



# 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](https://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