

WHAT TO DO



IF A COYOTE OR FOX APPROACHES YOU

- **STOP**

Pick up children and small pets if necessary

- **STAND STILL**

Never run from a coyote, fox or a domestic dog

- **MAKE YOURSELF BIG**

Wave your arms, pop an umbrella, or snap a large garbage bag

- **BE LOUD AND ASSERTIVE**

Shout "Go Away!", stomp your feet or clap your hands

- **SLOWLY BACK AWAY**

Be assertive as you leave, if need be, to ensure the animal knows it is not welcome

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



coyotewatchcanada.com

About Us

Coyote Watch Canada is a 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.

"All things are bound together..."



...all things connected."

- Chief Seattle



COYOTE WATCH CANADA



Coexisting with Wildlife

Fostering Positive Human and Wildlife Experiences

Wildlife Hotline: 905.931.2610

Email: info@coyotewatchcanada.com

National Online Canid Reporting:
niagarafalls.ca/coyote

coyotewatchcanada.com

Tips for Coexisting with Wild Canids

1. Clean up attractants

- Food is one of the biggest contributors to conflict with coyotes. Be mindful of the food you might be providing, directly or indirectly.
- Problematic items often include: overflowing trash or compost bins, bird feeders (which attract rodents and small mammals), pet food, fruit trees, or food intended for other wildlife.

2. Be a responsible animal guardian

- Resist the urge to let pets roam without supervision (they are vulnerable to many human and environmental dangers). Keep cats indoors or in an enclosed play space/ patio.
- Keep backyard farm animals housed in safe wire enclosures that also protect against wild visitors who like to dig.
- Clear away farm deadstock immediately.

3. Give wildlife some space

- Never approach coyotes, their dens, or pups.
- Do not allow dogs to harass or chase wildlife.
- Teach children to admire wildlife from afar.



Aversion conditioning is a proven method for deterring coyotes, foxes, and wolves if they have been conditioned to come too close.
Ask us for more information.

About the Eastern Coyote

The Eastern coyote, also known as North America's song dog, shares common ancestral DNA with the Algonquin (Eastern) Wolf and is native to North America. Due to human extermination of wolf populations and landscape changes, the coyote's range extends throughout Eastern Canada and beyond.

Coyotes are omnivores and provide humans with important environmental clean-up services, such as rodent control and carrion removal. They feed primarily on small mammals, fruit, and insects.

Like wolves, coyotes are often considered a vital keystone species by keeping small mammals and rodent populations in check. Understanding the benefits of the coyote in our ecosystem helps to promote and preserve healthy wild spaces.

Coyotes mate for life when left to thrive. They are devoted to their families and co-parent their pups as they grow. Much like our domestic dogs, coyote pups have been observed playing with discarded pop cans, sticks, and golf balls. Their play behaviour is essential survival training that reinforces social bonds, appropriate foraging, and hunting skills.

Each bonded family maintains and defends an established territory or home range that averages between 25 and 40km², depending on resource availability. Transient individuals may occupy the fringe areas between established territories. Seasonal influences such as mating and pup dispersal affect the frequency of coyote sightings.

Coyotes communicate by leaving urine, scat and scent markings, and by vocalizing. Unique yips, howls, barks, and whines are used to locate a missing pack member, to mate or pup, to warn others of danger, to communicate with

neighbouring packs, and to defend a home territory. Coyote vocalizations can be deceiving; two coyotes can sound like a chorus. Many naturalists have noted that coyotes often howl for the pleasure of it, and at times, they howl simply because they are lonely.



Eradication programs are cruel and expensive and have proved a failure in North America.

They Live Here Too

Coyotes are highly adaptable and resilient animals. The urbanization of green spaces and fragmentation of wild lands have forced coyotes to live in closer proximity to populated urban areas. We tend to think that coyotes don't belong here, and that they should live "somewhere else", but they, too, call greenspaces and wildlife corridors a part of their home range. They are our wild neighbours, and coexisting successfully is a very real option.

Coyotes are wary of change and curious about human activity in their territory. Humans often mistake a curious coyote for an aggressive animal.

We tend to harbour a great deal of fear and anxiety about coyotes, which is often perpetuated by sensational news headlines. Unfortunately, our false assumptions and misunderstanding of coyote behaviour contribute to 50-70% of coyotes being killed before they reach adulthood.