



Le développement durable :
Se prendre en main...
Aujourd'hui pour demain



Green file 3

WILDLIFE IN SAINT-LAZARE



SHARING OUR TERRITORY



MOST COMMON WILD ANIMALS IN SAINT-LAZARE



WILD ANIMALS ON THE ROAD



WILDLIFE PROTECTION



Environment department
ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca
enviro@ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca
1960 Chemin Sainte-Angélique,
Saint-Lazare (Québec) J7T 3A3
450-424-8000, ext. 248

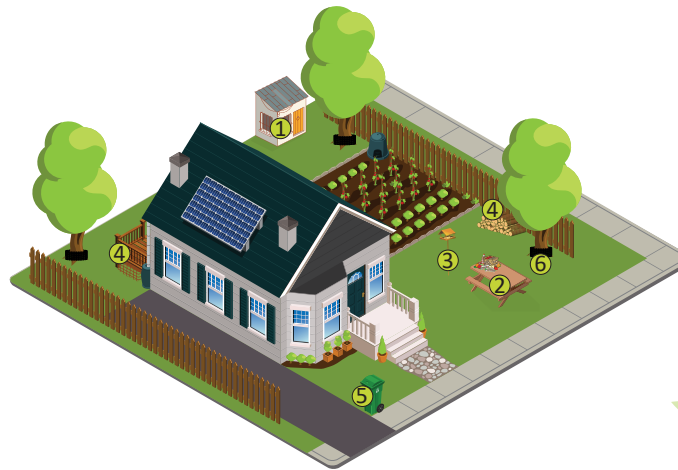


SHARING OUR TERRITORY WITH WILD ANIMALS

The Town of Saint-Lazare, far from being a major city or a suburb of the West Island, is spread over a mainly wooded area of 67 km². The vast woodlands and wetlands on our territory are home to a wide variety of flora and fauna, which contribute to maintaining a healthy and balanced environment. It is therefore quite normal to occasionally see wild animals such as deer, coyotes, foxes, raccoons, skunks, fishers and even moose or bears.

TIPS FOR LIVING TOGETHER WITH WILD ANIMALS

- 1) Properly close all building access points and block any openings with wire mesh.
- 2) Avoid feeding wild or stray animals at all cost so they do not become dependent on humans and develop undesirable behaviour.
- 3) Do not leave pet food outdoors and make sure bird feeders are not accessible to other animals.
- 4) Clean up piles of material, wood and logs that animals could use for shelter. Use wire mesh to prevent animals such as skunks and groundhogs from accessing areas under balconies or sheds and ultimately settling there.
- 5) Make sure your waste bins are covered with a lid to avoid attracting animals.
- 6) Protect the bottom of trees using a 50 cm-high cylinder of wire netting, about 10 cm of which should be buried in the ground.



MOST COMMON WILD ANIMALS IN SAINT-LAZARE

1) WOODPECKERS

As woodpeckers are very present in our region, it is not uncommon to see one pecking away on a house. It is important, however, to discourage this behaviour as soon as possible. You can do this by installing a decoy of a bird of prey such as an owl or a buzzard. You can also hang reflective tape or aluminum plates near the hole created by the woodpecker and cover it with temporary wire mesh. Repair the hole immediately to prevent it from attracting other woodpeckers.

Downy woodpecker



2) COYOTES

Since coyotes are attracted by food, they can occasionally be spotted in the area. Wooded areas and fields, such as those found in the sector west of Côte Saint-Charles, are generally favoured by these animals.

Coyotes



As such, we ask that you always remain vigilant with regard to these wild animals. Never try to tame a coyote by offering it food. Chase them off your property by making noise to scare them away.



