



Alligator Safety in DeBordieu

Alligators are a common sight throughout DeBordieu. Now that the warm weather has arrived, alligators are more active and visible. They have resumed feeding after the cold winter months and can be seen sunning on the banks of any of our ponds.

Alligators are an important part of the ecosystem in DeBordieu Colony. Young alligators provide food for birds and other mammals and larger alligators help control snake populations and other fish and wildlife. Gator holes also provide habitat for many species of animals as well. Their presence is an indicator of the health of many of our ponds and is part of the natural habitat that many DeBordieu members love and respect.

While it may be entertaining to some to feed alligators, it is a death sentence for them. When an alligator is fed it loses its inherent fear of people. SCDNR issues a limited number of “nuisance” tags for the removal of alligators in DeBordieu. Alligators cannot be relocated so removing them requires them to be destroyed. Normally, SCDNR will only issue tags for alligators over 6 feet, which display signs of aggression.

Alligator SAFETY Rules

- Do not feed, poke or throw rocks at alligators.
- Do not throw fish scraps, chicken necks or bait into ponds when fishing or crabbing.
- Keep children, dogs, cats and other pets out of ponds and away from pond edges.
- Maintain a distance of 60 feet from alligators. They are very fast!
- Do not attempt to pick up or handle an alligator; even a small one for any reason.
- Remember a fed alligator is a dead alligator!

