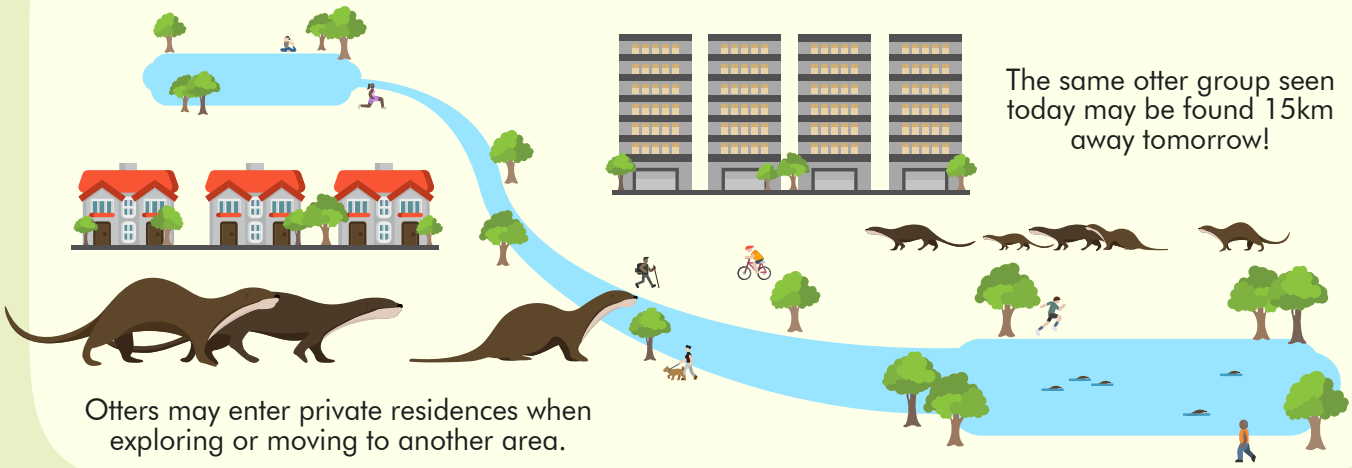
Otters in my Neighbourhood

I have seen otters in my urban neighbourhood, far from any waterway.
How have they come to be here and what should I do?

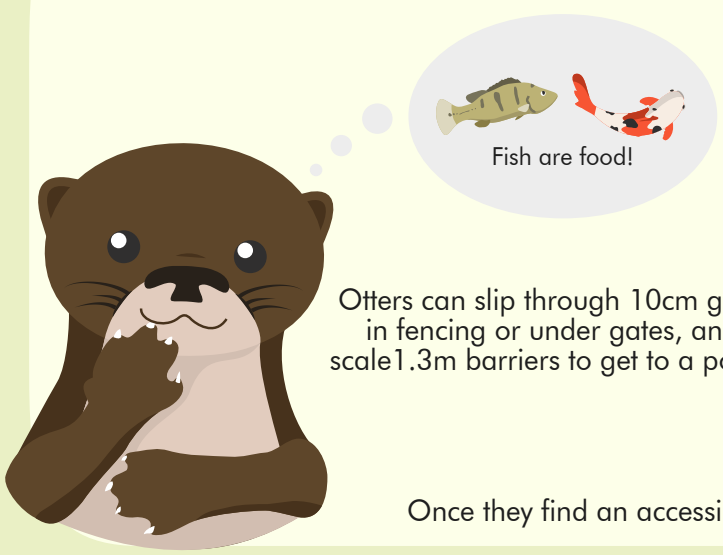
Otters are found in our waterways with fish, but also travel over land, using parks, park connectors and may pass though urban estates near waterways.



The same otter group seen today may be found 15km away tomorrow!

Otters may enter private residences when exploring or moving to another area.

Otters are wild animals and cannot differentiate between wild and pet fish.
Pet fish or ornamental fish in a pond are an easily caught source of food for them.



Otters can slip through 10cm gaps in fencing or under gates, and scale1.3m barriers to get to a pond.

Once they find an accessible pond with fish, they are likely to return

COMPETITION

We usually see the same otter family in an area. Resident otters compete for limited living and feeding spaces, and will drive away rival otter families.

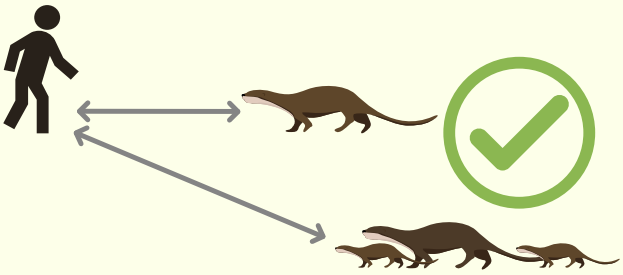
A lone adult otter will reunite with its family or may be seeking a partner and new territory.

Towards a City in Nature;
Brought to you by:

OTTER WORKING GROUP SINGAPORE

What to do when you encounter otters

Observe from a distance at all times.



If there are pups, the family will be more protective.
Even more reason not to approach the family.

Do not approach, touch, chase, corner, or disturb the otters.

Do not talk loudly and do not use flash photography.

Do keep your dog on a taut leash.

Globally, Smooth-coated otters are vulnerable to extinction, and locally, they are protected under the Wildlife Act of Singapore.

Have questions or want to learn more about otters in Singapore? Scan the QR code or visit fb.com/OtterCity

If you encounter otters in distress, please call NParks Animal Response Centre helpline at 1800-476-1600 or ACRES Wildlife Rescue hotline at 97837782.

Towards a City in Nature;
Brought to you by:

OTTER WORKING GROUP SINGAPORE