



## "Mistaken Kindness"



Feeding geese, ducks, fish and other forms of wild life is a "Mistaken Kindness".

**These are some simple needs for maintaining a sustainable community.**



Our resident and migratory waterfowl, mammals, reptiles, fish, and other animals are important parts of local and global ecosystems. They rely on specific energy sources from their environment and assist to keep the ecosystems natural balance. Wildlife is not adapted to acquire energy and essential nutrients from human food sources in most cases. Often





times, feeding animals makes them nutrient deficient and susceptible to disease because the energy source is not natural to the systems of the organism. For instance, Avian species have gizzards for grinding seeds, macro-invertebrates and other natural energy sources as opposed to breads that people may feed ducks and geese. This may in turn lead to disease.



Feeding wildlife also initiates domestication of the animals and this is damaging to the population, ecosystem and may pose threats to the community in some situations. Feeding wildlife "Conditions" the animal, in some cases, to never leave the source for artificial food acquisition and the animals may never leave the vicinity and populations may grow exponentially. Excess food sources artificially fed to animals may also be harmful to water quality if and when the source enters or is thrown into the water column. Excess nutrients may quickly alter water chemistry and set off algae bloom. Therefore, it is also very important to pick up dog waste and prevent dog waste from entering the water columns of ponds and streams.

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For more information, contact our office at 302.684.5201

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