

Offering food for wildlife is called "food provisioning".

Food provisioning of wildlife is a human-created problem.

People need to take responsibility for the consequences of their actions.  
To coexist with wildlife people must never offer food to them.



Did you know? Bananas, pineapple, oranges, watermelon, papaya and most other cultivated fruits are NOT natural foods for orangutans, and many other wildlife.

**WHY?**

Offering food to wildlife will attract them at above normal levels. This leads to conflict between animals that can be dangerous to BOTH people AND animals.

Offering food to wildlife will draw them closer to people.

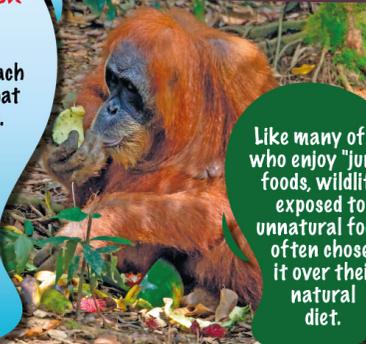


Feeding wildlife creates an expectation that this behavior will continue.

Animals will start to approach people, anticipating food that they have come to rely on.

People typically do not appreciate this and then label these animals "pests," despite the fact that it was humans who initiated the behaviour, they now dislike.

People should not feed wild animals to avoid teaching them to approach people for food.



Like many of us who enjoy "junk" foods, wildlife exposed to unnatural food often chose it over their natural diet.



Who, then, is responsible when animals being "too close" to people becomes a problem?

Food Provisioning alters behaviour and social dynamics in ways that are deleterious to wildlife  
Food provisioning negatively impacts the health of wildlife

Food provisioning can inadvertently occur with inadequate waste management.



Rubbish feeding

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Coexisting with wildlife requires people to maintain a safe distance and to create ways animals can do the same.  
Mutual respect is necessary as animals increasingly must share spaces with people due to natural habitat loss caused by human activities.

Enrichment planting that is exclusively based on a food provisioning approach is insufficient as habitat restoration for biodiversity conservation and can create conditions incompatible with coexistence.

Food provisioning should not be confused with habitat restoration

To improve habitat in a more "wildlife" friendly way.

1. **Do NOT** plant in a place you do not want wildlife to use.
2. **Do NOT** plant a single species that will draw many animals to one place at a specific time, i.e., when a particular species is in fruit.
3. **Do NOT** plant cultivated varieties that humans also want to harvest.
4. **Do** plant a diversity of native species to create overall habitat restoration.
5. **Be respectful of wildlife and let them have un-harassed access to the area.**



References can be downloaded here.