

General info - kea proofing your home

General

Ensure your home is as unattractive to kea as possible. This way they may well leave a property alone and cause minimal damage:

1. Ensure family and visitors to the property are aware to NEVER feed kea – it only takes one event to encourage kea to revisit a site once food is offered. This includes not throwing food scraps in the surrounding bush, feeding pets outside or setting up bird feeders (even when kea are not around).
2. Cover any soft materials (such as outdoor seating cushions, bicycle seats, polystyrene, exposed wiring and hosing) which may attract kea, with tarpaulins or netting.
3. Ensure no rubbish lying around.
4. Ensure doors on vehicles/buildings are closed at all times.
5. Reduce access to any potential roosting areas.
6. Put all children's/pet toys away to reduce interest.
7. Cover compost areas with net/tarpaulin.
8. Keep outside area as tidy as possible – the more untidy an area is the more interesting it becomes!

Particular areas of concern

Wiring/ electrical equipment

- a. Where possible all wires should be covered so not exposed to kea.
- c. Cover any electrical plugs.

Windows & Doors (inclusive of vehicles)

- a. Keep shut at all times.
- b. Block any access areas with plywood sheets or tarpaulins.

Other pollutants

- a. Remove (ie do not simply throw under building) all potential pollutants ie old batteries or lead roofing.
- b. Ensure all rubbish is kept in covered rubbish bins and remove from property on a regular basis

If kea start becoming a nuisance

If kea start causing damage, in the first instance contact either the Kea Conservation Trust (KCT) (info@keaconservation.co.nz; Ph 0274249594) or Department of Conservation (DOC). You can also find some general ideas for kea proofing on the KCT website via the following link-

(<http://www.keaconservation.co.nz/support-kea/kea-proofing/>) some of which are as follows:

- Use water (hose/sprinkler systems) to dissuade kea from landing on areas.
- A poultry approved electric fence system (operated by C batteries or solar) can also be used.
- Use tarpaulins and nets to cover vehicles/equipment.