

July 1, 2016

Re: Please Do Not Feed the Feral Cats and Raccoons

It has been brought to our attention that some residents are feeding wild animals including raccoons near their homes. Florida Wildlife says "Do not feed wildlife." They also point out that "Feeding wildlife can increase the number of raccoons in an area. Raccoons carry a disease called raccoon roundworm that is contagious to both other animals and humans." They advise that any cleanup of raccoon "latrines" should be done wearing gloves and then burning the gloves, and that children and pets should be kept away from these latrine areas. The Florida Health department warns that raccoons should be observed from a distance due to the potential diseases they can carry.

Local animal control can be called to remove the raccoons from your property. The smell of such latrine areas is enforced as a NUISANCE violation of our River Wilderness covenants. Further, it is a health and odor concern to the residents who are doing the feeding and to their close neighbors.

Please do not feed wild animals. Thank you for helping to keep River Wilderness a well maintained and safe neighborhood.

Syble DiGirolamo  
HOA President