies:** Report any signs of rabies in wildlife to local authorities.

Public Safety: Ensure wildlife management prioritizes public safety.

Clean Grills: Keep outdoor grills clean to avoid odors that attract wildlife.

Secure Trash Bins: Use wildlife-proof trash bins to prevent scavenging animals.

Pet Food Storage: Store pet food indoors to avoid attracting wildlife.

Wildlife Rehabilitators: Contact wildlife rehabilitators for injured or orphaned animals.

Habitat Restoration: Promote natural habitat restoration to reduce human-wildlife conflicts.

Livestock Guardians: Employ guardian animals like llamas or dogs to protect livestock.

Chicken Coop Security: Fortify chicken coops against predators like raccoons and foxes.

Fencing: Install wildlife-resistant fencing around garden areas.

**Beehive Protection:** Use electric fencing to safeguard beehives.

**Water Sources:** Prevent wildlife access to water sources, especially during droughts.

**Repellent Sprays:** Use natural repellent sprays to protect plants from deer and rabbits.

**Bird Netting:** Cover berry bushes and sensitive crops with bird netting.

**Bird Feeder Placement:** Place bird feeders away from structures to avoid attracting predators.

**Fruit Tree Netting:** Protect fruit trees with netting to deter birds and critters.

**Wildlife-Resistant Plants:** Choose plants that are less attractive to wildlife.

**Harvest Timing:** Harvest crops promptly to minimize wildlife attraction.

**Tree Pruning:** Trim tree branches near buildings to prevent wildlife access.

Compost Management: Secure compost piles and avoid adding meat or dairy products.

Trapping and Relocation: Consider humane trapping and relocation for problem animals.

Predator Deterrents: Employ guardian animals like dogs or donkeys to deter predators.

Noise Deterrents: Use motion-activated lights or radios to scare off nocturnal wildlife.

Scare Tactics: Hang shiny objects or use scarecrows to discourage birds.

Burrow Filling: Fill in animal burrows to prevent infestations.

Predator Deterrent Lights: Install predator-deterrent lights around livestock areas.

Nocturnal Monitoring: Use night vision cameras to monitor nighttime wildlife activity.

Coyote Deterrents: Install coyote rollers on fences to prevent climbing.

Invasive Species Control: Implement control measures, such as trapping or hunting, for invasive animals like wild hogs, which can cause significant damage to crops and property.

Following these simple steps will help keep your family and animals safe and keep the wildlife safe as well. After all, no one wants to come home to find unwanted house guests raiding the fridge and sleeping on the couch. Not to mention the damage the different kinds of wildlife can do to your garden, feed room, and stuff. You should also consider the danger you can be to the wildlife. Many a farm dog has injured or killed local wildlife while protecting the homestead. These are situations that can be avoided or at least cut down by following simple wildlife management steps.