



# **COYOTE** DETERRENENTS

**A guide to minimizing conflicts  
with coyotes**



**SGVCOG**

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments



# MAKING YOUR YARD LESS ATTRACTIVE TO COYOTES

Hazing efforts, deterrents, and repellents will be more effective on coyotes if coyote attractants are removed or excluded from residential neighborhoods first.

Thus, we encourage the following:

- Never feed coyotes! Report neighbors that are feeding.
- Remove all food and water sources from your yard. This may include pet bowls, birdbaths, fallen fruit, barbecue grills, and trash.
- All trash should be contained in trash containers and stored indoors with secure lids. Trash should not be placed on the curb until the morning of pickup. Encourage your community to utilize wildlife-proof trash containers on school grounds, in parks, and in commercial areas.
- Secure compost.
- Keep cats indoors.
- Pets should be supervised when outside.
- Trim vegetation and mow tall grass; remove brush to eliminate cover for coyotes and their prey.
- Only use secure birdfeeders. Coyotes will eat birdseed as well as the birds and rodents attracted by the feeder.
- Seal openings under porches, decks, sheds and crawl spaces.
- A complete yard audit can be found at: [sgvcog.org/coyotes](http://sgvcog.org/coyotes)





# HOW TO DETER COYOTES FROM MY PROPERTY

As a reminder, deterrents are only one tool in the coyote mitigation toolbox and should be used in conjunction with hazing and attractant removal in order to prevent coyote encounters.

There are three main categories of deterrents.

- Light: coyotes do not like bright or flashing light, especially at night.
  - motion detection lighting, strobe lighting and during the holiday season - blinking holiday lights.
- Sound: coyotes do not like certain loud sounds.
  - there are numerous noise emitters that emit sounds specifically to deter wildlife.
- Scent: coyotes do not like certain strong smells, scent based deterrents however must be reapplied regularly.
  - ammonia soaked rags, pepper spray, human scent, vinegar and there are also numerous homemade recipes.

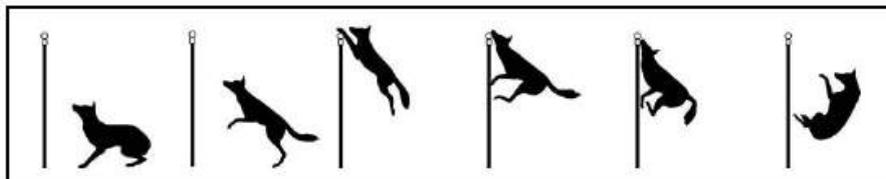


# KEEPING COYOTES OUT OF MY YARD



Coyotes are extremely intelligent and adaptable, so keeping them out of your yard can be difficult, especially if there is something attracting them there. However minimizing attractants and utilizing exclusion techniques can minimize their access and eventually reduce their population.

- Motion detection sprinklers can help prevent coyotes from entering your yard.
- Fencing alone is often not good enough at preventing coyotes from entering your yard and can be improved upon in two ways:
  - a buried apron will prevent coyotes from digging under the fence
  - secondly, coyote rollers installed on top of fencing to eliminate the coyote from grabbing a foothold and climbing over the fence, pictured below.



# HAZING 101



Haze coyotes out of your yard or away from you if they approach too closely. Hazing efforts will be less effective on coyotes if attractants are not removed, or if it is an adult coyote has not been regularly hazed (habituated). Share this information with your neighbors, friends and HOA since hazing efforts are most effective when the entire neighborhood works together. If you are removing attractants and hazing coyotes on your property, but your neighbor is not, then your efforts will be futile. Below is a list of hazing techniques:

- Make yourself as big as possible while waving your arms.
- Yell at the coyote with an authoritative voice.
- Throw rocks, sticks or anything else you can find towards the coyote.
- Bang pots and pans together or use a noisemaking device like an airhorn, whistle or homemade Coyote Shaker.
- Never turn your back on a coyote, to deescalate a situation, you should back away slowly toward your house.
  - Never haze a coyote backed into a corner without escape.
  - Never haze a coyote den during spring cubing season.

## WHILE OUT WALKING

Coyotes are found in both urban and rural areas in California. It's a good idea to be prepared to know how to deal with coyote encounters no matter where you are.

- Be alert of your surroundings and keep children and pets nearby. Dogs should be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet.
- Be familiar with the hazing techniques stated in previous section if a coyote approaches you.
- Plan activities during daylight hours when they are least active. Coyotes are most active during dawn and dusk hours.
- Walk with a walking stick, especially while hiking.
- Keep a deterrent spray handy.
- Carry a noise maker.
- Avoid potential den sites and thick vegetation.

## CONTACT US

If you've seen a coyote, are aware of someone in your neighborhood feeding coyotes or potential den sites, please contact the Neighborhood Coyote Program. We can also host virtual community meetings to discuss best-practices. We are available via:

- **Email:** [coyotes@sgvcog.org](mailto:coyotes@sgvcog.org)
- **Phone:** (626) 278-8039
- **Online:** [sgvcog.org/coyotes](http://sgvcog.org/coyotes)

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