



**Humane
World for
Animals™**

Formerly called the Humane
Society of the United States

Coyote hazing guidelines

How to haze for effective
reshaping of coyote behavior

Generally, coyotes are reclusive animals who avoid human contact. Coyotes who've adapted to urban and suburban environments, however, may realize there are few real threats and approach people or feel safe visiting yards even when people are present. These coyotes have become habituated (lost their fear of humans), likely due to the ready availability of food in our neighborhoods. Sometimes, this food is deliberately provided by people who like to watch wild animals or misguidedly feel they're helping them by offering food. These bold coyotes shouldn't be tolerated or enticed. Instead, they should be given the message that they shouldn't be so brazen.

Hazing is a method that uses deterrents to move an animal out of an area or discourages an undesirable behavior or activity. Hazing can help maintain coyotes' fear of humans and deter them from neighborhood spaces such as backyards and playgrounds.

"Go away, coyote!"

- The simplest method of hazing a coyote involves being loud and large by facing the coyote, yelling and waving your arms over your head.
- If a coyote hasn't been hazed before, they might not immediately run away when you yell. If this happens, you might need to walk toward the coyote and increase the intensity of your hazing. If the coyote does run away, they might stop after a distance and look back at you. It's important to continue to haze the coyote until the animal leaves the area completely. You might need to use multiple tactics, such as shaking noisemakers, stomping your feet and spraying them with a hose to get the coyote to leave.
- If a coyote returns after you've successfully hazed them, continue to haze the coyote as you did before. It typically takes only one or two times to haze a coyote away for good.

Remember:

- **NEVER** run away from a coyote!
- **CONTACT** authorities and don't interact with a coyote whom you suspect of being sick or injured. Although coyotes are skittish by nature and generally aren't aggressive toward people, engaging animals who are sick or injured can result in unpredictable behavior.



Dog-walking tools

There are several tools for repelling coyotes that you can carry with you while walking your dog. Remember that you should always walk your dog on a leash (6 feet in length or less). If you see a coyote, either pick up your dog (if possible) or place them behind you before hazing the coyote. Then:

- Blow a whistle or air horn at the coyote.
- Squirt a squirt gun at the coyote.
- Yell and wave your arms.
- Use a homemade noisemaker, such as pennies in a sippy cup or soda can (sealed with duct tape).
- Pick up sticks or rocks and throw them toward the coyote.

In your yard

Keeping pets and pet food inside is the best way to keep coyotes out of your yard. If you do encounter coyotes, all of the above methods can be used in your yard. First, try the "Go away, coyote!" method (yell and wave your arms as you approach the coyote). You can also squirt the coyote with your garden hose or a squirt gun or bang pots and pans together.

Tips for success

- Hazing is most effective when an individual coyote is hazed by a variety of people using a variety of tools and techniques.
- A coyote who is being hazed must be able to recognize that the potential threat is coming from a person. Hiding behind a bush and throwing rocks or hazing from inside your car isn't effective.
- You can use hazing techniques and tools for one animal or multiple animals. There is usually a dominant animal in the group who will respond, and others will follow their lead.
- Don't stop hazing after it's been successful. Coyotes or their pups could return to their unacceptable habits or behaviors if you stop.
- Teach your family, friends and neighbors how to haze coyotes too! The more people who get involved in hazing, the more quickly you will see results.

