

Child Safety

Children of all ages should be taught to stay away from every wild animal. In the case of small children in particular, it is always wise to keep them under constant supervision. They should never be left alone in an area known to be coyote habitat. If the family is going to eat outside in the summer, an adult should always be present. Like dogs, coyotes have an extremely sensitive sense of smell and are attracted by any food source.

Pet Safety

The only way to guarantee the safety of your cat is to make it an indoor cat. If you own a small dog:

- Keep your dog on a short leash when outside.
- Avoid extension leashes when walking.
- Walk in areas of high pedestrian traffic.
- Keep your dog in front of you. If it stops, keep an eye on it.
- Dog walk with a friend or relative.

If you own a large dog, discourage it from feeling comfortable or “playing” with the coyotes.

Things to remember:

Never feed a coyote

Never run from a coyote

Never leave small children or pets alone in coyote habitat

Keep your yard free of fallen fruit, vegetables and pet food.

Clean up brush piles before the mice move in.

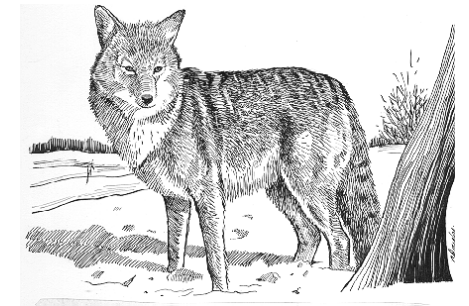
If you see a coyote behaving in an abnormal manner call 9-1-1

The City of Corcoran

**8200 County Road 116
Corcoran, MN 55340
Phone: 763.420.2288
www.ci.corcoran.mn.us**

The City of Corcoran

Co-Existing with Coyotes



Coyotes in our city?

Coyotes are an extremely adaptable wildlife species that survive well in an urban environment – including Corcoran!

With our wonderful parks and unspoiled natural areas, we not only encounter coyotes, we invite them.

READ ON TO LEARN MORE!

Coyote or Wolf?



Both actually. The coyote is closely related to the gray wolf, also indigenous to Minnesota. Coyotes are often called brush wolves or prairie wolves. They resemble a cross between a fox and a German Shepherd dog. A full grown adult will weigh between 20 and 45 pounds, but may appear heavier due to a thick double coat. The gray wolf is much larger.

They have bushy tails which are held low while running, unlike wolves whose tail is typically held high when they run.

Coyotes have a narrower muzzle with a white "bib" that covers the lower jaw and extends into the neck. They have large erect ears typically reddish yellow in color.

The fur is typically dark grey or black on the upper body and a lighter cream color on their undersides.

Why are they here?

Many people believe that coyotes are here because we have taken over their habitat. This is only partially true; we have actually enhanced it.

We support coyotes through our household habits. Our garbage is often accessible, we have compost bins, fruit trees and gardens, we leave pet food outside and create rodent habitat in our yards.

What do they eat?

About 70% of a coyote's diet is small mammals and fowl (i.e. mice, rabbits, ducks, etc.) The remaining 30% is things like fruit, vegetables and fish. Like most carnivores, they will eat dead animals as readily as they will capture live ones.

When are they active?

Contrary to popular belief they are not nocturnal and will be active any time of day or night. They mate in late winter and whelp in late April or early May. This will often lead to increased activity as they hunt to feed the new litter of pups. They typically hunt alone or in monogamous pairs. They are not pack animals. Unfortunately this is the time of year when people are most active. As a result of this increased activity, the chance of an encounter or sighting increases dramatically during this time.



A fed coyote is a dead coyote.

Coyotes are wild animals and perfectly capable of surviving on their own. Feeding coyotes puts yourself and the coyote at risk. A coyote that becomes dependent on humans for food may become too bold, bite someone and have to be destroyed.

Be Prepared!

If you encounter a coyote:

- Make yourself appear larger by standing and waving your arms.
- Shout in a deep aggressive voice.
- Throw rocks and sticks at the coyote.
- DO NOT RUN or turn your back on the coyote.