



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Residents Can Take Steps to Keep Coyotes Away from Their Property

January 19, 2012

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Powell, OH: As snow covers the ground and the frigid temperatures continue, it is not uncommon for coyotes to wander into residential areas in their quest for food. However, residents can take steps to prevent coyotes from venturing onto – or returning to – their property.

According to information provided by the Ohio Wildlife Center, residents should take the following precautions to deter coyotes:

- Fence pet and animal enclosures completely (include a top when possible);
- Keep cats and small dogs inside (any pet weighing less than 45 pounds should not be left outside after 4 p.m.);
- Keep a close eye on small children;
- Feed pets **INSIDE** and remove all potential food and water sources from around your home (pet food, fruit, vegetables, standing water);
- Store trash in covered, heavy-duty containers;
- Remove thick brush and weeds from your yard and enclose the bottoms of porches and decks, reducing the potential for hiding places;
- Do not use open pits for composting.

Should you happen to have a confrontation with a coyote, the Ohio Wildlife Center recommends you do not turn and run away, but instead yell and wave your arms, or use a stick to fend off the animal. Pepper spray is also an appropriate defense option.

Coyotes tend to do most of their hunting after dusk, but they can be active at any time.

For additional information, contact the Ohio Division of Wildlife's District 1 Office at 614-644-3925. To report a coyote that appears sick or injured, contact the Ohio Wildlife Center at 614-793-9453.

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