



May 13, 2009

For Immediate Release

Flower Mound Animal Services Provides Information on Coyote Issues

FLOWER MOUND, TX – Flower Mound Animal Services has received reports of coyotes in Town and wants to inform residents on what to do to prevent the animals from becoming a nuisance.

Now is the time for adult coyotes to teach their pups how to hunt and look for easy prey such as small dogs and cats. It is not uncommon this time of year to see coyotes out during the day. The best defense is to be educated on their activities. Below are some steps can be taken to reduce the chance of human-coyote conflicts:

- Do not feed coyotes.
- Eliminate sources of water, particularly in dry climates.
- Bird feeders should be positioned so that coyotes can not get to the feed. Coyotes are attracted by the birds and rodents that come to the feeders.
- Do not discard edible garbage where coyotes can get to it.
- Secure garbage containers and eliminate garbage odors.
- Feed pets indoors when ever possible, and pick up any leftovers if feeding pets outdoors.
- Store pet and livestock feed where it is inaccessible to wildlife.
- Trim any shrubbery near the ground that could provide cover for coyotes or their prey.
- Fencing your yard could deter coyotes. The fence should be at least six feet high with the bottom extending at least six inches below ground level for best results.
- Do not leave small children unattended outside if coyotes have been seen frequenting the area.

- Do not allow pets to run free and keep them safely confined and provide safe and secure nighttime housing for them.
- Always walk your dogs on a leash and accompany your pet outside, especially at night.
- Provide secure shelters for poultry, rabbits, and other small vulnerable animals.
- Discourage coyotes from frequenting your area by chasing them away with shouting, making loud noises, or by throwing rocks at the animals.

The Flower Mound Animal Services does not set traps due to the need to have live bait to attract the coyotes. Neither the Flower Mound Animal Services nor the Flower Mound Police Department will hunt coyotes.

Coyotes breed in February and March, and pups are born approximately 60 days later. An average coyote litter contains four to five pups. The pups and mothers can live in storm drains, under storage sheds, in holes, parks, golf courses, wooded areas, or any other dry, dark place.

Flower Mound Animal Services request that you please be aware of your surroundings when outside enjoying the warmer weather. Please contact the Flower Mound Animal Services at 972.874.6390 for more information.

###END###

For more information, contact:

Lt. Clay Pierce, Police Public Information	972.874.3305
Officer Bud Trammel, Police Public Information	972.874.3330
Officer Paul Boon, Police Public Information	972.874.3304
On-Call Public Information Officer Cell Phone	214.287.1578