



Coyote- and Fox-proof Your Neighbourhood

Vaughan is home to many types of wild animals, including coyotes and foxes. These animals are common in cities and natural areas, and generally should not be a cause for alarm because they are naturally wary of humans.

Issues can arise when wild animals associate humans with food, shelter and water sources.

That's why it's important to take steps to make your property and neighbourhood less appealing to coyotes and foxes!

On your property:

Garbage, green bin and blue box materials

- Put to the curb on the morning of scheduled pick-up day.
- Store indoors or in locked containers, and ensure lids are tight and secure.
- Replace damaged bins.

Compost

- Do not compost meat, bones or dairy.
- Put waste in a properly sealed green bin.
- Secure compost bin into the ground and enclose the top with metal mesh.
- Use a green bin to prevent rodents from visiting your compost, as rodents attract coyotes and foxes.

Barbecues

- Clean and cover barbecues after use.
- Clean out drip-tray regularly.

Feeding animals

- Never feed wild animals.
- Don't feed pets outside.
- Reconsider using bird feeders. Seeds on the ground attract rodents.

Shelter and hiding spots

- Mow grass regularly. Long grass provides cover for coyotes and foxes.
- Clean up brush piles and debris on property.
- Keep fencing, decks and sheds in good repair. Remove or replace structures that can't be repaired.
- Trim bushes and lower branches from evergreen trees to reduce hiding places.
- Ensure your property is well lit at night.
- Check for holes dug under fences. If found, fill in holes immediately.
- Consider installing coyote rollers on the top of fences.

Pets

- Closely supervise pets while they are outside in your yard, ground-floor balcony or patio.
- Keep cats inside or in enclosed areas.
- Remove pet feces from your yard, as it attracts coyotes and foxes.

Garden and fruit trees

- Pick up fallen fruit daily.
- Ensure vegetable gardens are wildlife-proofed – they attract rabbits and squirrels, which attract coyotes and foxes.

In your neighbourhood and public spaces:

- Clean up thoroughly after eating in parks and greenspaces.
- Keep dogs on leash in parks and other public property.
- Learn humane hazing techniques.
When going on walks, keep a plastic bag in your pocket to snap at a coyote and fox.
- Share these tips with your neighbours, property manager or landlord.

Call Service Vaughan at 905-832-2281

to report:

- deliberate or indirect feeding of wildlife.
- wildlife being attracted to improperly stored garbage at residential communal garbage areas or commercial buildings.

Visit vaughan.ca/coyotes to learn more.

This checklist was modified from the City of Toronto Animal Services' "Coyote-Safe Neighbourhood Checklist" and modified from the Coyote Watch Canada "Municipal Canid Response Strategy."



Coyote on a trail