Take proactive measures to prevent the attraction of wildlife, such as coyotes, skunks, opossums, bobcats and feral cats by following these safety tips:

- Set out trash the morning of collection.
- Store pet food and feed pets indoors. Bring in or discard leftover pet food if feeding pets outside.
- Don’t feed wild animals including birds, squirrels, feral cats and coyotes.
- Pick ripe fruit from trees and gardens. Remove fallen fruit from the ground.
- Use noise-making devices if a coyote is seen.
- Keep pets inside. Walk pets on a leash and accompany them outside, especially at night.
- Remove wood piles and brush. Trim overgrown landscaping.
- Cap chimneys and repair any holes in attics.

Following these simple tips will allow residents and urban wildlife to co-exist. For more information regarding urban wildlife, visit DFW Wildlife Coalition at dfwwildlife.org or call (972) 234-9453.

Call Irving Animal Services if a wild animal is ill, injured, in distress or shows aggression to humans at (972) 721-2256.