

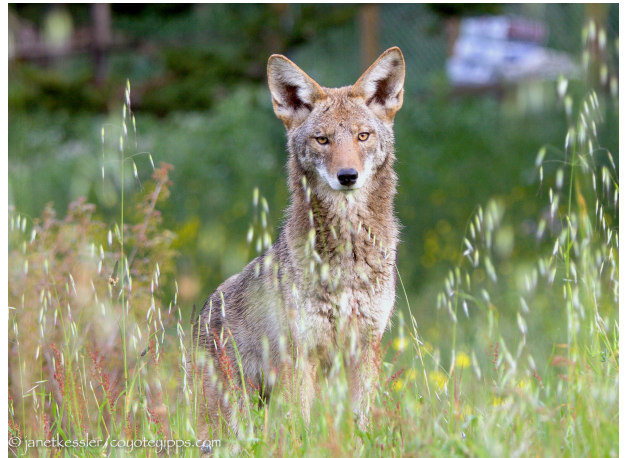
Coyote Tip Sheet

Coyotes are becoming increasingly common in cities. Even in densely populated areas, coyotes maintain an avoidance of humans so potential for interaction is low. To maintain a safe distance, homeowners are instructed to limit availability of food on their property and haze individual coyotes in the case of direct encounters. These techniques are outlined below. If followed by residents, the likelihood of negative interactions between coyotes and humans/pets is low and coexistence is possible.

Steps to Avoid Coyote-Human Conflict

1. Do not feed coyotes

Unintentional and intentional feeding are the leading causes of coyote habituation (when a coyote becomes uncharacteristically comfortable around humans). Refrain from directly feeding coyotes and avoid leaving garbage outside for long periods of time. Outdoor bird feeders may also be an attractant because they draw in small rodents serving as a major food source for coyotes.



2. Monitor Pets

Urban coyotes are not inclined to frequent homes or public spaces during daytime. It is rare that a coyote would approach a pet, but it is useful to monitor your pets closely to prevent interactions. Coyotes less likely to approach an animal if in the company of a person. Always leash your pets and monitor them when outside - even in your backyard. Domesticated cats should be kept inside.

3. Hazing

It is recommended that if you encounter a coyote directly, do not run away. Shouting, Waving, and throwing items are forms of hazing meant to instill fear and prevent aggressive behavior in coyotes. During breeding and pup-rearing seasons (March-August) coyotes are more likely to exhibit aggressive behavior. It may be beneficial to carry a noise-maker to shake in the case of an encounter if there have been a series of coyote sightings in your neighborhood. However, if a coyote is noticed and is non-threatening/avoiding your presence, do not seek out an encounter or hazing opportunity.

4. Report Aggressive Coyotes

Unprovoked barking, hackle raising, snarling, and growling are all signs of aggressive coyotes. If you notice these behavior patterns, report this to city officials.

For further information view Chicago's Coexistence Plan:

https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/cacc/PDFFiles/CACC_Coyote_Management_FINAL.pdf

