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Keep Me Wild: Coyote

Wild Animals Ruined, Even Killed, by People's Carelessness!

Wild animals are in trouble, and the problem is people who are careless with food and garbage.

Coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem, helping to keep rodent populations under control. They are by nature fearful of humans.

If coyotes are given access to human food and garbage, their behavior changes. They lose caution and fear. They may cause property damage. They might threaten human safety. They might be killed.

Relocating a problem coyote is not an option because it only moves the problem to someone else's neighborhood.

Help prevent human-coyote conflicts.

"Coyote country" precautions

- Never feed or attempt to tame coyotes. The result may be deadly conflicts with pets or livestock, or serious injuries to small children.
- Do not leave small children or pets outside unattended.
- Install motion-sensitive lighting around the house.
- Trim ground-level shrubbery to reduce hiding places.
- Be aware that coyotes are more active in the spring, when feeding and protecting their young.
- If followed by a coyote, make loud noises. If this fails, throw rocks in the animal's direction.
- If a coyote attacks a person, immediately contact the nearest Department of Fish and Wildlife or law enforcement office.

Stash Your Food and Trash

Allowing coyotes access to human food and garbage is reckless and deadly.

Coyotes primarily hunt rodents and rabbits for food but will take advantage of whatever is available including garbage, pet food, and domestic animals.

- Put garbage in tightly closed containers that cannot be tipped over.
- Remove sources of water, especially in dry climates.
- Bring pets in at night, and do not leave pet food outside.
- Avoid using bird feeders as they attract rodents and other coyote prey.
- Provide secure enclosures for rabbits, poultry and other livestock.

- Pick up fallen fruit and cover compost piles.
- Ask your neighbors to follow these tips.

***Please respect and protect wild animals.
Keep them wild.***



<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild>

Office of Communications, Education and Outreach

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Explore/Organization/OCEO.aspx>

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Outreach Media

- [Coyote KMW Poster \(PDF\)](https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=57520&inline) (<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=57520&inline>)
- [Coyote KMW Brochure \(PDF\)](https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=57506&inline) (<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=57506&inline>)
- [Additional outreach media](https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild/Outreach) (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild/Outreach>)

Wildlife-proof Products



(/Portals/0/Images/OCEO/KeepMeWild/kmw-coyote-secure-trash-800x1058.jpg)

Coyote-Proof Containers

Use garbage cans that have a locking mechanism on the lid. Use a rope or elastic cord to secure the can to a fence or other solid object so that it cannot be tipped over. A [variety of products are available to keep wildlife away from human food sources.](https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild/Products) (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild/Products>)

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