

Wildlife Conflicts



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Introduction

“Wildlife management is often thought of in terms of protecting and enhancing wildlife populations and the habitat needed for their well-being. However, many species at one time or another require management actions to reduce conflicts.”

History of Wildlife in Ohio

- **People of Ohio own wildlife**
- **Div. of Wildlife manages wildlife**
- **Loss of large keystone predators**
- **Animals have adapted to changes in the environment**
- **Rural & urban/suburban conflicts**

Damage Prevention

- **Have a plan!**
- **Do not feed wildlife!**
- **Eliminate places where wildlife can enter the buildings**
- **Keep the property cleaned up**
- **Give permission to hunters and trappers**

Problem Identification

- **Species and numbers of animals causing the problem**
- **The amount of loss or damage**
- **The nature of the conflict**
- **Cost associated with alleviating the damage**

Fix It Myself or Pay Someone?

- **Call the Div. of Wildlife for technical assistance**
- **Purchase supplies and fix yourself**
- **Call a licensed nuisance animal trapper**



Animals & Control Options



Canada Geese - Prevention

- **Barriers or fences**
- **Herding dogs**
- **Pond grid - geese can't land or swim**
- **Pyrotechnics**
- **Stop feeding**

Combine Tactics!





Ouch!



Canada Geese - Control

- **Hunting seasons (early & regular)**
- **Egg addling or shaking**
(permit required)
- **Nest destruction (permit required)**
- **Goose roundup/shooting**
(permit required)

How do I get a permit?

- Contact your District Wildlife Office *or*
- Go on-line and complete a *Goose Damage Report*
- www.ohiodnr.com/gooseconflict or www.wildohio.com

Raccoons, Skunks & Opossums

- **Remove sources of food & water**
 - Pet food, water dish, bird feeder, grub killer
- **Secure garbage cans**
- **Exclusion**
 - Electric fence, chimney cap
- **Live trap (with I.D. tag) and euthanize or release on site**



Ground Squirrels

■ Prevention:

- Store bird seed & pet food in rodent-proof containers
- Inspect building foundation annually for openings larger than 1/4" and seal

■ Removal or Capture:

- Live trap and remove



Tree Squirrels

(Fox, Gray, or Red)

■ Prevention

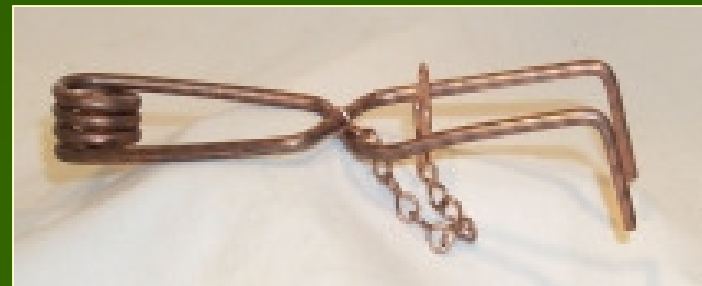
- Secure attic vents and cable or wire entry points with hardware cloth
- Do not feed squirrels

■ Removal or Capture

- Squirrels can be live trapped and removed

Moles

- **Exclusion (buried fencing) for small seed beds**
- **Trapping is the most successful and practical method of controlling moles**



Bats



- **Bats can enter through a crack as small as 3/8": check fascia boards, siding, & around windows**
- **Begin sealing the building on October 1st and end around April 15th**
- **Use a one-way valve made of 1/4" netting**

Groundhogs



■ Prevention:

- Fencing with electric wire
- Buried fencing

■ Removal or capture:

- Capture with a live trap & relocate
- Groundhogs can be hunted all year



Please!
NO FEEDING
PARK BOARD BYLAW 7422

**WILD ANIMALS ARE NOT PETS
RESPECT THEIR WILDNESS**

**FEEDING LEADS TO HUMAN INJURY,
ANIMAL OVERPOPULATION AND DISEASE**

**"A FED ANIMAL
IS A DEAD ANIMAL"**

Coyotes have large dark that make up. They can have a large under coat of snow.

Coyotes rarely fight with each other. They use gestures or grunts to communicate.

The majority of coyotes that have been killed in have been fed by humans.

Coyotes have bushy black tipped tails which they carry low while in motion.

Lower Hainland Coyotes weigh 20-30lbs (20-30lbs)

Coyotes eat a wide range of foods including rodents, fruit, insects and fish.

Coyotes are active day and night.

Coyotes are also known to be active at night.

COYOTE ALERT

Think you saw a coyote?
You probably did. Coyotes are very adaptable creatures and are commonly found in cities across North America. They moved into Vancouver in the late 1980s.

