



## **Pets and Wildlife**

Indoor cats avoid exposure to disease and predators. Freeroaming cats and small dogs can become part of the food chain, with consequences for both pets and wildlife. Indoor cats live an average of five times longer than free-roaming cats.

Dogs should be kept in fenced yards, on leash or under direct control. Keep vaccinations for dogs and cats current to minimize risk of disease transmission between domestic and wild animals. Your veterinarian can give you more information about preventing problems caused by encounters between pets and wildlife.

## **And, Finally...**

We hope that this guide shows that living with wildlife is not much of a burden. Most of what works to keep wildlife populations healthy is common sense.

## **Save water**

Reducing residential and business water use relieves the intense pressure on our water resources posed by our growing population. For example, use native plants that do not require heavy watering, and use a broom instead of the hose when cleaning around your home or at work.

## **Visit local parks and creeks**

There is high quality wildlife habitat not far from your home. Getting to know the region's animals is a pleasure and shows the value of our efforts to preserve, conserve and restore wildlife.