# Wildlife Watch Coyote Hazing Presentation

City of Newport Beach





#### Living With Coyotes



- Coyotes are found in ALL areas of California -Newport Beach is no exception
- With expanding urban areas into natural habitat, coyotes have adjusted to living in an urban environment
- · We 'invite' them to our neighborhoods by leaving...
  - Pet food in open containers,
  - Water in water bowls, fountains, pools,
  - Uncovered trash cans out in the open,
  - Small dogs and cats, unattended



#### Coyote Facts



- Coyotes are predators
- They hunt for food
- Coyotes are naturally wary of people but have become accustomed to living alongside them
- · Coyotes do not see humans as a food source
- Coyotes are not normally a danger to humans but small pets can easily become coyote prey
- Don't 'corner' coyotes, don't get between a mother and her pups



#### Coyote FAQ



- Q. What's the average size of a coyote?
  - A. between 17 and 24 pounds.
- · Q. How far to coyotes normally travel?
  - A. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from their last meal.
- Q. What size animal do coyotes normally attack?
  - · A. About 20 pounds or less.
- Q. Why not just trap & relocate coyotes?
  - A. Relocation is illegal in CA. Trapping coyotes often results in catching the younger, less experienced coyotes.



#### Use Negative Reinforcement



- If coyotes frequent your neighborhood, let them know they're <u>not</u> welcome
- · Make loud noises
- Throw rocks, sticks, cans, etc.
- Spray them with a garden hose
- Use a spray bottle filled with white vinegar
- It's essential that coyotes remain wary of humans



## Does Eradication or Removal Work?



- Science shows us that eradication and/or relocation of urban coyotes is not effective.
- Removal provides a vacuum in nature that often causes coyotes to have larger litters, increasing the population.
- Newport Beach has and will continue to trap and euthanize certain aggressive coyotes...an action that is ineffective without community participation to haze coyotes



#### If Confronted, 'Haze' the Coyote

- Appear big, stand tall, stretch out and wave your arms
- Don't run, approach but leave an exit route for the coyote
- Use noisemakers such as <u>air</u> horns (available at Sporting

goods stores for about \$10), or whistles (available free from NBPD)







### Never Feed Coyotes



- Providing food for wild animals is a very serious problem, and...
  - It's a violation of City & State law
- Coyotes fed by humans lose their fear of people and associate people with food, which...
  - · Creates a dangerous situation.
- If you are aware of anyone feeding coyotes, please...
  - Report the violation by calling 949-644-3717



#### Protect Your Pets

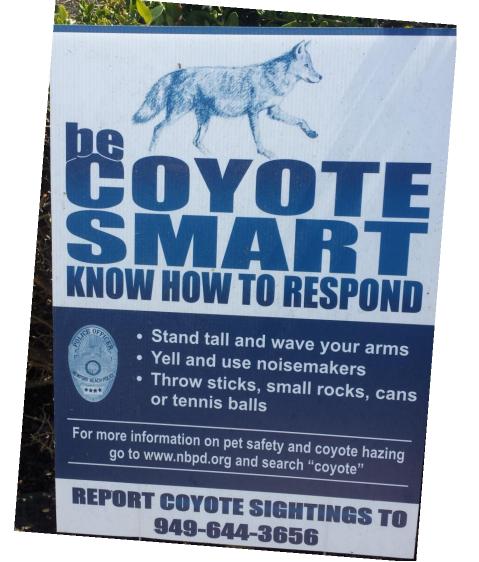


- Fully enclose pet enclosures
  - Coyotes can easily jump over 6-7' fences
- Feed & keep pets indoors
- Store trash in tightly covered containers
- Keep yards free from potential shelter
  - Coyotes hide in thick brush and weeds
- Avoid providing food & water sources
  - Eliminate fallen fruit & standing water
- Immediately <u>pick up</u> your small pet if approached by a coyote



## Be Cautious Near Posted Warning Signs



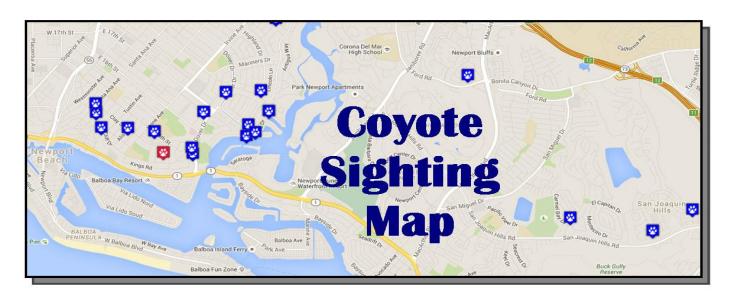




#### We Need Your Help Tracking Coyotes



- Help NBPD Track Coyote Sightings
- Report Coyote sightings on <u>NBPD.org</u>
  website, click 'Online Services', click 'Coyote
  Sighting', enter sighing information
- View recent coyote sightings in N.B.





#### Newport Beach's Leash Law

- Leash laws promote human and animal safety by ensuring that dogs are under control when off their owner's property.
  - Every year, Animal Control investigates multiple dog bites and dog-vs-dog attacks that involve off-leash dogs.
  - It isn't always the attacking dog that is off-leash! Many times, an off-leash "friendly" dog approaches a leashed "aggressive" dog and gets attacked. In these situations, the owner of the "victim" dog would have been able to prevent the attack if their dog was leashed.
- Coyotes pose a danger to off-leash dogs. Coyotes will not attack a dog being
  controlled by a person on a standard six-foot leash, because the coyote is not
  willing to get that close to the person. However, off-leash dogs have been
  attacked by coyotes when they've wandered *just* far enough away from their
  owner that the coyote no longer sees the human as a threat.
- Official off-leash dog parks which are properly fenced and have appropriate regulations provide a space where owners can opt-in to allowing their dog offleash around other dogs and accept the associated risks.