



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

rodenticides

1 message

Dean Goodhill <dean.goodhill@att.net>
To: Adam.Lid@lacity.org

Mon, Oct 20, 2014 at 10:33 AM

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell and Members of the APHAR Committee,,

My wife Lynne and I want to add our voices to the many residents that are aware of the collateral damage that rodenticides inflict on wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains, and the Hollywood Hills in particular. I am a lifetime resident in Laurel Canyon, currently residing on Wonderland Park Avenue. My wife and I have seen animals, a majestic hawk that often perched in our trees, dead on the grass. It doesn't take much imagination to know what killed it: rat poisons. Predators like that hunt the very rodents that these poisons are meant to kill; but then those poisoned animals poison the natural predators.

We agree with organizations like CLAW that are trying to rid our hillsides and parks of this menace. Rat traps are fine. They kill instantly and inflict no other damage. But poisons are serial killers. Death is slow for poisoned rats, and when they are dying, they are so ill that they are easy and deadly prey for unsuspecting predators that would otherwise kill the rodents naturally.

You may be interested to know that there is a better, more automated way to kill rodents and not just rats but moles and voles too. These pests can be eliminated by an ancient and completely safe method that has been and still is in wide use worldwide. Barn Owls hunt rodents and they do it swiftly and efficiently. They multiply to the extent that is prey to hunt. All they need are enclosures to nest in and raise their young. So the simple placement of these bar owl habitats provide the birds with homes and in return, they eliminate rats naturally.

California vineyards, farmers and ranchers worldwide rely on barn owls and it works. Our neighborhoods are joining together to create an environment where these birds can flourish, and the first step is to eliminate the poisons because if we don't do that, the owls will ingest poisoned rats and die themselves.

So please help us preserve the little slice of nature that still clings to survival in our hills, canyons and parks.
So:

I support CLAW's request to remove dangerous rodent poisons from Los Angeles as they poison untargeted wildlife, domestic animals and children. I request that the City Council:

- Instruct its agencies to stop the use of anticoagulant rodenticides particularly in our parks, wilderness areas and environmentally sensitive areas.
- Create a prohibition or implement drastic reductions of the municipal, commercial, industrial, professional and private use of anticoagulant rodenticides particularly in our hillsides and other ecologically-sensitive areas and/or within 100 feet of parks, school zones, playgrounds and play structures.
- Implement a system of punitive fines to be instituted to support protections particularly for rodenticide usage in hillsides and ecologically sensitive areas.

Respectfully,

Lynne & Dean Goodhill
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