



Councilwoman Mariann Dalimonte and the Town of North Hempstead present:

LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

We can successfully live with wildlife and even encourage some by adding plants to our yards that help butterflies, birds, and bees. We can also help by reducing the amount of chemicals we use on our lawn. To get an idea of what to plant go to the Town of North Hempstead website and read about protecting pollinators.



Springtime-Baby Birds

It is very common for you to find displaced, injured, or orphaned baby birds (particularly songbirds) during this time of year. The condition, age and circumstance of the bird you find affects what you need to do:

Hatchling baby birds – only a few days old, featherless, with eyes closed – remaining in the nest is vital to care.

Nestling baby birds – a little feather growth, incapable of hopping or walking – they also require parental care within the nest.

If you can locate the nest nearby, the best thing to do is simply place the hatchling or nestling back in the nest. DO the best you can, many young birds will not survive despite your best efforts.

Fledgling baby birds – increased mobility, adult like feathers with some soft down feathers remaining, unable to fly but able to hop and can grip perches.

They remain in the area near the nest for the parents to care for them. Leave them where they are and the parents will take care of them. If there are cats or other hazards around then place them on a branch.



Ducks and Other Waterfowl

It is best NOT to feed wild ducks and geese at all, you may make them dependent upon you. There is also research that states that migratory birds may not migrate if they are being fed, making them subject to harsh winters they are not used to.

Please DO NOT feed them bread. It is very bad for their stomachs and has no nutritional value for them.



Deer

Deer like to feed in the early morning and at dusk. They are not car aware so it is important that YOU see them and move slowly. Using bright headlights may help. However, they are known to change direction quickly so moving slowly is important

Deer have been reported by Bar Beach along Shore Road, along Shelter Rock Road, and by Christopher Morley Park, generally speaking along the North Shore of Nassau County. So drive carefully!



Coyote

If you have coyotes near your property, it's because they can find easily accessible food there (commonly out of garbage cans or dumpsters) or because local development has chased them from that original wooded area. If you have coyotes in the area:

1. Clear your yard of fallen fruit, and other food sources.
2. Do not feed your pet outdoors.
3. Watch your pet carefully and do not leave them outside.
4. Keep your garbage covered or inside the garage.

Coyotes are afraid of people unless people begin to feed them. If you see one, make some loud noises, it will run away. Keep your dog on a leash always when outdoors and do not let your dog outdoors alone.

There are coyotes in Town of North Hempstead and we can live with them by NOT feeding them so that they stay wary of people.



Driving

We tend to think that animals understand honking horns, they do not! Animals crossing the street act very erratic, sometimes coming back over the street they just crossed. This is especially true of squirrels, Canada Geese and opossums. You can tell by the numbers of these animals dead in the road. Areas near parks and ponds are especially likely to have animal crossings so please slow down and look! If you see animals crossing the road STOP, let them cross. Honking the horn will only make them more confused.

Injured wildlife

Do not attempt to pick it up – go to <https://dec.ny.gov/nature/wildlife-health/rehabilitators> and contact a rehabilitator near you. It may take some time for them to call you back, they are volunteers. You can also call Wildlife Center of Long Island (516-674-0982), or the STAR Foundation at (631) 736-8207.

