

The Critter Chronicle

Winter, 2021–2022

The “Critter Chronicle” is a quarterly newsletter designed to provide you with information on best practices for coexisting with urban wildlife in Agoura Hills. Our focus is education and creating positive change in the lives of people, pets, and wildlife!

To learn more about our wild friends, join our group on Facebook! [Coexist with Urban Wildlife in Agoura Hills](#)

Food Waste Law in California

Senate Bill 1383 mandates that **California residents place organic matter in green carts or grey carts with green lids.**

What goes in the bin:

- ⇒ Produce
- ⇒ Meat
- ⇒ Dairy
- ⇒ Bakery & Dry Goods
- ⇒ Yard waste



Place items directly into the cart.
Do not bag organics.
Lid must fully close.

[Agoura Hills Residential Organics Flyer](#)

Place items directly in the cart. **Do not bag your organics. The lids must fully close.**

Be Wildlife and Neighbor Friendly!

Wildlife is attracted to food in overflowing garbage bins. If your carts are **not closed**, **wildlife can access the food and bring food to your neighbors property.** Overflowing garbage and **overturned carts containing food will attract rats.** Again, It is important to **keep lids fully closed** with any food substance. More information on **trash service in Agoura Hills** is found via this link:

<https://www.agourahillscity.org/department/solid-waste-management/residential-service>

Tree Trimming/Nesting Birds

Did you know? Nesting can begin as early as January and most birds are protected under the **Migratory Bird Treaty Act.** The Act states that **any known “active” nest** cannot be disturbed until the babies have left the nest. **The California Wildlife Center notes you can play it safe by trimming trees in the late Fall and early Winter.** The birds usually complete nesting by **November.** For more information visit the **California Wildlife Center** page: <https://cawildlife.org/faq/>



Make Coyotes Uncomfortable!

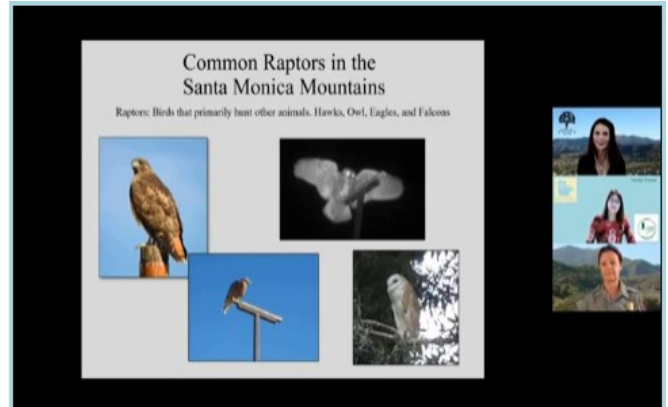
Never let a coyote think your home is a good place to hang out. If you rent your home, it is **important to educate your guests and tenants. If you have visitors that bring dogs to your home, let them know about our wild friends.** Here are some methods to discourage or deter coyotes.

- ⇒ **Make your house an undesirable place to be.** Coyotes visit at **any time of the day or evening hours.** Keep chickens in **predator-proof housing.** **Clear brush** before coyote breeding season (February to March). **Pick up fruit and never leave small dogs or compromised large dogs unattended in the backyard.**
- ⇒ **Haze coyotes!** Use a variety of techniques such as **whistles, air horns, squirt guns, and throw cans filled with coins near them.** **Yell and wave your arms.** **ASPCA Hazing Guidelines:** [coyote-hazing-guidelines.pdf \(humanesociety.org\)](#)

2021 A good year!

Poison Free Agoura and Cities Against Rat Poisons (C.A.R.P.)

- ⇒ C.A.R.P. **billboards** were placed in Los Angeles locations. C.A.R.P. designed a **new brochure**, and welcomed the growth of **Poison Free Conejo Valley!**
[Poison Free Conejo Valley](#)
- ⇒ Poison Free Agoura delivered over **100 wildlife orientation bags** in Liberty Canyon, Old Agoura, and Fountainwood communities.
- ⇒ In November and December, Poison Free Agoura assisted the **City of Agoura Hills** in mailing **over 800 letters** to commercial businesses. The letter provided information on the **dangers posed by the use of anticoagulant rodenticides** and it was signed by **Mayor Denis Weber**.
- ⇒ Poison Free Agoura offered **four webinars in 2021!** Topics included **mountain lions, coyotes, poison-free alternatives, and raptors**.

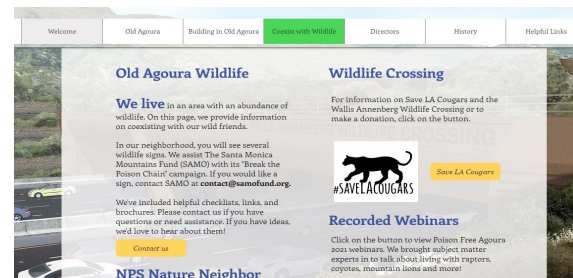


Old Agoura Homeowners updated website and Coexist with Wildlife page



Check it out! There is great information to view and download!

[Coexist with Wildlife | oldagoura](#)



Poison Free Agoura: Community Commitment



Poison Free Agoura **thanks you** for your support in 2021! We are committed to another year of **bringing people, pets, and wildlife together via education, empathy, and understanding!** We focus on **solving problems without judgment. We live our vision and mission.**

In 2022, we will continue our educational efforts and expand them. We'll continue to test products **designed to deter gophers and ground squirrels**. If you are a community member who is interested in volunteering for projects, please contact us at via email at **PoisonFreeAgouraToday@gmail.com**.



We can help you!

Rats eating your car wires? Ground squirrels digging holes around your property? Gophers taking a walk on the wild side across your lawn? Please contact us or visit the **Poison Free Agoura** website [Poison Free Agoura/Coexist with Wildlife](#) and the **Cities Against Rat Poisons** website [Cities Against Rat Poisons](#) to learn about alternative methods to poisons.