

# Public Information Centre

Wildlife in Urban Areas



# Agenda



1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Ministry of Natural Resources Presentation
3. Town of Newmarket Staff Presentation
4. Informal Question Period

# Town's Website

Information on Living with Wildlife on Town's website:

- Limit food sources
- Keep barbecues clean and covered when not in use
- Secure garbage in durable plastic containers with locking lids
- Store garbage indoors until collection day
- Maintain compost in containers that keep wildlife out

# Tips for Living with Wildlife



- Monitor children closely when they are outdoors.
- Keep all food inside your home.
- Do not feed any wildlife, including squirrels, raccoons, deer and rabbits. It only takes one person feeding wild animals to cause a problem for an entire neighbourhood.
- Fill bird feeders only through the winter months. Do not allow a large amount of bird seed to remain on your lawn

# Tips for Living with Wildlife ( cont'd)



- Pick all ripe fruit from trees and bushes and clean all rotten fruit off the ground.
- Avoid landscaping with trees, shrubs or plants that produce food known to attract bears (such as crab apple trees, mountain ash, beech and oak).
- Use rodent-proof composters, and put garbage in containers that have tight-fitting lids (bear-resistant).
- Do not put meat, fish or sweet food (including fruit) in your outside composter.

# Tips for Living with Wildlife ( cont'd)



- Put garbage and compost containers out only on the morning of garbage day, not the night before.
- If you do not have curbside pickup, take your garbage to the dump often.
- Frequently wash garbage cans and recycling containers and lids with a strong smelling disinfectant.
- Remove grease and food residue from barbecue grills, including the grease cup underneath, after each use.

# Signage

- Keep these tips in mind when dealing with coyotes:
- Do not turn your back or run – back away while remaining calm
- Make loud noises
- Never feed coyotes
- Keep pets safe and on a leash
- Call 9-1-1 if a coyote appears aggressive

# Town's Animal Control Responsibilities

- Animal Control deals with Domestic Animal (dogs and cats)
- Animal Control responds to injured/sick/dead small wildlife in a public place, on a public highway or on private property
- Animal Control's contract does not include coyotes, foxes etc;



# Service Levels



- If the Community wants a different type of response to dealing with coyotes, staff would need to get further direction from Council for dealing with coyotes on public property only

# Reporting Coyote Sightings



- Town create an app for reporting coyote sightings
- This information would be collected to determine the highly populated areas with Coyotes
- Signs maybe posted

# Education & Communication



- Update information posted on website
- Brochures distributed to Town Facilities
- Posted signs in 17 locations throughout the Town
- Set up an online reporting system where the residents are able to report coyote sightings
- Communication – tweets, Town page
- Contact the Town through Customer Service at 905-895-5193

# Questions



Thank You

