

# Meet Timothy: Wildlife Experts Believe a Second “Jimothy” Raccoon Is Roaming Seattle

Years of sightings suggest multiple raccoons may share Jimothy’s extraordinarily rare short-spined appearance; Seattle locals have named the apparent second raccoon “Timothy

**Seattle, Washington Jul 23, 2026** ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Seattle’s beloved viral raccoon Jimothy may not be one of a kind.

Wildlife experts believe years of sightings of unusually short-bodied raccoons in Seattle could involve multiple animals, rather than a single raccoon surviving for nearly a decade.

Seattle locals have given the apparent second raccoon a name: Timothy.

Jimothy became an international internet sensation after footage of the remarkably short, round raccoon roaming Seattle’s Ballard neighborhood went viral. His distinctive appearance is believed to be associated with a rare congenital spinal abnormality resembling short spine syndrome.

But as Jimothy’s popularity exploded, Seattle residents began uncovering something remarkable: similar raccoons have apparently been seen in the neighborhood for years.

According to reporting published by the New York Post on July 22, photographs and reported sightings of Jimothy-like raccoons in Seattle date as far back as 2017.

That timeline has led wildlife experts and residents to question whether all of the sightings could possibly involve the same animal.

## WILDLIFE EXPERTS POINT TO MULTIPLE RACCOONS

Wendi Mallo, an animal keeper who cares for raccoons at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park, told FOX 13 Seattle that a wild raccoon surviving long enough to account for nearly a decade of sightings would be highly unusual.

A lifespan of approximately three to five years in the wild would already be considered very good, according to Mallo, while many raccoons do not survive their first year.

The lifespan discrepancy has strengthened the possibility that more than one short-spined raccoon has appeared in Seattle over the years.

Ballard resident Rebecca Sorenson also questioned whether the sightings could represent the same animal after encountering conflicting information about Jimothy’s age and seeing evidence of much older sightings.

If the viral Jimothy is younger than the raccoon documented years earlier, Seattle may have been home to another unusually shaped raccoon before Jimothy became famous.

Locals have dubbed the apparent second animal Timothy.

## WHO IS TIMOTHY?

Timothy is the name being used by locals for the apparent additional Jimothy-like raccoon connected to Seattle's years-long history of short-bodied raccoon sightings.

Although wildlife experts have not genetically identified individual animals or established exactly how many short-spined raccoons have lived in the area, the timeline has made the possibility of multiple animals increasingly compelling.

The mystery is particularly intriguing because Jimothy's unusual anatomy appears to be extremely rare.

Multiple similarly shaped raccoons appearing in the same part of Seattle could raise questions about whether the animals are related or whether a genetic trait may be present within a local raccoon population.

Those questions remain unanswered.

### "THERE'S MAGIC IN THE WILD"

Despite Jimothy's unusual anatomy, available footage has shown the viral raccoon successfully navigating his environment.

Wildlife professionals have encouraged residents to appreciate Jimothy — and any potential Jimothy-like companions — from a distance without attempting to capture, feed or interfere with the animals.

For Mallo, the mystery is another example of how much remains unknown about the wildlife living alongside people in American cities.

"Who knows, there's magic in the wild, we've just got to look for it," Mallo told FOX 13 Seattle.

For Seattle, that magic may now have two names: Jimothy and Timothy.

The discovery of older sightings has transformed Jimothy's story from that of one extraordinarily unusual raccoon into a larger wildlife mystery.

If multiple animals are ultimately confirmed, researchers may have an opportunity to investigate whether Seattle has an exceptionally rare family or lineage of raccoons sharing similar spinal characteristics.

Until then, Seattle residents will continue watching the streets, yards and alleys of Ballard for another glimpse of the city's newest mysterious resident.

His name is Timothy.

### ABOUT JIMOTHY AND TIMOTHY

Jimothy is the nickname given to an unusually short-bodied wild raccoon spotted in Seattle's Ballard neighborhood who became a viral internet sensation in July 2026. Wildlife experts believe his distinctive appearance may result from a rare congenital spinal abnormality resembling short spine syndrome.

Timothy is the name Seattle locals have given to the apparent additional short-bodied raccoon associated with sightings predating Jimothy's viral appearance. Wildlife experts have said the years-long timeline of similar sightings could indicate that multiple raccoons are involved, although individual

animals have not been genetically identified.

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