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## **Advisory Announcement**

**For Immediate Release: April 3, 2020**

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### **Be Careful Around Moose**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is reminding the public to be careful around moose this spring. Moose in general can be more aggravated during the late winter and early spring due to stress from poor quality feed and being in poor body condition. This is usually compounded in years with deep snow and extended winter conditions, such as this spring. The department has received a higher than normal number of phone calls about moose that are acting aggressively, causing problems or are injured.

Moose tend to be more aggressive around food sources at this time of year and want to stay in areas with less snow such as roads, ski trails, sidewalks, driveways and yards. It is important to secure any items that moose may see as food. This includes hay, bird seed and left overs from the garden. These items tend to attract moose, particularly moose that are nutritionally stressed and may be more likely to become aggressive.

When you are enjoying the outdoors this time of year be aware of your surrounding and avoid getting too close to moose. If you do see a moose, give it plenty of space and allow it time to step off the trail or turn around without upsetting it. Trying to chase a moose out of your yard, off a roadway, or away from unsecured food may result in the animal becoming aggressive or attacking. It is also advisable to keep pets inside or on a leash if moose are in your yard or encountered on local streets and trails.

People who encounter aggressive moose around their homes or in areas frequented by the public are asked to contact the nearest Alaska Department of Fish and Game office or report online at the ADF&G website at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=reportwildlifeencounter.main>. Outside office hours, or in the case of an immediate public safety threat, call 911 or the Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

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