



TOO CLOSE: PROTECT YOUR SPACE

Guide to Baboon-Proofing and Managing Interactions

Windows and Doors:

- Always close windows and set your house alarm when leaving.
- Install burglar bars (discrete, see-through options available). Remember that young baboons can squeeze through gaps as small as 5 cm.
- Secure sliding doors with bolts or angle brackets to prevent baboons from opening them.

Bin and Waste Management:

- Use a baboon-proof system for your bin, which can be DIY. Avoid conventional locks, as waste operators must easily access them on collection day.
- Never leave waste bags outside of secured bins. Respect your municipal waste collection schedule.
- Inform tenants about the designated waste drop-off points in Simon's Town, ensuring proper disposal of wet and solid waste.
- Inform your tenants, especially those with children or pets, about managing baboon interactions and securing waste.

Food: Never Actively or Indirectly Feed Baboons

Indoor Food Storage:

- Keep fruit bowls and food items out of sight and away from windows.

Outdoor Practices:

- Pick ripe fruit daily from fruiting trees.
- Secure vegetable gardens, bird feeders, dog food, and compost heaps, as these attract baboons.

What To Do If They Enter Your Home

Safety Measures:

- Remain calm and firm, wide open the nearest door or window and allow them to exit without blocking their way, cornering, or frightening them.
- Keep pets away until the baboons have left. Do not threaten or attempt to retrieve items from them.
- Teach children to drop food and step back if approached by a baboon.
- If there are any baboon droppings, use gloves and disinfectant to clean up.
- Park cars undercover if possible to prevent damage from baboons jumping between houses and vehicles.

Community Involvement:

- Join the Green Group WhatsApp for environmental updates and advice.
- Discourage neighbours from leaving food or waste accessible to baboons. Baboons will return if they find rewards.
- If baboons repeatedly visit, seek guidance from the Green Group to prevent recurrence.

Info: <https://greengroupsimonstown.org/>