

**Allegheny County Parks Department hopes you enjoy your shelter rental
and have a great day outdoors!
Remember though, A CLEAN PARK IS A HAPPY PARK...**



Please, don't "tip" the wildlife!

Sharing the park with local residents doesn't mean sharing your picnic with them...

It's bad for the animals and it can be bad for you. **So to minimize human-wildlife conflict, we need your cooperation.** The presence of food scraps on the ground or accessible in open garbage cans has been attracting larger than usual numbers of wildlife to our shelters, especially raccoons, with their love for human tidbits. When wildlife populations become denser than normal, not only do the animals become a target for trapping operations, but they can also present a safety risk to humans:

- animals accustomed to being around people lose their natural fear of them, become dependent on handouts, and get more aggressive in their search for food;
- larger than normal populations increase the need for scavenged food and also the risk of disease;
- human foods are not good for wildlife, leading to nutritional deficiencies and lowered disease resistance.

Allegheny County Parks Dept is committed to keeping everyone safe and happy, people and animals (domestic and wild), and we have invested in wildlife-proofed garbage cans for that purpose. We are working with the Humane Society of the United States to recondition the raccoons to stay away from people. **But the program can only succeed if you don't undermine it by feeding them!** So before you leave the shelter, remember these 3 steps to avoiding problems:

pick up
your leftover food and packaging from the ground!
trash it
in the special garbage cans provided
close
the can lids so they're inaccessible to wildlife!

Thank you for helping out, and enjoy the park!



Allegheny Regional Asset District