



The Coyote (*Canis latrans*)

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Preview

Background and Identification

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Deterring Coyotes

Hazing

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Role of Animal Control

What can residents do about Coyotes?



Background and Identification

- Found in all U.S states except Hawaii.
- They have been adapting with people for 100 years.
- Known as the also called prairie wolf or brush wolf

Identification

- Weigh 25 to 35 pounds
- The eastern coyote stands 23 to 26 inches tall with a body length of 42 to 52 inches, including a 12 to 15 inch bushy tail
- Fur varies from grey- brown to yellow- grey
- Black tip tail
- Eyes are yellow/ amber
- Prints are identical to domestic dog but in straight line
- They howl and do other vocalizations (howels, bark, whines, and yips)
- They are not (German Shepherd Dogs)



(German Shepherd Dog)

Diet

- Small Mammals (mice, rats, voles, rabbits and prairie dogs)
- Berries, fruit and sometimes roadkill.
- Urban areas - dog and cat food, food from garbage can
- Possibility of small dogs and cats.
- They are visual predators in open areas, but they mostly use smell and hearing to locate prey in thick vegetation or forest.
- Coyotes are extremely efficient hunters, and their senses are keen

(Remember Coyotes do not hunt in packs only wolves do)



Habitat

- They like open space
- Rural forests, fields, thickets, marshes, and woodlands as well as populated suburbs
- They are mostly diurnal (most active dawn or Dusk)



Mating Season

- Mate once per year (Jan- March)
- Males become a lot more aggressive
- Will see more activity
- More vocal than normal
- Home range is 2-5 square miles
- Give birth to pups (April or May)
- Once pups are born dens are made in steep banks, rock crevices and underbrush.



Conflicts with People

- Conflicts usually don't happen
- Attacks on humans are rare in Massachusetts
- See humans as threat
- Sick coyotes may go after kids, pets
- Human attack (provoked, Unprovoked)
- Common nuisance
- Kills livestock



NEVER RUN AWAY FROM A COYOTE!

Rabies

- Coyotes are a rabie carrying animals
- Transferred through saliva
- Rabies is not treatable and is fatal
- They can go after your large dog if they feel a threat from them
- If your pet comes in contact with a coyote it must be quarantined
- Contact your local Animal Control if you see one acting aggressive than normal



Deterring Coyotes

Hazing- An activity or series of activities conducted in an attempt to change behavior of habituated intruder.

Goals

- Reverse the habitation
- Discourage coyotes from area
- Discourage coyotes from people
- Increase awareness about coyote behavior



Hazing

Basic Hazing - Making loud noises while facing coyote.

- Yelling at coyote and waving arms while approaching
- Making loud noises with objects (whistles, air horns, megaphones, soda cans filled with rocks)
- Throwing things such as sticks, rocks, cans, rubber balls in direction of Coyote
- Water from hose or water gun

High Intensity Hazing: approaching animal quickly and aggressively, throwing projectiles, paintballs, pepper balls or pepper spray.

Lethal control should only be absolutely necessary. Contact your local Animal Control Or Police if you encounter an aggressive Coyote.

Continue to haze, The more you do it the more the coyote will learn Stay Away!!!



Keeping pets safe

- Always walk your dogs on leash
- Don't leave your pets outside unattended especially during mating season, go outside with them.
- Don't feed your pets outside.
- Keep cats inside to avoid being eaten during mating season



**HOW ABOUT
FENCED IN
YARDS???**

(Still NO)



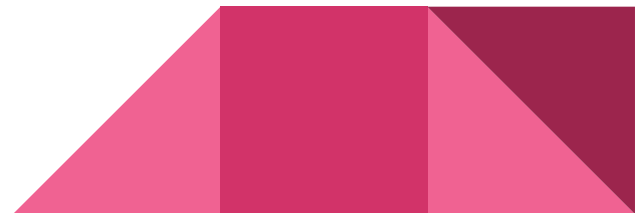
Role of Animal Control

- To help residents handle coyote encounters and educate
- To issue quarantines to animals involved with coyote encounter (this year we have had one incident)
- To go out to a sick coyote on residents property.
- To monitor coyote behavior if needed



What can residents do about Coyotes?

- Don't leave your pets unattended even in fenced in yards
- Don't leave food or water out
- Don't feed them
- Cover garbage can lid
- Rake bird seed feeders
- Cover openings under house and shed
- Keep dogs on leashes at all times
- Never corner a Coyote if you can avoid it
- Trapping does not work



Remember we were here after them.





Questions