The Neighborhood Coyote Program

Learning to Safely Coexist with Coyotes in the San Gabriel Valley

Presented by Sophia Sousa, Management Aide
The Neighborhood Coyote Program

- Outreach and education program that also keeps track of coyote behavior/encounters
- Work with cities and residents to ensure the safe coexistence of residents and coyotes
- Aim to prevent escalated coyote encounters
Member Cities

Alhambra
Arcadia
Azusa
Covina
Glendora
Irwindale
Montebello
Rosemead
San Marino
The Neighborhood Coyote Program

- Community Outreach
- Education
- Referrals & Resources
- Reporting & Tracking
Community Outreach

- Booth at existing city/community events
- Create new events, such as community meetings, town halls, safety workshops, twitterchats, and more
- Provide presentations to community organizations (ex: Covina Sunrise Rotary Club and Montebello Neighborhood Watch)
Education

- Develop informational materials and resources
- Maintain website with advice and best practices
- Stay up to date on state legislation/activity regarding coyotes and wildlife through partnership with California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
Referrals & Resources

- Maintain an educational line via phone and email
- Refer residents to animal care/control, code enforcement, and CDFW when necessary
- Equip residents with resources needed to address situations other than sightings (ex: humane removal of coyote dens)
Background on Coyotes

- Coyotes have been in the Los Angeles area for thousands of years!
  - Habituation and the proliferation of resources are new.
- Coyotes play an important role in our local ecosystem
  - They help maintain skunk, raccoon, rabbit, and rodent populations
- Coyotes are naturally fearful of humans
Coyote Attractants

- **Food**
  - bird feeders
  - pet food
  - fallen fruit
  - overflowing garbage
  - small animals
  - BBQ grills

- **Water**
  - birdbaths
  - pet water bowls

- **Shelter**
  - overgrown foliage
  - access to crawl spaces
Coyote Deterrents

- **Scent**
  - ammonia
  - vinegar

- **Sound**
  - radios
  - dog whistles

- **Light**
  - motion sensing lights
  - blinking holiday lights

- **Physical**
  - fence rollers/aprons
  - motion sensing sprinklers

sqvcog.org/coyotematerials
Think SMART!

Stop! Don’t run or turn your back on the coyote. If you have a small pet, pick them up.

Make yourself look bigger! Raise and wave your hands to make yourself as big and threatening as possible.

Announce your presence by yelling. Loudly say, "go away coyote!" You can also use noise makers such as keys or air horns.

Retreat by backing away slowly and maintaining a threatening posture. Never run away or turn your back on a coyote.

Teach your friends and family about coyote safety! Share this acronym with them, along with our program information.
Tips for Coyote Encounters

When going on walks:
● Carry a walking stick to help ward off coyotes
● Carry a noise maker (whistle, airhorn, can full of coins) to scare away coyotes
● Carry pebbles to throw in the coyote’s direction (NOT at the coyote)
● Take a flashlight for evening walks to deter coyotes from approaching you

Never turn your back or run away.
Keeps pets on a short leash (max 6ft).

When at home:
● Spray with garden hose (use thumb or spray nozzle)
● Make loud noises (bang two pots together, shout, shake a tin can filled with coins, etc.)
● Use an air horn

Never corner a coyote without an escape route.
Never leave children or pets unattended.
When/Where to Report

Contact Animal Control when…
● Coyote is ill or injured and non-ambulatory
● There are deceased cats and fowl
● Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control
  (562) 940-6898

Contact Code Enforcement regarding…
● Properties violating municipal code and attract coyotes/wildlife
  as a result (overgrown foliage, vacant and unkempt homes)
● Alhambra Code enforcement (626) 570-3230

All other non-emergency encounters should be reported to
the Neighborhood Coyote Program.

Contact 911 during an emergency!
Reporting to the Neighborhood Coyote Program

Report by phone

● Call (626) 278-8039

Report by email

● Email coyotes@sgvcog.org

Report by Google Form

● Complete the survey at tinyurl.com/sgvcoyotes

Please use the educational line for general questions and education as well!
Feeding Coyotes

It is illegal to feed wildlife in the State of California
(CA code of regulations Title 14, section 251.1)

Feeding Wildlife can cause:

- Animal behavior to change
- Association of humans with food, leading to aggressive behavior
- Loss of caution and fear for humans
- Loss of foraging and hunting skills
- Spread of diseases among coyotes and to pets and people
Thank You! Questions?

Contact Us:
Website: sgvcog.org/coyotes
Mobile Number:(626) 278-8039
Email: Coyotes@sgvcog.org

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San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments