



Greenburgh Nature Center

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Coyotes

The Eastern coyote is firmly established in New York and is as an integral part of our ecosystem. People and coyotes can usually coexist if the natural fear of people that coyotes have is maintained.

Westchester County has a rich diversity of wildlife, with many species adapting well to living within close proximity of people.

Cornell University and the New York State Department of Conservation are just completing a multi-year study of suburban coyote populations and human-coyote interactions. 42 coyotes in Westchester have been collared and tagged and their movement patterns monitored in order to examine home range size, habitat selection, activity patterns, and den-site selection. This information will help provide communities and wildlife managers with the knowledge needed to make informed management decision and will also help us identify ways to reduce negative human-coyote interactions. (see www.nycoyote.org).

If you see a coyote in your yard, be sure to remove potential food sources so that the coyote is not encouraged to return. Potential food sources are uncovered trash cans, pets' food, bird seed on the ground under bird feeders or other edibles.

Be sure to keep cats indoors and safe and to be watchful when letting dogs outside, especially after dark.

Residents should report coyote sightings to their local police department.