

## About Animal Services

The mission of Culver City Animal Services is to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the Culver City residents and animals through effective and courteous enforcement and education of the Culver City Municipal Codes, Los Angeles County Codes, California Code of Regulations Title 14 and state laws. Culver City Animal Services encourages the healthy retraining of the public and of the natural wildlife.

## Coyote Calls for Service

Culver City Animal Services will respond to coyote calls when:

- Coyote is sick
- Coyote is injured
- Coyote is dead
- Coyote is out in parks and schools (areas particularly with children)
- Threatening/attacking a person



## Coyote Ecology

Coyotes have adapted to living close to people and now inhabit even densely populated metropolitan cities from Boston to San Francisco, Seattle and New York. Coyotes play an important ecological role helping to maintain healthy ecosystems and species diversity. As the top carnivore in some ecosystems, coyotes help regulate the number of mesocarnivores (such as skunks and raccoons) which helps to boost diversity.

## Coyote Encounters

Coyotes are usually wary of people and will avoid us whenever possible. Bold behavior is unusual and is most often a result of habituation due to intentional or unintentional feeding, the presence of a dog or cat, or the coyote defending a den and young.

## Coyote Conflicts

The very traits that have allowed coyotes to thrive, adapt and live with people even in the most populated regions of North America have also led to conflicts with us and our domestic animals. Most coyotes fear people. However, those who associate people with food may become habituated to our presence. The abundance of food, water and shelter offered by urban landscapes can lead to conflicts.

Possible attractants:

- Pet food left outside
- Outside water source
- Messy bird feeders
- Fruit left on the ground
- Compost piles
- Unattended small pets
- Intentional feeding
- Unsecured garbage
- Overgrown landscapes



## Coyote Hazing

Coyote hazing simply means scaring a coyote away from you, your yard, or your neighborhood. Coyotes are members of the dog family, and just as we train our dogs to adopt good behavior, we can reinforce a coyote's natural instinct to avoid people without harming them.

## Hazing Techniques

Hazing involves asserting yourself by reacting to the inappropriate presence of a coyote so that he is frightened or startled and leaves the area.

Hazing Techniques include:

- Yelling and waving arms
- Responding aggressively
- Banging pots and pans
- Using squirt guns or garden hoses
- Throwing tennis balls or rocks
- Utilizing whistles or air horns



**NEVER IGNORE OR RUN AWAY!**

## Hazing Tools

**Noise Makers:** your loud voice, whistles, bells, pots, shaker cans (soda can filled with pennies and wrapped with aluminum foil, slapping a newspaper against your thigh



**Surprises:** pop-up umbrella, motion-activated lights or sprinklers, garden hose, supersoaker spray gun filled with vinegar water

## Hazing Tips

- **Stand your ground.** Make eye contact. Advance toward the coyote with your hazing tools (such as pans, water squirt gun, umbrella, can with coins) if there is hesitation on the part of the coyote.
- **Make sure the coyote is focused on you** as the source of danger or discomfort. Do not haze from buildings or your car where the coyote can't see you clearly.
- **Make it multisensory.** Use tools that scare with sound, light and motion.
- **Variety is essential.** Coyotes can learn to recognize and avoid individual people, so the more often a coyote has a negative experience with various hazing tool and different people, the faster he will change his behavior to avoid human contact.
- **Hazing should be exaggerated, assertive, and consistent.** Communities should always maintain some level of hazing using a variety of tools so that the coyotes do not return to unacceptable behavior over time.



## Disclaimer

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## Coyote Management and Hazing Techniques

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