



General Information

- Raccoons are nocturnal.
- Raccoons are omnivores and will eat almost anything.
- Male raccoons are solitary and do not help raise the litter.
- Females raise their litter in a den to offer protection. A female raccoon has one litter per year in the spring.
- The young raccoons stay with the female until winter or the following spring.
- Raccoons are not true hibernators and may be seen during milder winter weather.

Disease and Parasites

Raccoons can carry diseases that may affect people and/or pets such as rabies, distemper, parvovirus, mange, fleas and roundworm.

Nuisance Activity

Raccoons have adapted very well to urban living and can become a nuisance. To avoid conflicts, ensure your home is in good repair and remove food such as bird seed, pet food and fallen fruit. Here are some [tips on avoiding conflicts](#).

Trapping and Removal

In Ontario, it is also illegal to trap and re-locate an animal from its home territory. In addition to being illegal, trapping wildlife can leave young raccoons orphaned, injured or spread disease such as rabies. For expert tips on deterring wildlife, protecting your home and choosing a humane wildlife removal company, contact a wildlife centre such as [Toronto Wildlife Centre](#).



Behaviour - Daytime Activity

Raccoons are nocturnal, however a healthy raccoon may be seen during the day:

- Sleeping in a tree or on a rooftop. The raccoon usually leaves overnight providing there are no food sources keeping it there, or dogs to threaten its safety.
- A litter of baby raccoons may romp outside the den for short periods.
- A nursing mother raccoon may occasionally search for extra food during the summer.

A Raccoon is Showing Signs of Sickness or Distress When:

- Found wandering during the day.
- Disoriented, staggering, falling over or is paralyzed.
- Mucous caked around eyes or nose.
- They are tame and approach pets or people.

- They are aggressive and attack pets or people.
- Found lying or sleeping on the ground.
- A baby raccoon is left outside by itself.
- Found with an injury or hit by a vehicle.

DO NOT APPROACH A SICK OR INJURED RACCOON
Contact [Animal Services](tel:905-896-5858) at 905-896-5858.

IF YOU ARE BITTEN OR SCRATCHED BY A RACCOON:

- WASH THE WOUND IMMEDIATELY with warm, soapy water.
- SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION - Report to [Region of Peel Public Health](https://www.peel.ca/health).
- Report to [Mississauga Animal Services](https://www.mississauga.ca/animal-services).

For more information, contact Mississauga Animal Services at 905-896-5858 or mypet.info@mississauga.ca.