



Conservancy Advisory: Coyotes on The Preserve

Coyotes are valuable predators on The Preserve. They provide many benefits to people including managing rodent populations.

We can all be proud that the Preserve supports abundant populations of healthy wildlife. Whether driving, hiking, or riding, our wild companions often include bobcats, red tailed hawks, and coyotes. Most wildlife naturally avoid human encounters, however coyotes can become overconfident or even aggressive when encouraged. Observing wildlife is exciting but living in close proximity to wildlife compels responsible behavior. The following guidelines will help keep people and coyotes safe.

In your Homeland:

- Do not feed coyotes or other wildlife.
- Keep garbage and pet food secure and inaccessible to wildlife.
- Keep pets secure, roaming pets are attractive to local predators.
- Supervise small children outdoors especially at dusk.

Around The Preserve:

- If you encounter a coyote on the trail, stay calm and don't run. If a coyote approaches you, make yourself big and make loud noises while approaching the coyote.
- Do not engage in activities to directly inflict harm on wildlife; if you have a concern about an aggressive animal please contact the Conservancy immediately.

Usually reclusive, the Conservancy has noticed coyote populations on The Preserve may be too comfortable around people. To encourage coyotes' natural aversion to humans, staff of The Conservancy and The Preserve may haze coyotes to keep wildlife and residents safe. Hazing involves verbal and physical cues to encourage coyotes to retreat from settled areas. Trained Conservancy staff may employ paintball guns as a non-lethal hazing technique. If you see someone firing at or chasing off wildlife, it is likely a Preserve or Conservancy staff "retraining" coyotes to avoid humans.

To report concerns or for more information about wildlife around The Preserve please contact Christy Wyckoff, Senior Ecologist (831) 402-2001 and cwyckoff@slconservancy.org.