

Don't **TRASH** *Wildlife*



Thousands of wild animals are injured or killed every year because of carelessly discarded litter.

Food containers become death traps when animals get their heads stuck inside, reaching for tasty residues at the bottom. Plastic floating on the water's surface looks like food to sea turtles and other marine creatures. Shore birds and other animals become ensnared by fishing line and plastic six-pack rings.

By safely disposing of containers, wrappings, and other trash, you can help prevent these tragedies.

Rinse and Recycle

Rinse all recyclable food containers to remove any remnants and odors. Containers with narrow tops and wide bottoms are particularly dangerous, but every container should be considered a potential hazard to wildlife.

Cut or Crush

Cut up or crush plastic containers before you put them into the garbage or recycling. Cut each loop in plastic six-pack rings before disposal.

For more information, visit humanesociety.org/wildneighbors or e-mail wildlife@humanesociety.org.

Fish It Out

Pick up fishing line and nylon twine, which are particularly dangerous to birds and other wildlife. Creating special disposal containers and placing them around popular fishing spots can help protect animals.

Close and Cover

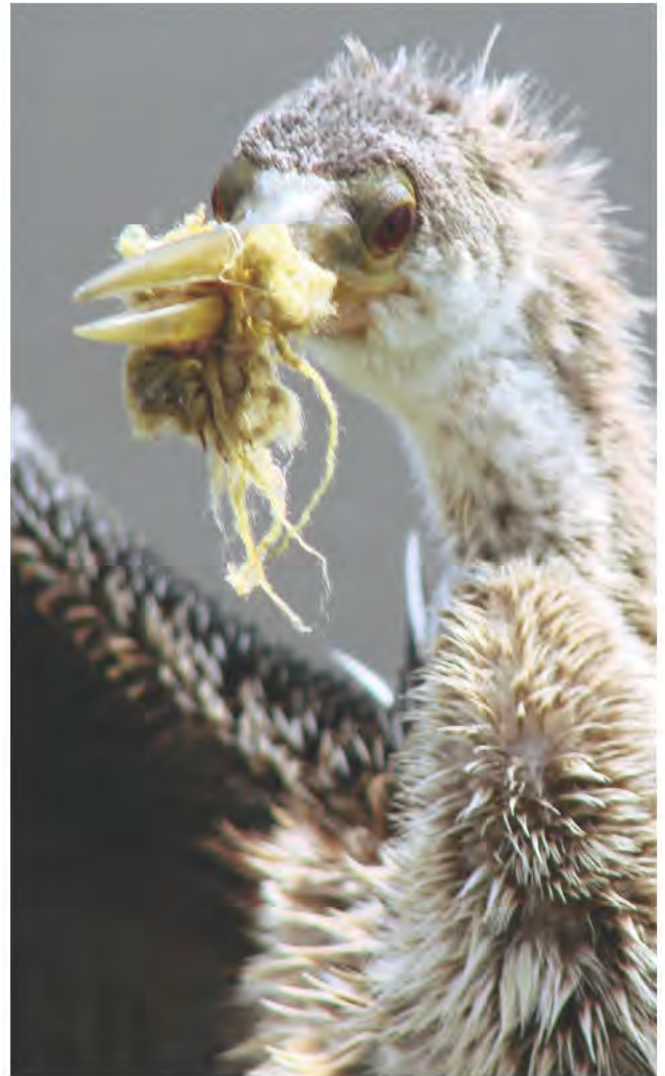
Rinse plastic food wrap and place it in closed bags or containers. Never throw unsecured plastic wrap into open trash cans.

Pack It In, Pack It Out

If you're hiking, camping, traveling, or simply taking a walk in the park, dispose of all trash responsibly. Encourage others to do the same.

Don't Invite Trouble

Poor trash management not only causes harm to unfortunate animals, it also brings them close to residences, making human-wildlife conflicts more likely. Trash cans and dumpsters should be securely covered. For extra protection, secure trash can lids by strapping a bungee cord across the top and attaching it to the handles. To further discourage scavengers, place garbage out for collection the morning of trash pickup instead of the previous night.



The Humane Society of the United States' three wildlife care centers often treat wild animals with life-threatening injuries caused by discarded trash.

Cape Wildlife Center

4011 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630
508-362-0111

humanesociety.org/cape

Fund for Animals Wildlife Center

18740 Highland Valley Road
Ramona, CA 92065
760-789-2324

humanesociety.org/ffawildlifecenter

SPCA Wildlife Care Center

3200 SW 4th Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315
954-524-4302

humanesociety.org/spca



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

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