



CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN



Ten Ways to Help Local Wildlife

Gorillas, elephants, and tigers definitely need our help to survive, but so do the wild animals that live right here in our own backyards. Here are some tips on how you can help them out.

1. Purchase a wildlife plate to support the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' conservation programs.
2. Pick up litter that could entangle or otherwise harm wildlife, such as six-pack rings and plastic bags.
3. Make your yard wildlife-friendly by planting native plants and putting up bird houses.
4. Instead of hand-washing your car at home, go to a commercial car wash, which uses less water and sends the potentially toxic suds straight into the sewer.
5. Keep your housecats indoors to protect small mammals and birds from these non-native predators.
6. Leave wildlife in the wild; wild animals do not make good pets.
7. Use non-lead sinkers when fishing to keep toxins out of the water, and be sure to take any fishing line and hooks with you.
8. Instead of using toxic chemicals, protect your plants from bugs with natural repellants such as garlic, onion, and marigolds.
9. Store your garbage cans inside a closed garage to keep raccoons, opossums, and skunks out of trouble.
10. If you find an injured animal, report it to wildlife rehabilitators at Second Chance Wildlife at 875-3433.

