

**City of Fairfield
Minutes
Regular Meeting of City Council
September 23, 2019**

Council-Manager Briefing

A. 6:00 PM - Wildlife Management/ODNR & Branding Campaign

Mayor Miller called the briefing to order at 6:00 PM. Councilmembers present: Leslie Besl, Craig Keller, Debbie Pennington, Tim Abbott, Chad Oberson and Bill Woeste.

Staff members present: Mark Wendling, Dan Wendt, Alisha Wilson, Steve Wolterman, Steve Maynard, Scott Timmer, Jenny Dexter, Adam Sackenheim, Greg Kathman, Dave Butsch, Carol Mayhall, Don Bennett and Heidi Schiller.

Council heard a presentation regarding coyotes from Brett Beatty, Wildlife Management Supervisor with Ohio Department of Natural Resources. See attached slides.

Communications Manager Jenny Dexter gave a brief update on the branding campaign progress and next steps.

Business Meeting Call to Order

Mayor Miller called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 7:00 PM.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Besl led in prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilmembers present included:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Ron D'Epifanio	Council Member at Large	Present	
Chad Oberson	Council Member at Large	Present	
Bill Woeste	Council Member at Large	Present	
Leslie Besl	Council Member, 1st Ward	Present	
Craig W. Keller	Council Member, 2nd Ward	Present	
Debbie Pennington	Council Member, 3rd Ward	Present	
Tim Abbott	Council Member, 4th Ward	Present	
Steve Miller	Mayor	Present	

Agenda Modifications

None.

Executive Session Requests

Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Pennington, moved for executive session to discuss pending and imminent court action. Motion carried 7-0.

Special Presentations and Citizen Comments

James Miller, 147 Martha Lane

Mr. Miller addressed Council and stated that he was attacked by pit bulls in July 2017 and feels that getting rid of the ban is contrary to one of the goals of Fairfield Forward being walkability in the city. He would like the ban to remain in place.

Jeff Black, 2007 Spyglass Hill Court

Mr. Black addressed the insurance requirement of the animal control ordinance and stated that no insurance company will insure large dogs (Mr. Wolterman clarified that he called several insurance companies and only found one that would not insure large dogs). Mr. Black would like the insurance requirement reconsidered.

Angela Black, 2007 Spyglass Hill Court

Mrs. Black stated that building a dog park to be dog friendly is contradictory to the amendment of the animal control ordinance and the requirement to carry insurance on your dog. She has carried the same insurance for over 30 years and does not want to be forced to change insurance companies for this new requirement.

Craig Schlasinger, 323 Palm Springs

Mr. Schlasinger stated that breeds designated as dangerous change over time, that it used to be the doberman and rottweiler that were designated as dangerous. He stated that he feels the leash laws that we have in place are what cover issues with loose dogs and dog bites.

Natalie Hillis, 5246 Sherry Road

Mrs. Hillis stated that she suffered a dog attack as a child from a different breed than a pit bull. She would like the insurance requirement reconsidered, that it does a disservice to renters in the City. She stated that she feels fear is a factor and that uneducated people fear pit bulls and want the ban to remain.

Ashley Hillis, 5246 Sherry Road

Mr. Hillis stated that only law abiding citizens that keep their dogs controlled will be impacted by the insurance requirement. He also feels that pit bulls are only mean when they are raised that way, that he has only ever been bitten by a chihuahua.

Public Hearing(s)

None.

Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2019 were approved as written and submitted.

OLD BUSINESS AND REPORTS

Community & Public Relations Committee

Leslie Besl, Chair; Debbie Pennington, Vice Chair; Craig Keller, Member

Development Services Committee

Bill Woeste, Chair; Tim Abbott, Vice Chair; Ron D'Epifanio, Member

Resolution approving the Ward Boundary Review Commission Report and recommendation to make no changes to the boundaries of the four wards and amend the City Charter to require a decennial review.

Recommendation:

A resolution approving the Ward Boundary Review Commission's report that recommends no changes be made to the political ward boundaries and that the City Charter be amended to require a decennial review.

It is recommended that City Council approve this report at the August 12, 2019 meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-19. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Parks, Recreation and Environment Committee

Craig Keller, Chair; Bill Woeste, Vice Chair; Debbie Pennington, Member

Public Safety Committee

Ron D'Epifanio, Chair; Craig Keller, Vice Chair; Tim Abbott, Member

Motion to amend

Motion to amend the exhibit to include the entire text of the chapter.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ron D'Epifanio, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Ordinance to amend Chapter 505, entitled Animals and Fowl, of Ordinance No. 166-84, the Codified Ordinances of Fairfield, Ohio.

