

Northwest Austin Civic Association (NWACA)

Board of Directors

Position Statement on Habitat Balance

Adopted: August 8, 2012

Our neighborhood seeks to achieve a healthy balance in the habitat of Northwest Austin with the following as goals:

- Protect the health and safety of neighborhood residents, their children and pets
- Protect the trees and plants in the greenbelts around us and in the neighborhood from intentional and accidental damage, especially that which is unrecoverable
- Protect the wildlife in the neighborhood from unnecessary injury and from inadvertent damage to their own species and other species in the neighborhood

In order to help promote habitat balance in our neighborhood, we advocate the following:

- Avoid planting invasive species of plants, which crowd out the natives
- Do not feed wildlife – it is illegal in the City of Austin and it encourages wildlife to congregate in large numbers
- Do not feed wildlife - it is bad for the wild animals (disrupting their digestive and reproductive systems, as well as those of other animals who ingest food meant for another species)
- Do not approach wildlife and/or attempt to touch them; they are not pets. Approaching them can be dangerous, especially to young children and especially during fawning and mating seasons.
- Drive carefully in our neighborhood, being particularly watchful at dawn and dusk, when people, deer and other wildlife can be moving about and difficult to see
- Limit direct contact with wild animals – they can be unpredictable and can carry diseases
- Avoid planting vegetation known to be favored by local wildlife, including deer, raccoons, and rabbits