

Aren't wild animals both dangerous and potential carriers of disease?

Wildlife will rarely transfer disease to humans and pets. By taking the following precautions, you can minimize the possibility of serious problems.

- › **Protect Yourself:** Most wild animals are afraid of humans and will run away. Clap your hands, yell or bang loud objects together. Never turn your back and run from the animal. Make use of squeezable air-horns and whistles.
- › **Protect Young Children:** Teach children to be safe around wildlife. Enjoy wildlife from a distance. These animals may look cute, but their teeth and claws can be dangerous.
- › **Protect Your Pets:** Keep your pets current on their vaccinations to minimize their risk of contracting diseases. Keep pets supervised, especially at night when wildlife is most active. Always walk your dog on a leash (it's the law!). If you or your pet is bitten, note your location and the type of animal that bit you or your pet and seek medical attention immediately. Remember to report the bite to your local animal control agency.

An animal has pulled away the screens and moved into my crawl space.

Your crawl space is the perfect spot to set up housekeeping! It meets the needs of wildlife looking for a den site to sleep in and care for their offspring. Avoid these invasions by making the area inaccessible to wild animals. Secure all entrances to the crawl spaces under your house, shed or garage. This is especially important in early spring, before "baby season," and in the fall when animals are planning for winter. As a reminder, IVHS & SPCA will not remove wildlife that is in an enclosed space on your property. Please call a pest control company for this service. For a complete yard & home audit checklist, please visit our website - IVHSSPCA.org.

There is a coyote in my area.

Coyotes are attracted to areas that have available food, water and housing. If you live in an area with a known coyote presence, such as foothill communities, supervise your pets and young children while they are outside. For more information, please visit our website - IVHSSPCA.org.

The World is bigger than your **B**oekyard

Urban wildlife is an important part of our environment. The Inland Valley Humane Society & S.P.C.A. does not advocate trapping, removal, relocation or eradication of healthy wildlife.

Wildlife experts agree that removing these creatures from the urban environment creates a hole in the ecosystem for other similar animals to fill. Relocation to other areas is not recommended because it is generally a death sentence for the animal being introduced, and it may spread parasites or diseases to the animals already living there. IVHS & SPCA works with the California Department of Fish & Wildlife to monitor coyotes sightings within our Partner Cities. Both parties encourage the public to learn more about wildlife and appreciate its existence.



To report a sick or injured aggressive coyote that is posing a threat to public safety, please call:

IVHS & SPCA (909) 594-9858
CDFW (909) 484-0167

Coyotes
{Canis latrans}



COYOTE {Canis latrans}

Coyotes are sly, intelligent and very adaptable animals. Despite attempts to regulate their numbers throughout the United States, coyote populations have continued to increase.

Appearance

Coyotes look similar to small German Shepherds in size and shape. They have a long, slender muzzle with large, erect ears. Their tail is round and bushy. Please note that skin conditions, such as mange, are common among wildlife and, generally, does not affect their ability to survive in the wild.

Behavior

Primarily nocturnal, coyotes are omnivorous and enjoy a diet of small mammals, fish, reptiles, fruits and vegetables. Coyotes are attracted to urban neighborhoods because of the abundant food sources such as garbage cans, pet food, birdseed and outdoor pets.



Breeding: 5-6 Pups in Spring
Most Active: Dawn & Dusk
Diet: Mice, Squirrels, Rabbits, Carrion, Fruit and Insects

Benefits

Coyotes assist in keeping rodents and other wildlife populations under control.



Deterrents

- **Control food resources in your yard:** don't leave pet food outside and limit the use of birdseed because predators are attracted to the animals that feed on it.
- **Keep yards trimmed and clear of excess brush and woodpiles** that may serve as housing for predators or prey.
- **Outdoor lights, radio, noise or ammonia-soaked rags** can be used in the yard to deter predators.
- **Make a lot of noise:** clap your hands, yell or bang pots and pans together. Never turn your back and run from the animal. Make use of squeezable airhorns and whistles.
- **Fence rollers** are also a valuable deterrent to keep coyotes out of your backyard.



Wild animals are in trouble, and the problem is people who are careless with food and garbage.

Coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem, helping to keep rodent populations under control. They are by nature fearful of humans.

If coyotes are given access to human food and garbage, their behavior changes. They lose caution and fear. They may cause property damage. They might threaten human safety. They might be killed.

Relocating a problem coyote is not an option because it only moves the problem to someone else's neighborhood.

Help prevent deadly conflicts for these beautiful wild animals.

KeepMeWild.org