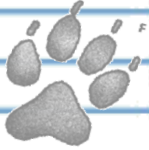


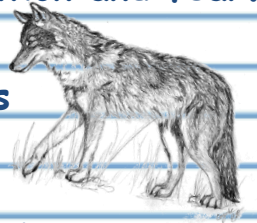
Wildlife Fact Sheet: Coyote



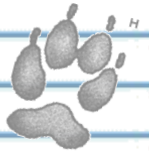
Coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem, helping to keep rodent populations under control. However, coyote behavior changes if given access to human food and garbage. They lose caution and fear.



- Eastern coyotes differ from their western counterparts with a larger average size and various color phases, including blonde, red and black. Past interbreeding between wolves and coyotes may be responsible for the larger size and color variations in our eastern coyote. Coyotes have litters during April and May.



- In New Jersey, adult coyotes range in weight from 20-50 lbs. & exceptionally large ones may be up to 55 lbs .



- Never feed a coyote. Deliberately feeding coyotes puts pets and other residents in the neighborhood at risk.
- Feeding pet cats and/or feral (wild) cats outdoors can attract coyotes. The coyotes feed on the pet food and also prey upon the cats. Put garbage in tightly closed containers that cannot be tipped over. Remove sources of water, especially in dry climates. Bring pets in at night. Put away bird feeders at night to avoid attracting rodents and other coyote prey.

- Clifton Animal Control Officers can only respond if a Coyote appears to be sick, injured or aggressive.



For any questions or more information, contact the New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife by calling 609-777-3373 or visit their website:

<https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/hunting/coyotes-in-new-jersey/>



The Clifton Health Department is a contractual health agency
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Clifton Health Department
Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.