



Coyotes in Hingham 2022

Hingham Animal Control
Animal Control Officer Leslie Badger

Coyotes – Quick Facts

- Coyotes can weigh between 40 -50 lbs
 - Size depends on gender, season, and age
- Primarily carnivores, but will eat fruits and vegetables
- Once were nocturnal, but have adjusted to be active at all hours

Coyotes – In Hingham

- 1/1/22-10/8/22: 38 reported sightings
 - 1/1/22 – 9/30/22: 23 reported sightings
 - 10/1/22 – 10/8/22: 15 reported sightings
- There have been no reported coyote attacks on humans in Hingham in 2022

Coyotes - Definitions

- Encounter – Coyotes crossing paths with a human or animal with no contact made
- Attack – Coyote has contact with a human or domestic pet which results in an injury

Coyotes – Liberty Pole

- Two encounters in Liberty Pole neighborhood
 - Both involved one human and one small dog
 - There was no attack or contact
 - Coyote was scared off
 - In both cases, great job by dog owners of keeping calm, maintaining distance, and alerting others for help

Why did this happen?

- A shared habitat
- ACO Badger, Environmental Police and Mass Fish and Game spoke with parties involved
- Coyote was interested in the small dogs – not humans
- Coyotes view small dogs in two ways:
 - Prey
 - Invading territory

Coyote - Hazing

- Hazing – moves a coyote out of an area and discourages undesirable behavior
- Can include making yourself look bigger, yelling, spraying a hose, honking a car horn
- Hazing must be repeated over time to change behavior
- Do not spend time taking photos or video quietly
 - This teaches the coyote not to be afraid of humans

Coyotes – Food Sources

- Coyotes hunt regularly in the woods
- However, they will seek easy food sources
 - Bird feeders
 - Trash cans
 - Compost piles
 - Gardens
 - Chicken Coops
 - Rabbit Hutches

Coyotes – In Conclusion

- Hingham Animal Control and Environmental Police will continue to monitor sightings and activity
- Hunting season begins on October 15, 2022