

Peaceful Coexistence Campaign

What is it? In 2005, AWARE began its Peaceful Coexistence with Wildlife education campaign, focusing on urban wildlife. Through this campaign, AWARE teaches the new rules and methods that we need to adopt in order to ensure a mutually beneficial future for man and animal in and around urban settings. How does it work? AWARE works with municipal governments and animal control agencies to modify their approach to handling wildlife calls from the public. DeKalb County Animal Services is the first municipal agency to agree to refer all of their wildlife calls to AWARE for initial evaluation and disposition. The goal is for AWARE to act as a clearing house for the initial call, so that we may educate the caller and eliminate the need for most responses from animal control. In most cases, the caller is misinformed about the animal they fear. A few moments on the phone with someone who can provide them with the facts enables callers to understand that there is no reason to fear these animals. They are happy to learn the truth and almost always decide to allow the animals to peacefully coexist on their property. Why is it important? This process saves the animal in question, educates the caller, and saves animal control thousands of dollars a month by eliminating the needless response of one of their officers. It also cuts costs on vehicles, fuel, and manpower, not to mention the fact that every caller we educate eliminates the likelihood of future calls from the same address. Just think about how many thousands of animals this will save in the long run. What can you do? If you, your homeowners association, or municipal governments have any wildlife conflict situations, please call AWARE at (678) 418-1111 before you waste money and lives unnecessarily. Want more information?

- AWARE's Position on Trapping