

Alligators Live in This Community, Too!

Be a Good Gator Neighbor by following these simple tips for coexisting:

1. Don't Feed Alligators

Feeding wild animals teaches them to lose their natural fear of people. This bad neighbor behavior creates unsafe situations for both people and alligators.

2. Don't Feed Other Wildlife

Alligators are attracted when people feed other wildlife. Be aware that human foods, such as bread, are bad for the health of all wild critters, and crowding animals together increases the transmission of illnesses among them.

3. Properly Dispose of Unused Bait and Fish Scraps

Alligators are scavengers and can smell dead things from miles away! All types of scraps should be thrown away in trash cans, not tossed in the water.

4. Keep Pets Fenced or on Leashes

While alligators have a natural fear of humans, they can't tell the difference between 'possums and poodles! Pets should not be allowed in or near waters that are not appropriately fenced off from alligators.

5. Don't Tolerate Bad Neighbor Behavior by Others

Share knowledge about alligators with your neighbors.

Call the Wildlife Enforcement Hotline at 800-662-7137 to report feeding, harassing or poaching of alligators. For questions and concerns about alligators, call the Wildlife Helpline Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 866-318-2401. Visit ncwildlife.org/alligator for more information.



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