

DO NOT FEED THE GROUND SQUIRRELS

THE FINE FOR FEEDING WILDLIFE IS \$287.

FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

Help Keep Our Wildlife Wild!

Fish Creek Provincial Park is home to a dazzling diversity of wildlife. As a protected area, it is important to balance the needs and safety of our wildlife with park visitor enjoyment and recreation.

You can help keep our wildlife wild by:

- Allowing wildlife to find their own food.
- Quietly observing animals from a respectful distance.
- Properly disposing of garbage, recycling and food waste.
- Walking your pet on a leash that is no longer than 2 metres.

Do Not Feed Wildlife

Wild animals are equipped with physical and behavioural adaptations to find their own food. Feeding wildlife can have harmful consequences:

- Habituating wildlife to associate humans with food is dangerous for the animals and for park visitors.
- Leaving food for wildlife can influence their natural distribution and make them easier prey for predators.
- Feeding wildlife non-natural food can be bad for their digestive tracts and in some cases can be fatal for them.
- Feeding wildlife can draw them out of the park and onto urban roads, which can be dangerous for both people and animals.
- Feeding migratory birds can affect their natural migratory behaviours and decrease their chances of survival.
- Seeds left for birds or dropped from feeders may germinate and introduce invasive plant species into the park.



Do Not Approach Wildlife

For nature lovers and wildlife photographers, it can be tempting to try and get closer to wildlife species for that perfect picture; however, approaching wildlife may alter their behaviour and keep them from doing what they need to do to survive.

Keep Pets On-leash

It is unlawful to allow your dog to run off leash and chase wildlife; violating the Alberta Parks Act can result in a fine from \$115 up to \$2000.

Surviving, and avoiding predators is energetically costly for wildlife. Please keep your pets on-leash and under control at all times to reduce unnecessary stress on our resident wildlife.



For more information contact:

Fish Creek Provincial Park
15979 Bow Bottom Trail SE
Box 2780
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0Y8
Phone: (403) 297-5293
Fax: (403) 297-5284
Website: www.fish-creek.org



February 2015



Photo credit: Gregg Elovich