

What to do if you encounter a coyote?

To prevent coyote attacks on humans, modern wildlife management focuses on 'aversive' conditioning. This practice tries to change an animal's behavior by making every human-coyote encounter unpleasant for the animal. This method only works if we all respond to coyote encounters aggressively.

- If a coyote does approach make it feel unwelcome. They should feel uncomfortable around us.
- Respond to their presence aggressively by making yourself appear larger. Wave our arms overhead, or thrust long objects like a walking stick toward the coyote.
- Throw rocks, sticks or other objects toward the animal.
- Shout in a deep voice and maintain eye contact.
- Back away slowly and move toward buildings or human activity if they coyote continues to approach.
- Do not turn away or run. This will encourage the coyote to chase you.

What to do about a problem coyote?

If coyotes are disrupting **humans and pets** contact [Alberta Fish and Wildlife](#). They can assist if there is a sick or injured coyote that can't move, a coyote that is behaving aggressively toward people, such as nipping or biting, or if you require additional advice for preventing or responding to coyote encounters.

If coyotes are found to be disrupting **livestock** contact [Greenview Agriculture Services](#). The Problem Wildlife Officer will be contacted to remove the coyote from the problem area.

For More Information about Avoiding Coyote-Human Conflict

Contact Agriculture Services

Phone: 780-524-7621

Or

Alberta Fish and Wildlife

Fox Creek Phone: 780-622-3421

Grande Cache Phone: 780-827-3356

Grande Prairie Phone: 780-538-5265

Valleyview Phone: 780-524-3605

Toll-Free Phone: 780-310-0000

Website: <http://aep.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/default.aspx>

If someone is in danger, call: Emergency 9-1-1



Contact Agriculture Services

Phone: 780-524-7621

Toll Free: 1-888-524-7601

Fax: 780-524-5041



Coyotes And You



Agriculture Services

Greenview, Alberta, Canada
A great place to live, work and play.

www.mdgreenview.ab.ca

About Coyotes

Coyotes play a natural and beneficial role in the food chain by feeding on rabbits, mice and squirrels. Coyotes are members of the dog family and look like a cross between a fox and a small Collie or German Shepherd. An average coyote weighs between 9 and 14 KG and is just over a meter long from nose to tail. They have light grey or tan coats and slim pointed muzzles. They are highly curious, intelligent and very adaptable. Coyotes are usually active from dusk to dawn but if they can find food regularly during the day they will adapt to being active during daylight.

Why do coyotes live near humans?

Rural areas are Coyotes' natural habitat. As rural areas become more populated, natural habitat is being lost. Due to coyote adaptability they have learned to scavenge for food such as garbage, fruit and accessible pet food; all readily available in subdivisions and on acreages and farms.



Coyotes and pets

Coyotes are territorial and could consider your dog a threat. Coyotes may try to draw a dog away and attack it to eliminate the threat. Keeping your dog from roaming free is the best way to ensure its safety. Greenview's Dog Control Bylaw states a dog is not permitted to run at large within specified areas.

Pet owners please do not...

- Leave pet food out
- Walk your dog off leash in areas frequented by coyotes—especially in the spring
- Leave a small dog out in the yard unattended for long periods of time
- Leave cats out roaming



Are Coyotes Dangerous?

Coyotes have a natural fear of humans but may become defensive and may attack if they are protecting their food or a den. In cases where coyotes attacks people, it usually involves a coyote that has been fed by humans. Experts agree that coyotes will steer clear of humans until they learn that people are a source of food. Our behavior can encourage coyotes to challenge us.

Preventing conflicts with coyotes

- Never intentionally or unintentionally feed coyotes. Items such as pet food, garbage and fruit fallen from trees should be cleaned up or inaccessible for coyotes. As well deterring mice and squirrels from your property, it will reduce your chances of attracting coyotes.
- Keep your property clean or inaccessible to shelter and hiding places. Some places coyotes may hide are under decks, outbuildings, low hanging branches and wood piles.
- Install motion-activated lights in your yard.
- Keep your cats indoors and don't let your dog play outside unsupervised.
- Always be sure to clean up dog feces as it attracts coyotes.
- Make sure your fence is in good repair. Holes in fences may attract curious coyotes into your yard.
- Talk to your neighbors about following the same preventative measures.