

Human-Coyote Incident Classification & Response Table

Class	Coyote Behaviour	Response by Animal Services*
Sighting	Coyote seen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location plotted on the online coyote map
Encounter	Coyote entering a yard with pets, no incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location plotted on the online coyote map • Educate resident(s) on coyote behaviour and possible wildlife attractants
	Coyote entering yard with people and pets, no pet attack occurring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All preceding response measures • Conduct site inspection, if applicable
	Coyote following or approaching a person or pet (includes being chased) with no incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All preceding response measures • Educate resident on hazing techniques
Incident	Coyote injures or kills unattended pet on owner/harbourer's property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All preceding response measures • Notify Ward Councillor • Patrol for bold coyote behaviour and possible wildlife attractants • Escalated hazing may be performed by Animal Services Field Officers
	Coyote injures or kills pet off leash/not in the control of the owner/harbourer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All preceding response measures • Notify Ward Councillor • Patrol for both coyote behaviour and possible wildlife attractants • Escalated hazing may be performed by Animal Services Field Officers
	Coyote injures or kills pet on leash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All preceding response measures • Mobile signage may be utilized in area for safety & awareness messaging • Temporary closure of pathway or park may be considered
Potential Human Incident	Coyote aggressive toward person, showing teeth, vocalizing, back fur raised, lunging, nipping without contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All preceding response measures • Advanced behavioural reconditioning may be introduced • Trapping/Removal may be considered
Human Incident	Coyote bite on human	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All preceding response measures • Advanced behavioural reconditioning may be introduced • Trapping/Removal may be considered

*Exceptions may be considered depending on factors present during investigation

Response Table of Definitions

Advanced Behavioural Reconditioning - consult with third party service provider on solutions to address higher-level coyote behaviour concerns. Third party services may engage further resources, including video monitoring and trained dogs which could prove to be more effective in some circumstances. Support may include recommendations for trapping or removal.

Attractants - the presence of anything which may serve to draw wildlife into an area. Attractants may include unintended food sources such as access to unmanaged bird seed, unsecured garbage/compost containers, vegetable gardens, wind fall from fruit trees and dog faeces. Intended attractants may include deliberate placement of any human or pet food items in an area where wildlife would be reasonable expected to have access to them. Property standards attractants may include un-kept or overgrown yards, piles of refuse or yard waste and dilapidated or unsecured structures.

Escalated Hazing - advanced staff-administered hazing techniques not recommended to residents to deter coyote(s) from a specific area with the intention to recondition behavior to a natural fear of humans. May include common hazing techniques as well as chasing, tossing items in the direction of a coyote (no contact) and use of more intensive noise stimulus.

Exceptions - certain defensive coyote behaviours may be present during breeding and denning seasons (Jan-Jun). Staff may also employ changes in approach depending on the assessed community risk level and ability to mitigate conflicts through appropriate monitoring, communications and actions.

Hazing - non-invasive techniques that can be practiced by a member of the public when encountering a coyote, including: looking as big as you can by raising arms, making loud noises, backing away slowly to get out of the area safely, etc.

Patrols (coyote) - dispatching of field services officers to area(s) identified for multiple inspections as a result of a reported encounter or conflict. Staff monitor for the presence of possible attractants or observation of subject coyote(s) behaviour and location. Escalated hazing may be performed by an officer should a coyote be observed in an unwanted area or be exhibiting conditioned feeding behaviour.

Site Inspection - an inspection of private or public property for environmental factors which may assist in the investigation of reported wildlife activity or incident, including identifying factors which may pose as attractants, habitat and/or access points which may offer an explanation for the reported behaviour and help inform staff's response.

Trapping / Removal - Trapping may be considered for sick or injured coyotes in order to address animal distress, treatment and rehabilitation or for community safety. As a last resort, should behavioural reconditioning prove unsuccessful and the assessed behaviour of a subject coyote pose an unreasonable risk to the community, third party services may be engaged to remove the subject animal from the community.