450-424-8000, ext. 248



ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca

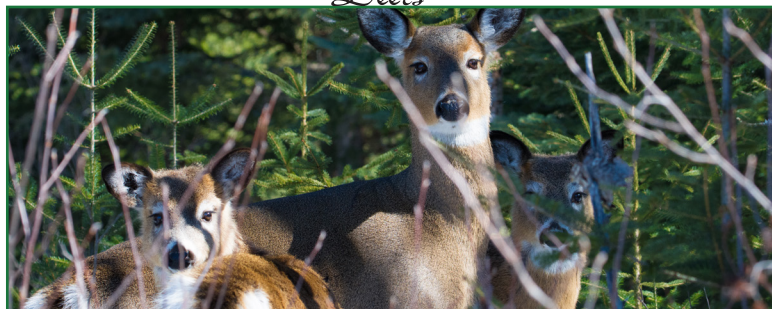


enviro@ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca

3) DEER

An increase in roadside feeding sites is attracting deer to the area. In addition, this activity is the source of many complaints from citizens who helplessly witness the excessive grazing of their hedges, ornamental plants and crops due to the feeding practiced throughout the area. While this may seem like a harmless practice, the food generally offered to deer via artificial feeding is inadequate when eaten in large quantities and is likely to result in health problems or even death in certain cases.

Deers



4) WILD TURKEYS

Wild turkeys can be spotted anywhere on our territory!

These birds prefer areas with a variety of habitats such as fields, wasteland and woodlands, which is clearly why we find them in the part of town where there is lots of farmland.

Wild turkeys



5) FISHERS

Fishers are an important part of our native fauna. They are not a threat to humans in any way. Native wildlife species, such as fishers, are given priority protection in order to preserve a balance that is essential to maintaining biodiversity. Domestic animals that are allowed to roam freely in the wild tend to disturb this balance. It is therefore essential that citizens act responsibly by keeping their pets indoors, especially at night.

Fishers



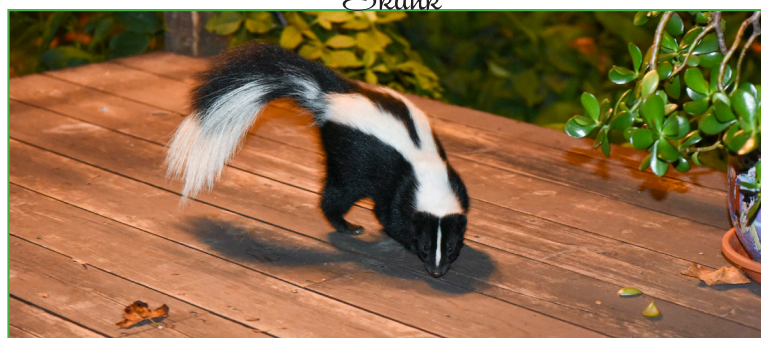
6) SKUNKS

Skunks are nocturnal animals that can adapt to any type of environment. They are particularly attracted to semi-urban areas where they have access to plenty of food and shelter. Skunks are omnivorous and eat just about anything: insects (specifically bees), worms, spiders, grass snakes, frogs, small rodents, fledglings and eggs, fruit, nuts, corn, carrion and garbage.

To avoid skunks:

- Spray their hiding spots with water
- Make lots of noise
- Use homemade and natural repellents. Simply mix a few spoonfuls of strong mustard, such as Dijon mustard, in a container of filled with water and spray small amounts of this repellent frequently on your property.

Skunk



ON THE ROAD



In Canada, collisions with wildlife account for about 1.6% of total collisions (this proportion is considerably higher on some high-traffic roads and through forested areas). Given that the Town of Saint-Lazare has many wooded areas, it is not uncommon to see animals at the edge of the roads, unaware of the danger. The Town of Saint-Lazare therefore urges residents to exercise caution, especially at dusk or dawn, when visibility is reduced, in order to reduce the number of collisions between vehicles and animals, both wild and domestic. This will also make you more vigilant and attentive to pedestrians!



WILDLIFE PROTECTION

To get in touch with a wildlife protection officer, simply contact the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (Ministry of forests, wildlife and parks).

Bureau local de Salaberry-de-Valleyfield
640 Rue Cardinal
Salaberry-de-Valleyfield (Québec) J6S 0A8
Phone: 450-370-3024
Fax: 450-370-3026

Source :

<http://www.mffp.gouv.qc.ca/faune/securite/animaux-importuns/solutions.jsp>

