

Coyotes



The City of Lorain has received reports of coyote sightings. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Division of Wildlife advises that coyotes are common throughout Ohio’s 88 counties, including Lorain County. Unlike other wildlife species that avoid developed areas, coyotes are adaptable and thrive in most habitats.

A doglike animal, with a grayish brown fur, reddish brown legs, head and feet with white neck fur, coyotes resemble small German Shepherds with an average weight of 20 to 50 pounds.

Coyotes, known for their distinctive howl, are nocturnal and are most active during the night and in the early morning. Coyotes tend to be more visible from January to March during their mating season, and again in the fall, from September through November, when their young start to leave the family pack.

They pose little danger to humans and are generally fearful and shy around humans, but coyotes are curious. It is unlikely that they would attack unless they are provoked, or unless they consider their den or cubs to be in danger. If you encounter a coyote do not run or turn your back - stand tall and be as loud as possible to scare off this timid animal. Deter coyotes from your property by:

- ✚ Removing food sources that could attract coyotes to your yard
- ✚ Install motion detection lighting
- ✚ Close crawl spaces under decks, sheds and porches
- ✚ Keep small dogs and cats inside or in a completely fenced area, especially at night

If there is a coyote near your home that continues to be a nuisance or appears aggressive, contact a nuisance trapper or call the U.S. Department of Wildlife – District 3 Office at 330-664-2293.

For additional information about coyotes contact the Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Division of Wildlife at 1-800-WILDLIFE (945-3543) or go to <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/species-guide-index/mammals/coyote>