Recommendation:

Due to recent court decisions and the need to provide for more effective enforcement animal control it has become necessary to update the City's animal control statutes. It is recommended that City Council have a first reading on this item at the September 9, 2019 meeting.

Councilmember D'Epifanio presented the second reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	SECOND READING	Next: 10/15/2019 7:00 PM
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Public Works Committee

Chad Oberson, Chair; Ron D'Epifanio, Vice Chair; Bill Woeste, Member

Public Utilities Committee

Debbie Pennington, Chair; Chad Oberson, Vice Chair; Leslie Besl, Member

Finance & Budget Committee

Tim Abbott, Chair; Leslie Besl, Vice Chair; Chad Oberson, Member

NEW BUSINESS

Community & Public Relations Committee

Leslie Besl, Chair; Debbie Pennington, Vice Chair; Craig Keller, Member

Simple Motion: Motion to re-appoint Dave Butsch and Don Hassler to the Butler County Transportation Improvement District effective October 13, 2019 and expiring October 12, 2021.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council, via simple motion, appoint Don Hassler and Public Works Director David Butsch, to the Butler County Transportation Improvement District for terms of office commencing October 13, 2019 and expiring on October 12, 2021.

SIMPLE MOTION NO. 17-19. APPROVED 7-0.

Mayor Miller thanked Don Hassler for his 25 years of service on this board.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Leslie Besl, Council Member, 1st Ward
SECONDER:	Craig W. Keller, Council Member, 2nd Ward
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Public Safety Committee

Ron D'Epifanio, Chair; Craig Keller, Vice Chair; Tim Abbott, Member

Simple Motion: Motion to not request a hearing regarding a liquor permit application in the name of Carniceria El Camino LLC dba Carniceria El Camino, Unit 1, 1st Floor, 5951 Boymel Drive, Fairfield, OH 45014 (Permit Class C1 & C2).

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council request, by simple motion, that **no hearing be held** on the liquor permit application in the name of Carniceria El Camino LLC dba Carniceria El Camino, Unit 1, 1st Floor, 5951 Boymel Drive, Fairfield, OH 45014 (Permit Class C1 & C2).

SIMPLE MOTION NO. 18-19. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ron D'Epifanio, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Motion to Read by Title Only

Motion to read the following ordinance by title only.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ron D'Epifanio, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember D'Epifanio presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ron D'Epifanio, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Medicount Management, Inc. to provide EMS Billing Services to the City of Fairfield and declaring an emergency.

ORDINANCE NO. 96-19. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ron D'Epifanio, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Chad Oberson, Council Member at Large
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Finance & Budget Committee

Tim Abbott, Chair; Leslie Besl, Vice Chair; Chad Oberson, Member

Motion to Read by Title Only

Motion to read the following three ordinances by title only.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Council Member, 3rd Ward
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Ordinance providing for the issuance of \$80,882.70 of bonds by the City of Fairfield, Ohio, to pay part of the cost of sidewalk repair in the City, and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is necessary for Council to authorize the issuance of Sidewalk Special Assessment bonds for 2019 in the amount of \$80,882.70.

It is recommended that City Council authorize and direct preparation of legislation to authorize the issuance of bonds for the repair of sidewalks against lots that benefited from the improvements. The legislation will require the emergency clause as unpaid assessments were certified to the County Auditor.

ORDINANCE NO. 97-19. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Craig W. Keller, Council Member, 2nd Ward
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Abbott presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Council Member, 3rd Ward
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Ordinance to establish salaries and hourly rates for certain salaried and hourly employees of the City of Fairfield, Ohio and to authorize and limit the numbers and types of certain employees, to repeal Ordinance 73-19 and all Amendments thereto and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council approve the Ordinance increase in wages for the position of Police Officer in Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) collective bargaining agreement.

ORDINANCE NO. 98-19. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Council Member, 3rd Ward
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Abbott presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 127-18 entitled "An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2019, and ending December 31, 2019."

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading of this Ordinance and adopt the appropriations listed above.

