

The Urban Coyote



Coyotes now reside in every state and most neighborhoods from Canada to South America. Our continued destruction of habitat has forced coyotes and most other wildlife to become urban dwellers.

Coyotes are masters of adaptation and only want to coexist. We need not fear them if we simply understand their natural behaviors and react appropriately when we see them. People in western America have been peacefully coexisting with coyotes for many decades.

Are Coyotes Dangerous? You decide.

- Coyote attacks on humans; 14 per year average
- Dog attacks on humans; 4.7 million per year

Attacks are on the rise due to our inaction, inappropriate management, and bad habits. We must fulfill our role as the dominant species so they maintain their natural fear of us. Frighten them by any humane means when they approach.

Will Coyotes Kill My Pet? Rarely.

- They will on rare occasions take a free-roaming cat if you don't protect it as you would your dog. You would never let your dog face the dangers of roaming free.
- Unless your dog starts a fight, coyotes would rather befriend him and eat his food than fight.

Species Behavioral Facts;

- Passing within 30 feet of humans is not aggressiveness.
- A group of coyotes is usually a family, not a pack.

Is Trapping an Option? Only as a Last Resort.

- The vast majority of scientific studies conclude that trapping results in an overall increase in the population. The remaining members of the species competitively over breed to fill the gap created by trapping.
- Sick, injured, or aggressive coyotes should be trapped.

How to Peacefully Coexist

- Frighten them; yell, wave your arms, squirt with hose.
- Never feed pets outside or leave them out after dark.
- Never allow children to play outside unattended.
- Secure trash and compost to eliminate food sources.
- Become proactive by educating your neighborhood.



For more information,
www.awarewildlife.org
or (678) 418-1111