

#### 9 January 2018

Hi Neighbors -

You may have seen recent local news reports indicating, 'State wildlife officials are warning residents to be aware of aggressive coyotes over the next few months during their breeding season. Colorado Parks and Wildlife says coyotes may become more territorial and aggressive as they pair off and have their puppies."

Pioneer Hills homeowners who have not lived here very long may not be aware that for many, many years coyotes have denned in our Wetland. Their numbers and sightings have decreased as our community has been building out and the resident prairie dog population has diminished. However, we have coyotes ranging in the reservoir area across Parker Road as well as up and down the Piney Creek Trail along East Orchard. A lack of snow with telltale paw prints has made it difficult to know if our resident coyotes have returned to the Wetlands this spring to breed and den. We should all assume they already have, or will. The CPW warnings are actually very pertinent to us right here in Pioneer Hills. Please be aware and take heed.





### Colorado Parks and Wildlife guidance is:



# **Coyotes are Active in this Area**

## All Front Range communities are home to coyotes!

Coyotes in populated areas are less fearful of people. They have been known to attack pets and approach people too closely.

# Your Home & Coyotes:

- Never Feed Coyotes!
- Remove attractants from your yard, including pet food, water sources, bird feeders, and fallen fruit.
- Secure trash in a container with a locking lid or put trash out on the morning of pick up.
- Deter coyotes with a 6 foot privacy fence.
- Never approach wildlife. If a coyote approaches, yell, throw rocks or sticks at it, spray

with a hose, or bang pots and pans.

### If a Coyote Approaches You:

- Do not run or turn your back.
- Be as big and loud as possible.
- Wave your arms and throw objects.
- Face the coyote and back away slowly.
- If attacked, fight back.

### **Protect Your Pets:**

- Keep pets on a short (6-foot) leash.
- Use extra caution dusk through dawn.
- Avoid known or potential den sites and thick vegetation.
- Do not allow dogs to play or interact with a coyote.
- Pick up small pets if confronted by a coyote.
- Always supervise your pet when outside, especially at dawn or dusk.
- Never leave cats or dogs outside after dark.
- Don't leave pet food outside.
- If you must leave your pet outside, secure it in a fully enclosed kennel.

### Be Prepared!

If you have concerns about an encounter with a coyote:

- Recreate during daylight hours.
- Walk with a walking stick.
- Keep a deterrent spray handy.

Carry noise makers or rocks to throw.

Coyotes seldom attack humans and pets but there have been occurrences reported in recent years in the greater metropolitan area. Just be aware.

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