ORDINANCE NO. 99-19. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Council Member, 3rd Ward
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Abbott presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Abbott, Council Member, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
AYES:	D'Epifanio, Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Keller, Pennington, Abbott

Meeting Schedule

Clerk Wilson read the following meeting schedule:

- A. Tuesday, October 15 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- B. Monday, October 28 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- C. Monday, November 11 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Executive Session of Council (if needed)

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:35 PM.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date Approved_____



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Today's Coyotes
Life History and Living with Wildlife

Brett Beatty-Wildlife Management Supervisor



What we will cover

- Who is ODNR Division of Wildlife
- Ohio laws pertaining to wildlife species
- Coyote Biology and Life History
- Conflict prevention/resolution
- Resources for more information

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Wildlife Ownership

ORC 1531.02 - wildlife in the state is held in public trust for the benefit of all the people by the DOW.

Although the DOW has management authority on all wild animals within the state:

- USFWS regulates animals that routinely migrate between states.
 - (waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds, hawks, owls)
- Local municipalities can restrict management abilities by having restrictive regulations on hunting, trapping, electric fences, etc.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

ODNR Division of Wildlife

- Manages wildlife by setting fishing, hunting, trapping seasons, methods of harvest, and enforcing laws
- Owns over 200K acres of Wildlife Areas and cooperatively manages several hundred thousand additional acres
- Primarily funded through sales of hunting, fishing, & trapping licenses and excise tax on firearms/ammunition and fishing equipment
- ~425 employees statewide (fish/wildlife biologists & techs, law enforcement, info & education, etc.)



District 1: Central Ohio 1500 Dublin Road Columbus, Ohio 43215 (614) 644-3925	District 4: Southeast Ohio 360 E. State Street Athens, Ohio 45701 (740) 589-9930
District 2: Northwest Ohio 952 Lima Avenue Findlay, Ohio 45840 (419) 424-5000	District 5: Southwest Ohio 1076 Old Springfield Pike Xenia, Ohio 45385 (937) 372-9261
District 3: Northeast Ohio 912 Portage Lakes Drive Akron, Ohio 44319 (330) 644-2293	

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

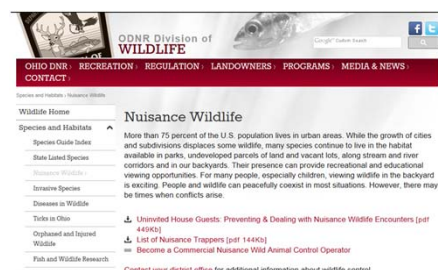
Wildlife Conflict Summary

- Division acts in an advisory capacity
- We do not provide animal removal services
- We will respond if situation warrants (public safety or endangered species)
- Property owners must take a direct role in what occurs on their property
- State and local restrictions

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Nuisance Animal Laws

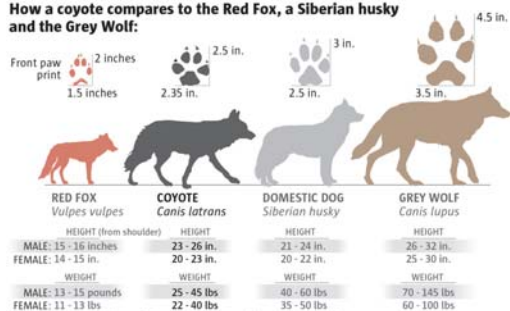
- Wildohio.gov



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Is that a coyote?

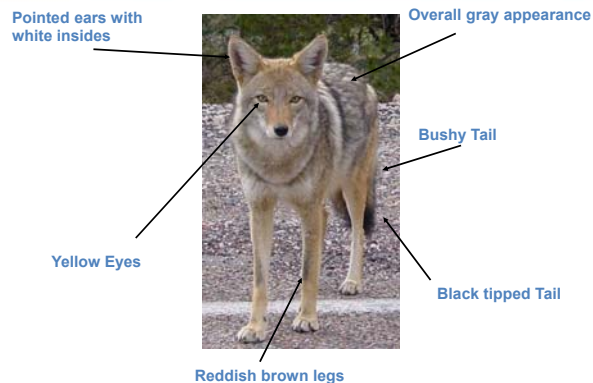
How a coyote compares to the Red Fox, a Siberian husky and the Grey Wolf:



Sources: arkive.org, animals.howstuffworks.com, nationalgeographic.com, waza.org, defenders.org, vetstreet.com

MARK NOWLIN / THE SEATTLE TIMES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Is it a coyote?



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DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Or Something Else?



Wolf

Coyote

Jackal

Fox



Dog Tail



Tail Position

Color Variations



DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Have you heard me before?



