



Coexisting with coyotes

How Asheville residents can coexist safely and peacefully with coyotes.



Seeing a coyote is
not a cause for concern.

Your guide to understanding
how to coexist with our local coyote
population in Asheville, NC.

FACT: Healthy coyotes are not a threat to humans.

They are wary creatures and prefer to stay out of sight. Even though the coyote population has been established in our area for many years, it is a surprise to most people when they see activity.

FACT:

A coyote looks like medium-sized dog with a heavy tan or rust-colored coat and a slender muzzle.

FACT:

In the past few years, sightings of coyotes have increased. This is because not only are the animals more numerous, but local development and increased human activity have contributed to an increase in passive encounters.

FACT:

Coyotes are the ultimate survivalists.

They are adept hunters and will prey on any animal smaller than they are. It is natural for them to be attracted to any location where a food source is plentiful. In some cases they will be more active during daylight hours or bolder in their hunting habits in order to take advantage of available food.

FACT:

Coyotes howl. Vocalizations, although they may sound menacing, do not indicate a large number of animals or a threat of any kind.

TIP: Make sure you are not contributing to the sightings by deliberately or unintentionally providing a source of food.

Attractants might include pet food or other grain products left outdoors, garbage or cluttered lots appealing to rodents, or improperly kept outdoor pets such as fowl.

TIP: Supervise cats and small dogs particularly during night time hours.

TIP: Maintain current rabies vaccinations as required by law for all of your cats and dogs.

TIP: If you see a coyote, frighten it by making a loud noise or other disturbance.

This effectively teaches the coyote humans are not pleasant to deal with and are best avoided.

TIP: Do not attempt to assist a sick or injured coyote.

Any person or pet coming in contact with a coyote must be reported to the police by calling (828) 252-1110.

Additional educational materials and resources can be obtained from our state wildlife management agency.

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) • www.ncwildlife.org

OR local wildlife species experts at **The Asheville Nature Center • (828) 298-5600 • www.wildwnc.org**