



ANIMAL SERVICES AND ENFORCEMENT DEPT.
1515 Sarno Road, Bldg. A., Melbourne, FL 32935

Telephone: (321) 633-2024

Dear Homeowner/Occupant
NE Hampton Dr.
Palm Bay FL. 32905

Due to numerous reports of wildlife feeding and food being left outside unattended for feral cats Brevard County Animal Services and Enforcement would like to take this opportunity to share some information regarding this activity. Under Brevard County Code 14-57 (b) **Creation of a nuisance means; disturbing the peace of any person by habitually or repeatedly destroying, desecrating or soiling public or private property, chasing persons, livestock, cars or other vehicles, running at large or other behavior that interferes with the reasonable use and enjoyment of the property.**

Unattended feeding can increase the likelihood of a nuisance being created. This activity also violates state wildlife laws. The Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) is the agency that deals with wildlife issues you can view more information on this issue at the FWC website www.MyFWC.com . Unfortunately nuisance wildlife can only be relocated for the purpose of euthanasia due to issues involved with animals being moved from one place to another and the possibility of spreading disease among the animals. The FWC also has a prohibition in the **Florida Administrative Code** against feeding raccoons (68A-4.001) or allowing the feeding to become a nuisance.

Feeding wildlife or feral domestic animals can also be costly (one exposure requiring a rabies vaccination can cost \$1500.00) Other negative financial impacts occurs when civil litigation becomes involved due to injury resulting from animals gathering for food left outside someones home. This may result in having an insurance company dropping coverage or raising premiums to an unaffordable level. As well as the additional cost of the life of the animal involved, if it is captured it will be tested for the rabies virus.

You should do all you can to make raccoons or feral domestic animals feel unwelcome on your property. Secure all garbage can lids, don't leave pet food out overnight, use a garden hose to spray them with water anytime you see them. Get a small handheld air horn and make loud noises when they come around, as I said make them feel as unwelcome as possible. Discuss the problem with the neighbors about what can be done to help. It should also be understood that feeding the raccoons/ferals is actually causing their deaths if they become a nuisance animal.

Feeding wildlife is prohibited in Florida; if you are feeding a feral cat colony then proper colony management protocols should be used to keep the cats from becoming a nuisance to the neighborhood. If Animal Services can be of assistance please contact us at 321-633-2024 option #1 for more information. This letter is a courtesy notice if it does not apply to you then disregard.

Captain Bob Brown, Animal Services and Enforcement