- Use vocalization as a means to indicate territory and to locate other members of the family unit
- Exhibit many types of vocalizations
- Woof
- Growl
- Huff
- Bark
- Yelp
- Whine

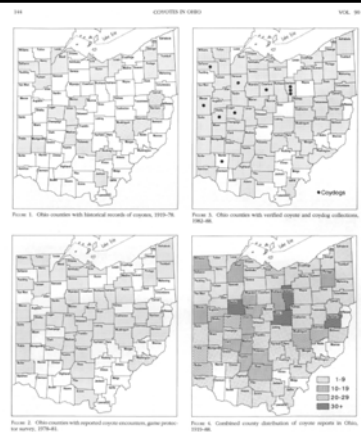
STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

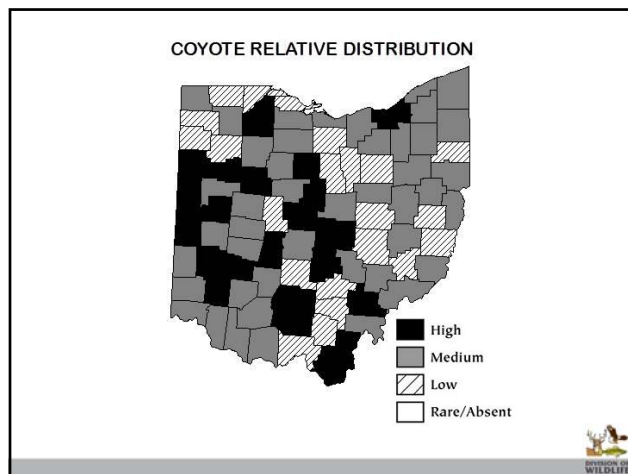
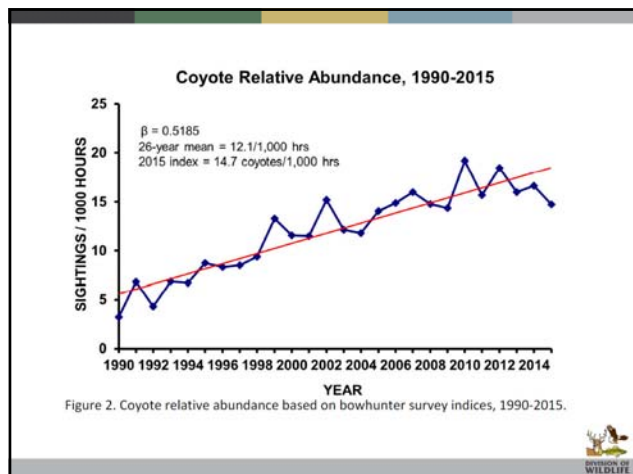
“Sounds like 50 ‘yotes!”

- [coyote_pack.mp3](#)
- **Texas study – Brewster, et. al., 2017**
- **427 participants**
 - Most participants were able to discern the addition of coyotes to the recording
 - Only 11% correctly estimated the number of coyotes (mostly 1 or 2 coyotes)
 - Routinely overestimated the number of coyotes by nearly 2-fold
 - <3% could correctly discern if 3 or more coyotes were howling



Distribution and Abundance





Habitat

- Typically prefer open areas such as prairie and desert
- In urban areas prefer wooded patches and shrubby areas that provide shelter to hide from people
 - Use remaining habitat fragments such as those found in parks and golf courses

Den Sites

Reproduction

- Breeding occurs January - March
- Gestation approx. 63 days
- Litters - April & May
- Litter sizes often vary (2-15 pups)



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Reproduction Roles

- **FEMALE** solely responsible for the den site
- 2-3 females may share a large den area.
- **MALE** – takes lead role when pups are newborns, obtaining food for his family unit



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Behavior

- At about 3 weeks, the young cautiously venture out.
- At about 8 weeks, the pups start learning to be a coyote



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Behavior

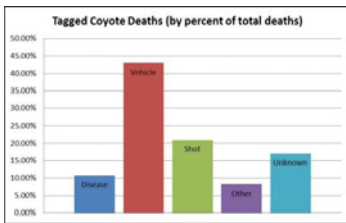
- Family unit stays close into mid-fall.
- The young will develop territories of 10-100 miles away.
- Young males are run off by the alpha male.
- Young females might remain in the family unit the following year.



