



COMMISSION ON ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL
CITY OF CHICAGO

Tips to Dealing with Coyotes

- Always be aware of your surroundings. Small children should not be left alone or unsupervised. Pets should never be off-leash or left unsupervised.
- Do not feed wildlife, including coyotes. It will train the animals to keep returning to your location to see food and attract other wildlife. Also, do not leave food scraps out as it will have the same effect.
- If you see a coyote, do not crouch down or run away. Stand as tall as possible as the animal will likely be fearful of your stature. Waving your arms and making loud noises will also deter the animal from coming close to you.
- If you're walking alone or with your dogs in the late evening or early morning before sunrise, carry an air horn or similar device with you. Loud noises will frighten the animal.
- If you're walking a small dog, pick up the animal when you see a coyote.
- Coyotes are typically fearful of large dogs and humans. Coyote attacks on humans are extremely rare. The Cook County Coyote project noted absolutely zero reported coyote bites to humans in all of Illinois between 1985 and 2006.
- If a coyote, or any wildlife is sick, injured, vicious, displaying signs of aggression, has attacked or is threatening to attack, Chicago Animal Care and Control has the ability to trap the animal using non-lethal traps, or tranquilize the animal if necessary.
- If the animal is not aggressive, but confined to an area where the animal is causing public disturbance, ACC can usually catch the animal using a control pole.
- Report aggressive or fearless coyotes. For any non-emergency situations dial 311, for emergency situations dial 911.

For additional information on coyotes and other Illinois native wildlife, please visit:

- (1) Flint Creek Wildlife - <http://www.flintcreekwildlife.org/>
- (2) University of Illinois, Living With Wildlife - <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/wildlife>
- (3) The Cook County Coyote Project - <http://www.urbancoyoteresearch.com>