



COYOTE ALERT

SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

COYOTES ARE IN GREENWOOD

Coyotes can be found anywhere in Minnesota and populations are increasing in our area. Coyotes have visited Greenwood in the past, but now it appears some are living here.

Recently, there have been several encounters where the coyotes have shown aggressive behavior in the presence of people walking their dogs along Meadville Street and Fairview Street and in the vicinity of the regional trail. Dogs also have been bitten.

Typically coyotes avoid people, and no attacks on a human have ever occurred in Minnesota according to the Minnesota DNR. Coyotes are generally timid and frightened when confronted by people. Hazing coyotes has been an effective method in preventing coyote / human encounters.

WHAT SHOULD RESIDENTS DO?

1. Get educated about coyotes (see the other side of this sheet, visit www.greenwood-mn.com).
2. Engage in coyote hazing (see right column).
3. Stop feeding pets or wildlife in your yard (birdfeeders are okay).
4. Supervise your children when outside.
5. Do not let pets run loose. The city has a leash law.
6. Secure all garbage containers and compost.
7. Report aggressive coyote behavior to the city.

HOW SHOULD WE REACT?

When you encounter a coyote, do the following:

Be SMART!

S = Stop don't run

M = Make yourself bigger

A = Announce yourself (yell)

R = Retreat by backing away

T = Tell someone

HAZING METHODS:

- NEVER run away from a coyote!
- Yell and wave your arms when approached by a coyote.
- Use noisemakers (e.g. voice, whistles, bells, air horns).
- Throw things (e.g. sticks, rocks, balls).
- Use other repellents (e.g. water hose, pepper spray, walking sticks).

WHY DON'T WE KILL THEM ALL?

Coyotes are very “wily,” so they are difficult to kill. Plus, if they are killed, more coyotes move in to replace those that were killed. Coyotes also adapt to the loss of individuals in their families by over-reproducing to replace those lost. On the positive side, coyotes play an important role by helping control other wild animals frequently found in Greenwood, including rodents and Canada geese.

WHAT IS THE CITY DOING?

The city council approved a Coyote Management Plan that was developed with public input. The plan includes information on what to do and who to call (see the plan on the right). In addition, the city is ...

- Communicating with residents.
- Providing residents with education resources.
- Engaging in a garbage dumpster enforcement program to reduce sources of food for coyotes.
- Collecting and assessing coyote siting reports. See the plan on the right for categories and actions.
- Compiling and posting siting reports.
- Organizing a volunteer Coyote Hazing Team that will conduct hazing, training, and disseminate information as the plan moves forward.
- Managing the removal of coyotes that meet the plan criteria.

Note: In Greenwood, it is illegal to discharge a weapon (including a BB gun, paint ball gun, etc.) to scare or kill a coyote. The city's ordinances also prohibit foot traps, snares, and discharging an arrow from a bow. If the city council determines that extreme hazing or lethal removal of a coyote is necessary, the city council may suspend these prohibitions for the Coyote Hazing Team or a wildlife control company.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TIPS REGARDING COYOTES:

www.humanesociety.org/animals/coyotes
www.projectcoyote.org
www.urbancoyoteresearch.com
www.dnr.state.mn.us/livingwith_wildlife/coyotes/index.html

Additional information has been reviewed and posted on the city's website at www.greenwoodmn.com (click on the “Coyotes & Animal Services” tab).



Coyote Management Plan

Approved 09-07-16

Level	Behavior	Action	Response
Green	Coyote is observed and leaves when a person is present.	None.	Leave the coyote alone. Self-education. Visit www.greenwoodmn.com to view educational materials.
Yellow	Coyote is observed and exhibits little wariness of humans. A domestic animal not on a 6ft leash held by a person is attacked by a coyote.	Call city hall at 952.474.6633.	Coyote hazing recommended. Self-education. Visit www.greenwoodmn.com to view educational materials. The location of the coyote encounter is put on a “watch” list and a map.
Orange	Coyote enters a yard where people are present without a domestic animal present.	Call city hall at 952.474.6633.	The location of the coyote encounter is put on a “watch” list and a map. If 3 orange-level encounters in the same area have occurred within 2 weeks, members of the Coyote Hazing Team* will engage in extreme hazing. If the coyote still acts aggressively towards the Coyote Hazing Team or any other person, then lethal removal may be attempted.
	Coyote acts aggressively (growls, bares teeth) towards a person with or without a domestic animal present. A domestic animal on a 6ft leash held by a person is attacked by a coyote.	Call 911. Then call city hall at 952.474.6633.	
Red	Coyote involved in a provoked or unprovoked attack on a person.	Call 911 immediately.	Upon investigation, lethal removal will be attempted.

The above Coyote Management Plan provides guidelines and establishes a framework for community education, enforcement, and enactment of a tiered response to aggressive coyote behavior. The city clerk has discretion to implement other responses than listed above based on actual coyote behavior.

* Greenwood's Coyote Hazing Team is a group of volunteer citizens that respond to calls about aggressive coyotes. The Coyote Hazing Team will confront the animals with shouts, projectiles, etc. To join the Greenwood Coyote Hazing Team, contact Councilman Bill Cook at 612.805.0424 or wcsquaredllc@gmail.com. Visit www.greenwoodmn.com and click on the “Coyotes & Animal Services” tab to view coyote educational materials.