Raccoon

NATURAL HISTORY

Raccoons are curious, unique, and intelligent creatures. These characteristics help them survive in the wild, but can also make for annoying neighbors. Wild raccoons accustomed to being fed by well-intentioned people will generally lose their natural fear of humans and seek to move closer to their food source - your house. Once raccoons take up residence in an attic or outbuildings they can become very destructive and difficult to remove. Malnutrition, diseases like rabies, and predation by humans, coyotes and bobcats take their toll, but raccoon populations are not in decline in most areas of Texas. They can find their way into a house to get food. Their diet includes fruits and nuts, insects and aquatic invertebrates, fish, small rodents, frogs, bird eggs, carrion and human garbage.

Breeding Season & Litter

Males reach sexual maturity at 2 years; females at 1 year. Their mating season is from mid to late summer. Sixty to 74 days after mating, up to 4 cubs will be born. Baby raccoons’ ears and eyes open about 18 to 24 days after birth. Males do not stay to help raise the young. Raccoons can live 10 to 15 years in the wild.

Tips on avoiding Interactions

Do not feed wildlife! This increases the chances that the animal will lose its natural fear of humans.

Do not touch. Never touch a raccoon! They are known to carry rabies and distemper.

Tightly cover garage and compost bins. Open bins encourage scavenging.

Keep your dogs on a leash! When out on a walk, keep your pets leashed to greatly reduce the chance of a negative wildlife encounter.

Call (830) 249-2456
For More Info