



Coyotes in Your Neighborhood: Strategies for Dealing with Common Concerns

Webinar Overview

Achieving peace with your neighborhood coyotes is easy when you learn how to think like a coyote. Topics covered include: basic coyote ecology, the latest research on coyotes in urban ecosystems, tips for humanely solving conflicts with coyotes by removing food attractants that lure coyotes into neighborhoods, taking precautions with pets, and hazing bold coyotes. When a coyote has lost his fear of humans, hazing works to reinstall the natural fear of people back into habituated coyotes.

What is coyote hazing?

Hazing is a humane method that makes use of deterrents to move an animal out of an area or discourage an undesirable behavior or activity. Hazing can help maintain a coyote's fear of humans and deter them from backyards and play spaces.

Methods of hazing

Using a variety of different hazing tools is critical so that coyotes don't get used to redundant or single stimulus devices, sounds, and actions.

1. Yelling and waving your arms while approaching the coyote.
2. Noisemakers: Voice, whistles, air horns, bells, "shaker" cans full of marbles or pennies, pots, lids, or pie pans banged together.
3. Projectiles: sticks, small rocks, cans, tennis balls, rubber balls.
4. Other: hoses, water guns with vinegar water, spray bottles with vinegar water, pepper spray, bear repellent.

The simplest method of hazing a coyote involves being **loud** and **large**:

Stand tall, wave your arms, and yell at the coyote, approaching him if necessary, until he runs away

If a coyote has not been hazed before, he may not immediately run away when you yell at him. If this happens, you may need to walk towards the coyote and increase the intensity of your hazing.

The coyote may run away, but then stop after a distance and look at you. It is important to continue to go after the coyote until he completely leaves the area. You may need to use different tactics, such as noisemakers, stomping your feet, or spraying the coyote with a hose, to get him to leave.

Important Things to Remember

- ✓ Never run away from a coyote!
- ✓ The coyote may not leave at first, but if you move closer and/or increase the intensity of your hazing, the coyote will run away.
- ✓ If the coyote runs away a short distance and then stops and looks at you, continue hazing until the coyote completely leaves the area.
- ✓ After you have successfully hazed a coyote, he or she may return again. Continue to haze the coyote as you did before; it usually takes only one or two times to haze a coyote away for good.

Additional Resources

- The Humane Society of the United States official page on coyotes: www.humanesociety.org/coyotes It will provide you with links to other resources to download or read online.
- Video describing coyote hazing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MOnDlx71Q0>; produced by City of Aurora, CO Parks and Recreation Dept.
- Coyote fact sheets:
http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/wild_neighbors/preventing_coyote_conflicts.pdf
http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/wild_neighbors/coyote_hazing.pdf
http://www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/wild_neighbors/coyote_conflict_solutions.pdf
- Information and current articles promoting peaceful co-existence between people and coyotes: <http://www.projectcoyote.org/>