

Eight Reasons Not to Feed Wildlife:

1. Most wildlife becomes non-fearful and later will be aggressive in search of food. This can result in injuries or death to people and/or pets.
2. Wildlife carries diseases that can be transferred to humans such as rabies and the plague.
3. Animal Control Officers must interfere when tame animals become aggressive in search of food. For safety reasons, some animals will have to be destroyed if education, citations, aversion techniques along with attempts to trap and relocate the animal fail.
4. Deer have unique digestive systems. They must eat enough specific plant proteins to stimulate the growth of vital intestinal bacteria. Human food does not produce these organisms, and without them, members of the deer family cannot process food. They may starve to death on a full stomach.
5. Human food may cause health problems and chemical imbalances in wildlife. Poor health is the result of eating human food and will make the animals less likely to survive the winter months.
6. Many animals will stop foraging for wild foods and become dependent on human handouts. If they fail to stash seeds, they will no longer be planting future generations of trees and bushes.
7. Wildlife will no longer be fearful of humans.
8. Wild animals are capable of finding plenty of food on their own.

Source: Greenwood Village, CO

<http://www.greenwoodvillage.com/DocumentView.aspx?DID=1327>