

Living With Coyotes

Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) are found throughout California. They are extremely adaptable and can survive in many habitats, including residential areas. Coyotes are vital to ecological balance because they help to keep populations of smaller animals in check. They are generally fearful of humans and respond well to humane scare tactics such as loud noises and motion censored devices.



Will RC Animal Center Remove Coyotes

The Rancho Cucamonga Animal Center will assist residents with tips on humanely co-existing with coyotes. We will also respond to coyotes that are sick, injured, or are determined to be a public safety risk. The RC Animal Center is prohibited from trapping and relocating coyotes. Contact Field Services at (909)466-7387 ext. 1 for more information or assistance.

Coyote Behavior

- Diet consists of small mammals, birds, snakes, cats, household pets.
- Normally seen at night or early evening but can be found during the day searching for food and water when sources are scarce.
- Can easily clear a 6 ft. fence, block wall or rod iron gate.

Co-existing with Coyotes

- Never feed wildlife; bring all pet food and water bowls inside.
- Secure all trash cans and routinely pick up fallen fruit.
- Water lawns in the morning hours after it is light.
- **Keep pets indoors and always supervise small children and pets.**
- **Always supervise small pets outdoors and keep them on a leash – even in fenced back yards.**
- Spay or neuter your pets and keep them current on vaccinations (especially rabies vaccine).
- Trim back dense shrubbery and brush to reduce hiding places.
- Carry a noise maker on walks (coke can with pennies in it, whistle).

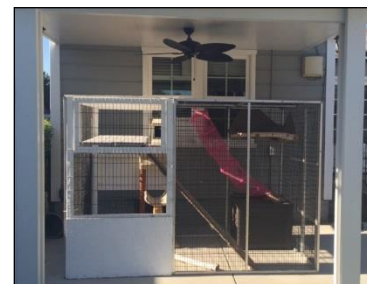
Other Suggestions



Motion Activated Sprinklers
(Scarecrows)



Coyote Rollers Fencing
(<http://www.thecoyoteroller.com/>)



Build a Catio or dog run that is completely enclosed to give pets a safe place to play.

What Should I Do if I Encounter a Coyote?

- Keep children close to you.
- Do not approach the animal.
- Do not run from the animal. Stand tall, make eye contact and pick up children without turning your back.
- Help keep coyotes wary of humans. Use hazing techniques such as air horns, banging pots and pans together, stomp feet, wave your arms, and throw rocks or other objects towards the animal to let it know it's not welcome.

Can you trap and Relocate Coyotes?

No. California law does not permit the relocation of coyotes. Coyotes may be trapped on private property through a permit process or by hiring a permitted trapping company. Trapped coyotes must be euthanized.

Trapping and removing healthy coyotes is not always the solution to the problem. Trapping may create a vacuum effect. Without removing the resources that are attracting coyotes to begin with, a void is created, and other coyotes will move in. Scientific studies have determined when coyote abatement programs are instituted, they breed more frequently and have bigger litters with a higher percent of survival.

Injured and Sick Coyotes



The most common type of illness reported in local coyote populations is mange. Mange is a mite (Demodex or Sarcoptic) and causes the coyote to have hair loss, red and itchy skin and appear unthrifty and emaciated. Coyotes that ingest rodenticides or eat animals that have been poisoned are at most risk for getting mange as their immune system is compromised. Unfortunately, these animals are often ambulatory and nearly impossible to catch and treat.

Immediately Report Coyote Encounters and Attacks

If you are involved in a coyote attack, call 911. To report non-life-threatening sightings, deceased or injured coyotes, or encounters with people or pets call our Field Services Division at 909-466-7387, option 1. Thank you for caring about our local wildlife!