



## Stash Your Food and Trash

### Allowing coyotes access to human food and garbage is reckless and deadly.

Coyotes primarily hunt rodents and rabbits for food, but will take advantage of whatever is available, including garbage, pet food, and domestic animals.

- Put garbage in tightly closed containers that cannot be tipped over.
- Remove sources of water, especially in dry climates.
- Bring pets in at night, and do not leave pet food outside.
- Put away bird feeders at night to avoid attracting rodents and other coyote prey.
- Provide secure enclosures for rabbits, poultry, etc.
- Pick up fallen fruit and cover compost piles.
- Ask your neighbors to follow these tips.

Please respect and protect wild animals.  
Keep them wild.

[www.keepmewild.org](http://www.keepmewild.org)

### For More Information

Contact the California Department of Fish and Game

Sacramento Headquarters, (916) 653-6420

Northern California, North Coast Region  
Redding, (530) 225-2300

Sacramento Valley, Central Sierra Region  
Rancho Cordova, (916) 358-2900

Central Coast Region  
Napa, (707) 944-5500

San Joaquin Valley, Southern Sierra Region  
Fresno, (559) 243-4005 ext. 151

South Coast Region  
San Diego, (858) 467-4201

Eastern Sierra, Inland Deserts Region  
Ontario, (909) 484-0167

Alternate communication formats are available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed contact the Department of Fish and Game, (916) 653-6420, [lbernard@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:lbernard@dfg.ca.gov) or the California Relay Service for the deaf or hearing-impaired from TDD phones at (800) 735-2929.



A campaign for all wild animals.



# KEEP ME WILD™

## Feeding Wildlife is Dead Wrong.



California Department  
of Fish and Game

# Wild Animals Ruined, Even Killed by People's Carelessness!

Wild animals are in trouble, and the problem is people who are careless with food and garbage.

Coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem, helping to keep rodent populations under control. They are by nature fearful of humans.

If coyotes are given access to human food and garbage, their behavior changes. They lose caution and fear. They may cause property damage. They might threaten human safety. They might be killed.

Relocating a problem coyote is not an option because it only moves the problem to someone else's neighborhood.

Help prevent deadly conflicts for these beautiful wild animals.



A campaign for all wild animals.

## “Coyote country” precautions

- Never feed or attempt to tame coyotes. The result may be deadly conflicts with pets or livestock, or serious injuries to small children.
- Do not leave small children or pets outside unattended.
- Install motion-sensitive lighting around the house.
- Trim ground-level shrubbery to reduce hiding places.
- Be aware that coyotes are more active in the spring, when feeding and protecting their young.
- If followed by a coyote, make loud noises. If this fails, throw rocks in the animal's direction.
- If a coyote attacks a person, immediately contact the nearest Department of Fish and Game or law enforcement office.

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## Coyote-Proof Containers

Use garbage cans that have a locking mechanism on the lid. Use a rope or elastic cord to secure the can to a fence or other solid object so that it cannot be tipped over.



## New Laws

Feeding coyotes is illegal in some communities. Many local ordinances make wildlife feeding punishable by fines and requirements to install wildlife-proof garbage containers.



## Coyote Conflicts

## You Can Help

Please visit [www.keepmewild.org](http://www.keepmewild.org) for downloadable posters, newspaper advertisements and other *Keep Me Wild™* materials.