



Coyotes

2023

Coyotes are not usually dangerous to people and play a valuable role in our ecosystem. We can live safely with them if we take the appropriate steps. The City is asking citizens to help spread the word on how to stay safe around coyotes with these tips:

How can I avoid a negative encounter?

- Don't approach or feed coyotes. Teach your children not to approach wildlife either.
- Never leave small children unattended.
- Keep dogs on a leash in areas frequented by coyotes, even in off-leash areas.
- Don't allow cats to roam.

What should I do if a coyote approaches or acts aggressively?

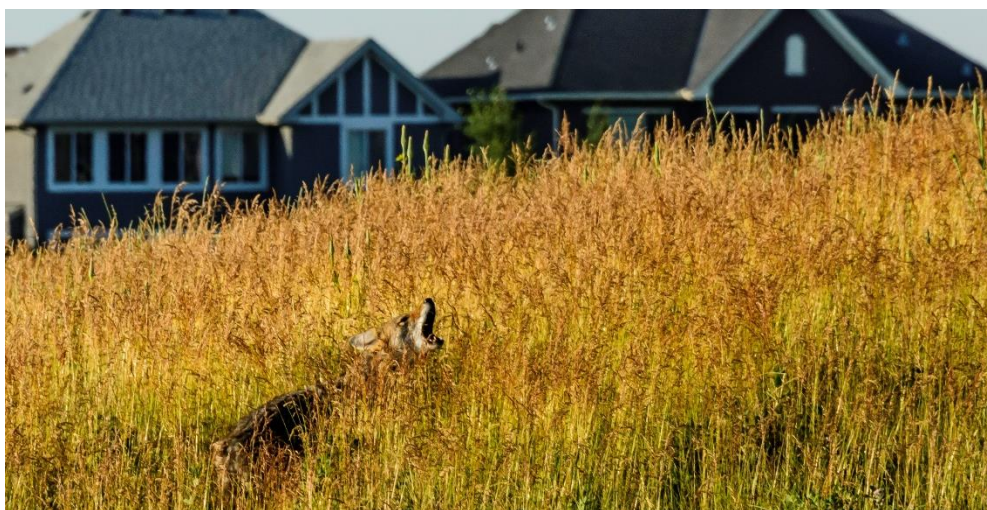
- Do NOT run or turn away.
- Try to scare the animal by shouting and waving your arms overhead

- Bang sticks or clang pots together towards the animal.
- Maintain eye contact with the animal and back slowly away.

The City's role

It's important to remember that just because a coyote is in the area, doesn't mean that it is a danger or problem. If you are concerned about an overly bold or aggressive coyote, contact 311. City staff will investigate and determine the appropriate response. We also appreciate calls to 311 for coyote sightings, as we use this data to look for trends in activity. Please note if a coyote is on private property it is the responsibility of the landowner to manage any issues.

Please see the back side of this information sheet for things you can do to successfully co-exist with coyotes.



What can you do in your yard to co-exist with coyotes?

- Remove coyote attractants from your property and encourage friends and neighbours to do the same. Minimizing conflicts with coyotes is most effective when the entire community works together.
- NEVER feed pets outdoors. Store all pet food in secure containers.
- Remove water features like fountains in dry climates.
- Remove bird feeders or clean fallen seed to reduce the presence of small mammals that coyotes like to eat.
- Clean up fallen fruit around trees.
- Don't put meat or dairy in your backyard composter. Use your green cart instead.
- Clean up food around barbeque grills after each use.
- Secure all trash containers with lids and set them out on the morning of your pick-up day. Periodically clean your bins to reduce residual odours.
- Trim vegetation to reduce hiding places and potential denning sites.
- Restrict access under decks and sheds, around woodpiles, or any other structure that can provide cover or denning sites for coyotes or their prey.
- Enclose property with a six-foot fence to deter coyotes. Ensure that there are no gaps.