

Coyotes in Orono

Recently, the Orono Police Department has had an increase in the number of calls regarding coyote sightings. Although there have been no reports of coyote attacks in Minnesota, they have become more accustomed to humans and are beginning to venture closer to our homes. We are not alone in this matter. According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the coyote population is on the rise in residential areas across the State.



If coyotes are present on your property, the DNR suggests the following:

Do:

- secure all garbage containers, wildlife feeders, and other food sources to prevent coyote access
- confine small dogs and cats in kennels, or supervise them when outside
- vaccinate all pets for rabies, distemper, parvo, and other diseases, as recommended by a veterinarian
- consider installing coyote-proof fencing
- harass (by chasing, shouting, etc.) any coyotes that do not immediately run from people

Don't:

- do **not** feed coyotes
- do not leave pet food outside
- do not allow cats and small dogs outside, unattended

Based on our experience, and what we know of this occurrence in other areas, it is believed we should take a cautious approach toward establishing any type of control method. It is the official policy of DNR Officers that, "No control should be placed on naturally occurring events of nature." However, action will be taken by the Orono Police Department if a coyote:

- has bitten or injured a human or domestic animal
- has caused damage to property
- appears sick or injured

If you observe any of the incidents mentioned above, please notify the Orono Police Department immediately by calling **Non-Emergency Dispatch at: (763) 525-6210.**

For more information, we suggest the following web sites:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/livingwith_wildlife/coyotes/index.html

<http://stanleyparkecology.ca/programs/conservation/urbanWildlife/coyotes/brochurePoster/pac.pdf>