

Being Safe with the Coyotes in Quail Hollow

We are having safety problems with the large coyote pack in and around our homes. The pack now numbers 11 or 12 individuals, including a beautiful big, almost, black alpha male, numerous females and 4 pups. Recently another large pack showed up for an evening event in front of Lot 3; the owners counted 22 coyotes. The increase seems directionally proportionate to the lack of rabbits, bobcats and deer that we no longer see in our neighborhood.

People walking their dogs have been aware of the aggressiveness of these coyotes over the last 18 months because they sometimes track us. However they are now becoming even bolder, entering yards, walking on the walls between houses, holding their own when yelled at, coming towards people who are walking, etc. Gale Sherman contacted Arizona Game & Fish about our options. They say they can do little with these urban packs, but suggest we follow the ideas below. If that fails to change their behavior we can hire a company to remove some of the coyotes. Gale has a list of local companies that provide this service. Mark Salisbury, Starr Pass Course Superintendent, said the coyotes are tearing up parts of the course and he is all for us doing something.

We need to make the coyotes to be wary of us and always keep their distance. Please become proactive in discouraging them by doing the following:

- Do NOT feed or leave food out that will attract them.
- Make loud noises when you see them.
- Shout and bang pots and pans or rattle empty soda cans with pebbles in it.
- Wave your hands or objects like sticks and brooms.
- Throw small stones or cans.
- Spray them with a hose.
- Use a commercial repellent like Mace, if necessary, on bold animals that refuse to leave.

If a coyote is aggressive, approaching a person, biting, or growling and snarling unprovoked, then:

- Continue and exaggerate the above actions.
- Don't turn away or run because the animal may choose to chase you. They can run 40 mph!
- Keep eye contact.
- Move toward other people, a building, or an area of activity.
- Call our Tucson Arizona Game and Fish Department at (520) 628-5376 between 8a.m.-5 p.m., Mon. -Fri. excluding holidays.
- If severe property damage has occurred or if there is a live coyote staying in your yard after hours

or on weekends, a radio dispatcher is available at (623) 236-7201.

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