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Reward offered after cruel attempt to kill baby skunk

National advocates say humane, non-lethal solutions available for homeowners facing conflict

VANCOUVER – A national wildlife advocacy group is offering a reward for information after disturbing news arose of a baby skunk in a tied plastic bag left in a dumpster.

A local media outlet reported on the incident, noting that the skunk was suffering from dehydration and was in the care of wildlife rehabilitators at Critter Care Wildlife Society. Dubbed 'Caleb,' the skunk is expected to make a full recovery and be released. But the chain of events leading to his discovery by a Good Samaritan are upsetting.

"It is likely a case of a homeowner unaware of how to deal with wildlife on or around their property and taking drastic, cruel action," says Lesley Fox, Executive Director of the Vancouver-based The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers). "It's extremely disturbing that anyone would consider this – tying up a living, feeling animal in a plastic bag and leaving him for dead – to be an acceptable way of dealing with a problem."

The Fur-Bearers are offering a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to the identification and conviction or fine of the person(s) responsible for this cruel act. They are also reminding residents that humane and non-lethal solutions for preventing or ending wildlife conflict around the home are possible.

"We talk with experts like AAA Wildlife Control regularly to find out what the latest technologies and techniques are to prevent conflict between wildlife and homeowners," Fox adds. "We encourage people to visit FurBearerDefenders.com to find out about these options, or contact their local SPCA branch for a referral to a reputable company."

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