

Wildlife Visits

Learn about and raise awareness of Fort Collins wildlife conservation by hosting an educational session with an animal visit!



Budget

\$200 - \$300

Difficulty Level

Medium

Location Suggestions

- Front yard
- Park
- Community center
- Closed-off street (Block Party Permit required)

City Support

- [Mini-Grant funding](#) is available!
- Staff can help coordinate animal visits!

Material List | Estimated Cost

- Wildlife educational presenter and animal | Donation or varied small fee
- Portable fencing or enclosure for the animal | Brought by handler
- Rented tables and chairs | \$40-\$70
- Themed food and refreshments | \$50-70
 - Ants on a log
 - Animal crackers
 - Dirt cups with pudding, Oreo crumble, and gummy worms
- Trash bins
- First aid kit | \$15
- Optional: Block Party Permit
- Activity supplies (optional and dependent on event variations)
 - Night vision glasses | \$60-\$100
 - Binoculars for bird watching | \$25
 - Bat detector | \$40
 - Camera or phone for neighborhood safari | Brought by neighbors
 - Inflatable TV screen | \$200

📅 1-2 Months Before Event

Step by Step | How to Plan this Event

1 Decide on an Animal

Local organizations like the [Northern Colorado Wildlife Center](#) and [Rocky Mountain Raptor Program](#) offer educational animal visits. Ponder what animal your neighbors might like to learn about.

Nocturnal Animals

Animals that are normally active at night.



Owl



Lizard

Friends, Not Foe

Animals that are typically misunderstood as frightening or harmful.



Snake



Raptor

2 Pair the Visit with a Social Activity

Consider splitting your event into two different parts - **the animal visit** and a **fun animal themed activity** to bond with your neighbors! Some options:

Night Vision

Explore your neighborhood from the perspective of a nocturnal animal using night vision glasses!

Bird Watching

Look around your neighborhoods to see how many species of birds are in your backyard.

Neighborhood Safari

Go on a scavenger hunt to find and photograph different wildlife in the area.

Movie Mayhem

Rent an inflatable TV screen and put on an animal inspired program, like National Geographic.

3 Choose Event Time + Location

- Choose a time when the wildlife presenter and your neighbors are available. **Consider the nature of the animal you want to bring in.** Is it nocturnal, or will it be asleep by a certain time in the evening?
- Pick an outdoor location that is **not loud or hectic**, so the animal won't be scared.

4 Obtain Permits

If you're closing a residential street, you will need to apply for a [Block Party Permit](#) for an eligible street.



5 Book Wildlife Presenter

Contact wildlife education organizations, such as Northern Colorado Wildlife Center and the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program.

Neighborhood Services has already reserved some visits in advance for 2024 Neighborhood Night Out! Contact us at NSPrograms@fcgov.com.

6 Reserve Larger Supplies

If you're renting any supplies, like an inflatable screen, **reserve as soon as possible.**

 3 Weeks Before Event

7 Promote Event

- **At Least 2-3 Weeks Before | Social Media and Email:** Post on Nextdoor, Facebook, and/or Instagram. Email if you can.
- **1 Week Before | Flyers:** Go door-to-door. Design colorful flyers, postcards, or personal invitations.
- **1 Day Before | Reminder:** Send out a reminder message on social media or by email.



8 Prepare Supplies

Now is the time to gather any snacks, decor, or activity materials.

 Day-Of Event | 1 Hour Before

9 Set-Up

Arrive **at least 1 hour early** to set up the presentation area and any activities. Ask the presenter to arrive 15-20 minutes early.

 Start of Event

10 Enjoy the Presentation!

Listen to the presenter's talk about the featured animal, ask questions, and **learn about wildlife conservation!**



11 Host Your Fun Social Activity!