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Life Span and Cause of Death

- Approx. 3 years in the wild
- Can live 12-15 in captivity
- Greatest cause of death in rural areas is due to hunting and trapping



Cook County, Illinois - Breakdown of 281 radio-collared coyote deaths (years 2000 to 2014)



Diet

Table 1. Frequency of Food Items in the Diets of Coyotes in Cook County, Illinois.* Gehrt 2006

Diet Item Occurrence

Small rodents 42%
 White-tailed deer 22%
 Fruit 23%
 Eastern cottontail 18%
 Bird species 13%
 Raccoon 8%
 Grass 6%
 Invertebrates 4%
 Human-associated 2%
 Muskrat 1%
 Domestic cat 1%
 Unknown 1%

* Based on the contents of 1,429 scats collected during 2000-2002. Some scats contained multiple items; therefore, the percentages exceed 100%. See Morey 2004.



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Fact vs Fiction

Myth #1 - Weigh over 65 pounds

False – Average 35 pounds (Range 20-45 pounds)



4-7 pounds



14-18 pounds



20-30 pounds



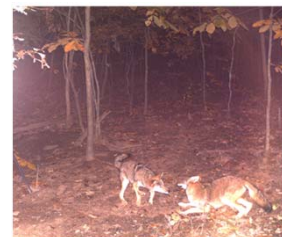
55-75 pounds



Fact vs Fiction

Myth #2 - Mate for life

Mostly True – Will mate for life (will re-mate if one dies)



Fact vs Fiction



backs
solo hunters
(to June)

Always exceptions to the rule.
Not many things in nature are
concrete.



Fact vs Fiction



Myth #4 – A coyote out during the day is sick/rabid

False – Coyotes will feed during the day even though they are primarily nocturnal (especially in cities)



Fact vs Fiction

Myth #5 – The Division of Wildlife reintroduced coyotes

False – Coyotes are very adaptable thus leading to range expansion



Fact vs Fiction

Myth #6 – Coyotes will attack my kids

False – Coyote attacks on people are very rare

- 3-5 injuries/year across North America
- All cases associated with feeding
- Only 2 reported fatalities since recordkeeping began (pre-1960)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Injuries/yr in US</u>	<u>Fatalities/yr in US</u>
Rodents	27,000	?
Snakes	8,000	15
Skunks	750	0
Bears	30	1
Sharks	28	.5
Alligators	18	.5



Domestic Dog Bites

- 4.5 million
- Resulting in dog bites
- 41 fatalities
- Breeds



Source: Center for Disease Control



Fact vs Fiction

Myth #7 – Coyotes will attack my cats

True – Coyote will occasionally attack cats



Observations of Coyote-Cat Interactions
Grubbs/Krausman 2009
3 month survey in Tucson, AZ
36 interactions
19 resulted in cat killed
31 of 36 (86%) between sunset to sunrise



Dog Interactions

- View dogs as competition
- Dog size and behavior can dictate coyote response
- Will attack a dog if threatened or being protective





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Coyote behavior / activity	Responses
LOW Rarely or occasionally seen at night, more rarely during dusk and dawn	Limit food sources (garbage, pets feeding, wildlife feeding) Supervise pets and don't let them run free
Occasionally seen during the day Frequently seen at night Free-ranging pets occasionally disappear	Use hazing, negative stimuli (shouting, chasing, throwing objects)
CONCERN Frequently seen during the day Stalking or attacking pets Fleeing from people	Consider removal program in conjunction with education; prohibit/limit feeding of wildlife; supervise pets; use negative stimuli
Approaching people aggressively Growling, barking when hazed (rather than running) Following children Preying on pets in yards	Initiate removal program in conjunction with education; prohibit/limit feeding of wildlife; supervise pets; use negative stimuli
HIGH	



Problem Animals




An Ideal Jump-Stick Coyote Snare-Set
Copyright 2002 Bhartouch Bunnies

Must be euthanized or let go on-site if trapped



Problem Animals



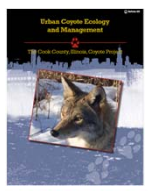
10/25/2011

- **Allow hunters and trappers access to your property**
- **Very liberal regulations regarding harvest of coyotes**
 - No closed season or bag limits



Resources

- www.wildohio.gov
 - General nuisance animal information
 - Nuisance trapper contacts
- www.urbandcoyoterresearch.com
 - All things coyote biology and ecology
 - Conflict resolution information






Resources

- D-5 Office
- (937)372-9261
- General Information
- 1-800-WILDLIFE
- Report Poaching
- 1-800-POACHER



Take Home Points

- Coyotes aren't "good" or "bad" they just are.
- They are just wild animals surviving in a human dominated world
- It's up to us to modify our behavior to limit negative interactions



Thank you for your time!



Brett Beatty-Wildlife Management Supervisor
937-372-9261