## About Coyotes

Incredibly beneficial to the natural ecosystem, coyotes are a keystone species and help to keep rodent populations under control. They are often referred to as "nature's clean-up crew."

Coyotes are devoted parents and diligent protectors of their offspring. Coyotes mate for life and have significant family bonds.

While coyotes normally avoid us, intentional or unintentional feeding may change a coyote's proximity tolerance, resulting in them approaching people or vards.

Hazing is a critical part of restoring a coyote's natural aversion to humans.

### Share your experience and connect with us online for more resources:



facebook.com/coyotewatchcanada

youtube.com/user/coyotewatchcanada



@CoyoteWatchCAN

coyotewatchcanada.com

### About Us

Coyote Watch Canada is a federally incorporated, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting wildlife education and fostering coexistence between communities and local ecosystems. Our ecological framework advocates conservation-science-based investigation, education, prevention and enforcement. Our mission champions co-operative, non-lethal solutions for human-wildlife conflict.







The City of Niagara Falls enforces Bylaw 2011-37 to discourage the intentional and unintentional feeding of coyotes, with fines up to \$5000.00 CAD.





# **Coyote Hazing Overview**

Everything you need to know to be wildlife smart and help keep coyotes wild

Wildlife Hotline: 905.931.2610

Email: info@coyotewatchcanada.com

**Report Local Coyote Sightings:** niagarafalls.ca/coyote

coyotewatchcanada.com

### **About Wildlife Hazing**

- Hazing (or aversion conditioning) is a method of negative association that safely compels wildlife such as coyotes, foxes or wolves to move away from humans, sometimes through the use of deterrents.
- Hazing is not a new technique. It has been used with great success around the world with many species, including bears and tigers.
- Hazing can restore a coyote's natural avoidance of humans and minimize interactions. Communities that employ basic hazing techniques experience measurable results, while educating and empowering themselves.
- For communities experiencing regular coyote sightings in identified "hot spots", patience is required. Intensive and consistent hazing may be required to encourage the coyote to move on entirely. Hazing crews can be trained to respond to calls, communicate with residents, and utilize more intensive techniques if needed.
- It is important to remember that **each coyote has a different "food education": some coyotes have been taught that people (and their properties) will provide food** (e.g., direct feeding, compost bins, bird feeders, or cat and dog food left outside).
- Hazing a coyote can effectively change its behaviour and can help to ensure that future coyotes do not develop these behaviours.



Hazing, when used as part of an overall coexistence program addressing other contributing factors, is a life-long tool to help prevent humanwildlife conflict.

### **Always Put Safety First**

- Never run from any canine, including coyotes
- Never corner a wild animal; always provide an escape route
- Never approach a sick or injured coyote



For information and downloadable resources, please visit: **coyotewatchcanada.com**.

#### **Basic Hazing Techniques**

- Stand tall, make yourself big, wave your arms and shout (don't scream) while approaching the coyote until he or she runs away
- Use a noisemaker, such as:
  - your voice
  - an air horn
  - pots and pans banged together
  - a whistle
  - a shake can (such as a pop can filled with coins or pebbles)
  - jingling keys, or
  - an umbrella popping open and closed

• Use a projectile (toward, not AT the coyote), such as:

- sticks
- clumps of dirt
- small rocks, or
- a tennis ball
- **During warm months, use liquids**, such as:
  - a garden hose
  - a water gun, or
  - water balloons

**Note:** if a coyote has never been hazed before, he or she may not run away immediately just by you vocalizing. You may need to approach the coyote while incorporating some of the above-mentioned deterrents. If the coyote runs a short distance, stops, and turns to look at you, continue to haze the coyote until he or she has completely left the area.