



LIVING WITH COYOTES – Precautions

Few animals in America are more adaptable to changing conditions than the coyote. Coyotes can live just about anywhere. They are found in deserts, swamps, tundra, grasslands, brush, and dense forests, from below sea level to high mountains. They have also learned to live in suburbs and cities like Los Angeles, New York, Denver and Claremont.

Coyotes are active mainly during the nighttime, but they can be moving at any time during the day. Most sightings of coyotes occur during the hours close to sunrise and sunset.

In urban areas where coyotes are less likely to be harmed and more likely to associate people with an easy and dependable source for food, they can become very bold. They will come up to the door of a house if food is regularly present. Coyotes have learned that small dogs and cats are easy prey.

Here are some steps you can take to reduce the chance of student and coyote conflicts:

- Do not feed coyotes!
- Have students walk to school in groups or pairs.
- If confronted by a coyote, the students should shout, clap their hands or make some type of loud noise to scare the coyote away.
- Discourage coyotes from frequenting your area. If you observe coyotes around your home or property, chase them away by shouting, making loud noises, or blowing a whistle.

You can obtain a free wildlife whistle at the Claremont Police Department, 570 W. Bonita Ave.; The Hughes Community Center, 1770 North Danbury Road; or Claremont City Hall, 207 North Harvard, Claremont.

If you encounter a coyote and it is acting in an aggressive manner toward a human and one's safety is in danger, dial 9-1-1 and the police department will respond.

For further information on coyote safety the California Department of Fish and Game has an excellent web site at www.keepmewild.org.

Please contact Captain Stan Van Horn at the Claremont Police Department, (909) 399-5406 if you have any further questions regarding coyote safety.