NATURE'S VALLEY
CONSERVANCY / ULONDOLOZO / BEWAREA

Feeding of wild animals is usually done with the best intensions, however with negative environmental impacts:

- **Altered behaviour:** Regular feeding of wild animals can alter their natural behaviour. Animals become dependent on human-provided food, leading to changes in foraging patterns and social structures. This can disrupt natural ecological balances and interactions with the ecosystem.
  - **Solution**: Stop feeding wild animals, including birds. Educate homeowners and visitors.
- **Spread of disease:** Crowding of animals around a feeding station may likely arise in the transmission of diseases.
  - **Solution:** Neighbours can enforce non-feeding behaviour of their neighbours.
- **Invasive species introduction:** These foods can attract invasive species that will out-compete with the natural fauna for food resources. These alien species will damage the ecosystem.
  - **Solution:** Educate homeowners on not to feed wild animals.
- **Habitat degradation:** Concentrated feeding activities allow for habitat destruction around feed sites. Trampling, soil compaction and vegetation damage. This will lead to disruption of natural vegetation and cause erosion and therefore loss of biodiversity.
  - **Solution:** Designate feeding areas away from sensitive natural areas. Rehabilitate damaged areas.
- **Human-Wildlife conflict:** Feeding of wildlife can habituate animals to human presence, increasing the likelihood of conflict between humans and wildlife. This may lead to property damage and even human injuries.

Solution: Implement strategies to discourage associations between wildlife and humans.



HOW TO KEEP OUR WILDLIFE SAFE AND NATURALLY WILD



- Report feeding of wild animals.
- Report illegal incidents of wildlife abuse.
- Report black bags not properly stored.
- Report baboons and monkeys on your property.

Baboon Monitors 066 516 0161

- Of paramount importance is how you manage your home waste.
- Install a wildlife animal-proof bin.
- Where you can place your black bags safely from the reaches of wild animals or
- Your wheelie-bin installed with a locking device that these animals cannot open.
- Put out your black bags out on the day and not the night before unless secured. If you are away on refuse day, ask your neighbour to help you.
- Avoid planting exotic plants which bear fruits, such like figs and nuts.
- Fruit trees, vegetable gardens and compost heaps must be kept in caged areas or electric fencing.
- Protect your home by installing “clear bars” at a width distance of 5cm. this will prevent even monkeys from entering your home. The clear bars are aesthetically pleasing. Special measured window and door catches can also be installed if you prefer not to have “burglar bars”.

LAWS PROTECTING BABOONS

Baboons are protected under the Nature Conservation Ordinance 19 of 1974. It is illegal to feed or hunt a baboon without a permit.

- Any one caught feeding a baboon could face a year’s imprisonment/a **fine of up to R2 500** or both.
- Shooting of baboons with a paintball gun or any other weapon without a permit could result in imprisonment of two years, a fine of R2 500 or both.

*A laminated copy of Baboon guidelines is available at NVT office which you can place on your fridge for your family and guests.

Feeding wildlife is: unhealthy, spreads disease and habituation causes human-wildlife conflict.



Contact NVT to assist you to install a animal-proof wheely-bin