

How can I prevent problems with wild turkeys?



Never intentionally feed wild turkeys.



Keep birdfeeder areas clean. Remove feeders in the spring.



Feed pets inside. Store pet food indoors.



Pick up fallen fruit and nuts.



Fence gardens to keep turkeys out.



Discourage neighbors from feeding turkeys or allowing access to unnatural food sources.



If your city does not have an ordinance prohibiting the feeding of wildlife, encourage community members to enact one.



Following these tips will help protect your property and keep turkeys wild. **A community effort is most effective in preventing issues with turkeys.**

How can ODFW help?

Contact ODFW for a permit to legally haze turkeys on your property. Hazing does not injure turkeys but can help deter them from your property. Most hazing options are low-to-no cost.

Hunting is effective in rural areas, particularly during the fall season to remove turkeys causing nuisance issues. Check ordinances and regulations to be sure hunting is legal in your area.

ODFW's Hunt by Reservation program connects landowners and hunters to help manage turkey populations in nuisance situations.

While many people ask ODFW to trap turkeys, trapping is not an effective solution if attractants remain available. Turkeys often can't be relocated and must be humanely euthanized.

Connect with us!



Follow ODFW on social media by scanning the QR code or visiting



tinyurl.com/MyODFW-SocialMedia

Living with WILD TURKEYS

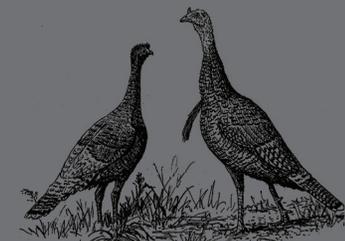


Guidelines for Living with Wild Turkeys



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon 97302
503-947-6000 | [MyODFW.com](https://www.myodfw.com)



Living with Wild Turkeys

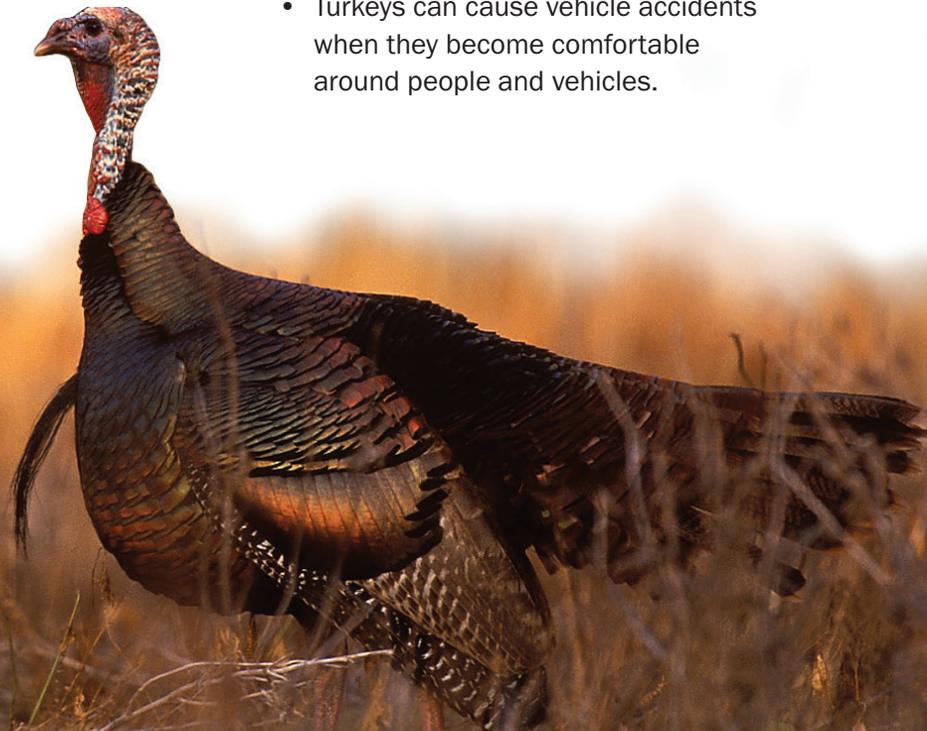
Wild turkeys were introduced to Oregon in the 1960s and can now be found throughout most of the state.

What do wild turkeys eat?

Turkeys thrive on a natural diet of grasses, leafy material, seeds, fruits, oak acorns and invertebrates like snails and slugs. Turkeys have plenty of natural forage year-round – they do not need handouts from people.

Problems are caused when turkeys gain access to food left out by people, intentionally or by accident. Turkeys are generalist feeders and will eat bird seed, pet food, chicken feed and table scraps.

Instead of moving on after foraging for natural food, turkeys are likely to stay indefinitely where they are being fed by people. More flocks of turkeys often move into the area resulting in abnormally large flocks of over 100.



What kind of damage and issues can turkeys cause?

- Pecking and scraping for food can destroy landscaping features and gardens.
- Roosting turkeys can damage shingles, gutters, decks and vehicles.
- Turkey scat creates an unpleasant mess and can be excessive with large flocks.
- Male turkeys can damage vehicles during the breeding season by fighting their reflection.
- Turkeys that lose their fear of people may become aggressive, especially during the breeding season.
- Large flocks increase the risk of disease transmission among turkeys (avian influenza, salmonella and other diseases).
- Turkeys can cause vehicle accidents when they become comfortable around people and vehicles.



Turkeys can cause vehicle accidents when they become comfortable in residential areas.



Pecking and scraping for food can damage yards and gardens.

To learn more about hunting turkeys in Oregon, scan the QR code or visit

tinyurl.com/MyODFW-Turkey

