

Don't Feed the Birds script DRAFT

Feeding birds may seem like a kind thing to do, yet it is doing more harm than good. Keep ducks, geese, other fowl, and our waterways healthy by not feeding them.

When you feed one bird, you attract many others to the area. These birds then compete for resources, and survival becomes harder. This overpopulation also causes an increase in bird droppings, increasing the amount of bacteria in our waterways. Not only can this be unappealing, but it is also hazardous to public health, as this can increase the chance of exposure to *E. coli* or Bird Flu.

Did you know that birds can become so accustomed to humans feeding them that they lose the motivation to migrate south in the winter, causing them to freeze to death? Feeding birds can also lead them become more aggressive towards humans, causing bites and other injuries.

It is very popular to give birds bread, but this causes them a lot of harm. Bread does not provide any nutritional value to young birds and consuming it can leave them malnourished. This can lead to “angel wing”, a deformity that prevents flight. Any bread that is not eaten will rot and can poison waterways, causing harm to other animals as well.

Help us keep wildlife wild and our environment healthy by not feeding birds.

Learn more at www.nctcog.org/TMDL.