

If You See A Coyote

- ❖ DO NOT allow a coyote to approach you or your pet.
- ❖ People have been injured while attempting to protect small pets from coyotes. Call 911 first and do not attempt to touch the coyote.
- ❖ Instead, show them that they are not welcome. Make loud noises (hit pots, throw rocks, spray water etc.)



Relocation?

In the past, Coyotes have been relocated. This approach has proven unsuccessful for humans and coyotes alike. Coyotes that have been relocated will travel great distances to find their way back to familiar territory in search of food, water, and shelter. They are shunned by other coyotes, and are sometimes killed on unfamiliar roads.

Informational Links

- + <http://coyoteyipps.com/>
- + http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/coyote_info.htm
- + http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/coyote_mgto6.htm
- + http://www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/index.ssf/2013/11/new_jersey_wildlife_the_easter.html
- + <http://www.esf.edu/pubprog/brochure/coyote/coyote.htm>
- + http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/coyotes/tips/against_killing_coyotes.html
- + <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/9359.html>



COYOTES IN NEW JERSEY

- ❖ The first coyote sighting in New Jersey took place in Hunterdon County in 1939.
- ❖ Since then, the coyote population of has risen to over 14,000.
- ❖ Coyotes are NOT native to New Jersey. It is believed that western coyote migrated here and bred with wolves to create the eastern coyote.

Kaela Shepard
Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey
Gold Award Leadership Project

Why they are in New Jersey

With the loss of wolves as the top predator, as well as the loss of habitat in the west, the western coyote was able to migrate to this area.

With the clearing of land, coyotes were able to move from west to east (most likely via Canada).

The wolf was the top predator until they were almost hunted to extinction. Now the coyote has no natural predators, with the exception of humans, in this area.

Western Coyotes are smaller than Eastern Coyotes.

Eastern Coyotes are most likely hybrid animal (mix of wolf and coyote) while the Western Coyote is pure Coyote.



Facts

The eastern coyote resembles a small German Shepherd, but has a long snout and a bushy, black-tipped tail.

Weight for an Eastern Coyote is about 20-50 lbs. Some can exceed 60lbs

They are about 32-37 inches long.

In April and May, female coyotes will give birth to 3-9 pups. They are very protective of their young.

They live 10-14 years in the wild.

They are omnivores and will eat mice, birds, rabbits, deer, fruits, berries insects and, if unattended, small pets.

Coyotes are very curious and opportunistic animals.

They are excellent swimmers, and will escape danger by swimming

When walking, coyotes walk on their toes, making little to no noise.

By nature, Coyotes are wary of humans, however, if given access to food, they will lose this fear.



Safety Tips

Be alert of your surroundings.

Carry a flashlight or a walking stick to deter coyotes.

Make noise.

Keep your cell phone close.

Never feed a coyote. Like any wild animal, if fed, it will associate humans with food and keep coming back.

Watch your small pets. Keep them in at night. Do not feed them outside, or let them run loose. This will help protect them from not only coyotes but other dangers in your area such as fox, bobcats, or humans.

Remove water sources, tightly close garbage containers, and put bird feeders away at night to prevent attracting rodents and other prey coyotes like to eat.

Remove tall grass and brush from your yard. They act as protective cover for coyotes.

Installing a fence at least 4 feet high and 6 inches below ground may deter coyotes.

Install motion sensitive lighting around your home.

Seal crawl spaces.

If you observe coyotes in the daytime that show no fear of humans or if a coyote attacks a person or pet, immediately contact:

In New Jersey

Your local police
OR

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife
908-735-8793
(Outside of normal business hours call the DEP Hotline
877-WARN-DEP)

In New York

Contact Region 3 of the DEC
21 South Putt Corners Road, New Paltz, NY 12561
(845) 256-3098
(For Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster &
Westchester counties)
USDA APHIS - Wildlife Services,
1930 Route 9, Castleton NY 12033
(518) 477-4837