



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

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1 message

Lisa Owens Viani <lowensvi@sbcglobal.net>

Sat, Apr 26, 2014 at 3:25 PM

To: Adam.Lid@lacity.org

April 26, 2014

Mr. Adam Lid
Public Works Committee
City of Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Lid,

Raptors Are The Solution, a 501c3 project of Earth Island Institute, would like to express our support for Councilmember Koretz and LaBonge's proposed policy against the use of rat poison in Los Angeles. Our organization is working to educate the public about the dangers to children, pets, and wildlife from rat poison. We have been working on this issue since 2011 since two Cooper's hawks bled to death from rat poison in my neighborhood in Berkeley; we now work with groups throughout California and the country. We believe that the widespread use of rat poison is causing an epidemic scale disaster for raptors and other animals, including some endangered species.

The impact on wildlife from these poisons cannot be understated. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has over 800 pages of at least 350 incidents of wildlife poisonings (and these are only the animals that have been found and turned in). Biologists believe many animals perish and are never found, meaning that what we are seeing is probably only the tip of the iceberg. WildCare, a wildlife rehab facility in San Rafael, California, found that over 76 percent of the animals it tested for rat poison in 2013 were contaminated with rat poison. Many wildlife rehab facilities are receiving animals with the symptoms of rodenticide poisoning but cannot afford to test them (each test costs over \$100 and most rehab facilities are operating on slim budgets). If the animals do not die immediately from rodenticide exposure, their behavior can suffer, with fatal consequences.

We strongly support your efforts to adopt policies that will protect children, pets, and wildlife and prevent the next silent spring for California's birds of prey. Los Angeles could set a good precedent that we could ask other cities to copy.

Sincerely,

Lisa Owens Viani

RAPTORS ARE THE SOLUTION

<http://www.facebook.com/RaptorsAreTheSolution>

www.raptorsarethesolution.org

A project of Earth Island Institute, a 4-Star Charity