



## LIVING WITH URBAN WILDLIFE

# Coyotes

### Coyote Behaviour & Habitat

- Coyotes are common in Saskatoon and are a natural part of our urban environment.
- Coyotes help maintain a healthy and balanced ecosystem by controlling small pest populations.
- Coyotes generally avoid humans, but may enter urban areas in search of food and water.

### Co-existing with Coyotes

Coyotes can become problematic if they lose their natural wariness of humans. Remember:

- **Never Feed Coyotes:** Feeding them makes them less afraid of humans.
- **Secure Food Sources:** Store garbage, compost, birdseed and pet food out of reach.
- **Clean Up Fallen Fruit:** Remove potential food sources from your yard.
- **Avoid Taming Behaviors:** Treat coyotes as wild animals and do not approach them.
- **Keep Pets Safe:** Always have pets under your control and on a leash in areas known to have coyotes.

### Seasonal Patterns

- *January and February:* Courtship and mating season.
- *Spring to fall:* Den selection followed by pup rearing.
- *April and May:* Birth of pups.
- Juveniles or yearlings may disperse from their home range at any point during their lifetime.



If you encounter a coyote that is acting unusual (approaching people, staggering or acting confused) call Customer Care at 306-975-2476

If the coyote is acting aggressive contact the Saskatoon Police Service non-emergency line at 306-975-8300. If you are in immediate danger, call 911

**DO NOT call the Saskatoon Animal Control Agency**

### What to Do If You Encounter a Coyote

- **Allow the Coyote to Leave:** Provide an open escape route.
- **Do Not Approach or Feed:** Maintain a safe distance.
- **Avoid Turning Your Back or Running:** This may trigger a chase response.
- **Keep Pets Away:** This reduces stress for both the coyote and your pet.
- **Use Hazing Actions:** Encourage the coyote to leave with these techniques:
  - *Be Assertive:* Maintain eye contact, stand tall, wave your arms and shout (but don't scream).
  - *Use Noisemakers:* Use an air horn, clanging pots and pans, a whistle or a can filled with coins or pebbles. You can also snap open an empty garbage bag or open and close an umbrella.
  - *Throw Projectiles:* Throw sticks, clumps of dirt, small rocks or a tennis ball toward (but not at) the coyote.
  - *Use Liquids in Warm Months:* Spray with a garden hose, water gun or water balloons.



[saskatoon.ca/coyotes](https://saskatoon.ca/coyotes)

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