

CITY OF COPPELL



The problem of coyote urbanization is a relatively new one, but it is certainly not unique to North Texas. As people expand into new areas, wildlife may become displaced and/or adapt to the new environment, and potentially hazardous situations arise as coyotes begin to interact with the new population. Instances of negative interactions between coyotes and people or their domesticated animals have increased in some parts of the country, and this new initiative plans to prevent those types of interactions from cropping up here.

C.A.P., or the Coyote Awareness Program, focuses on “teaching” coyotes, instead of killing or trapping and relocating wildlife, which would serve as a short-term solution at best. As citizens, we can all participate in the re-habitation of these animals that may be a little too comfortable around people. Techniques such as whistles, noisemakers, etc. are intended to be uncomfortable to the animals without causing them harm.

Generally coyotes are reclusive animals that avoid humans, but we deter them from becoming acclimated to our presence, creating a potentially hazardous environment for both species.

Coyote Awareness Program HELPFUL TIPS

- Use whistles, noisemakers, pots and pans, pepper spray, even yelling as a coyote deterrent.
- Be sure to bring them with you on nature walks and while walking your dog.
- If you see a coyote, harass it until it completely leaves the area. Many times a coyote will run a short distance, and turn back around. Be sure to harass it until it is gone.
- It is important to use several different techniques so that animals never become accustomed to any single method of harassment.
- Never leave food or pet food outside, the scent may attract wildlife to your backyard.
- Harassment may also include throwing objects like rocks or sticks in the direction of the animal, but do not try to actually hit them.
- Do not try to engage animals that you suspect may be injured or sick. They may look like pets, but they are wild animals, and being sick, injured or otherwise compromised may result in aggressive and/or unpredictable behavior. If you suspect a coyote is sick or injured, report that animal's location to Animal Services.

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