Appear as aggressive as possible

- Shout in a loud and deep voice
- Throw objects at the coyote
- Do not run, maintain eye contact
- Move towards an area of activity

If a coyote approaches:

Coyote attractants in your neighbourhood:

- Accumulated garbage, compost, fallen tree fruit
- Suit habitat - neglected sheds and properties
- Outdoor pet food (stored or fed)

Pet safety:

- Keep your dog in sight and under control
- Avoid busy areas or congested properties
- Never let your dog interact with a coyote
- Never feed coyotes

Coyote Info-line: 604 681 WILD (9453)
www.stanleyparkecology.ca

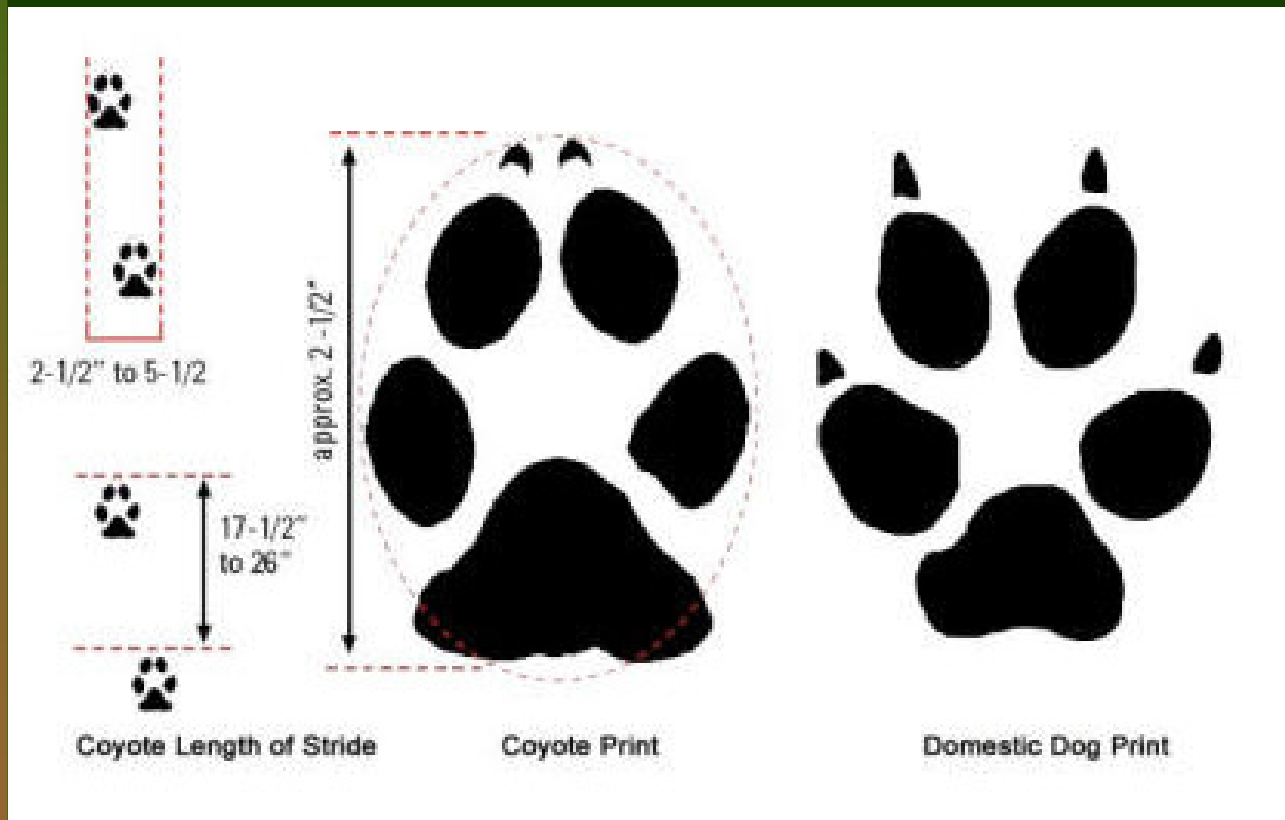


What do coyotes look like?

- Pointy ears
- Narrow snout
- Bushy tail in a down position
- 25-40 pounds
- Typically reddish-gray but can vary from blonde to black



There's a huge track in my yard!!



Where did coyotes come from?



Tell me more about coyotes!!

- Peak mating in February
- Litters born in April
- Litter size 4-7 average
- They are a pack animal
- Omnivores, opportunistic
- Largest predator in Ohio



Co-existing VS Conflict

- Coyotes are rarely seen and only during nighttime hours
- Coyotes are occasionally seen during the day nighttime sightings more common, reports of missing house cats
- Coyotes are seen frequently during the day. Pets are attacked in yards.
- Coyotes are openly attacking pets, approaching people without fear, acting aggressive.



WARNING!
Coyotes in the Area

Coyotes are wild animals and can be dangerous. Do not encourage them to approach. They are smart, fast, and will take what they can get.

All pets must be kept under direct control. For your safety and the safety of the animals...

KEEP THEM AT A DISTANCE!

NEVER FEED COYOTES!

Coyote Conflict Prevention



- **DO NOT feed the coyotes (Direct or Indirect)**
- **Scare tactics (Motion lights, air horns)**
- **Habitat Modification**
- **Do not let pets run loose**
- **Fencing**
- **Trapping and hunting**

Web sites & Phone Numbers

- www.wildohio.com
- www.urbancoyotereseearch.com

- (937)372-9261 D-5 Office
- 1-800-Wildlife General Information
- 1-800-Poacher Report a Violation

Summary

Contact the wildlife district office in your area for further information on wildlife damage



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