

PRESS RELEASE

The Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department advises residents to follow a few suggested safety tips due to a rise in local coyote population. Residents in the Town of Poughkeepsie have been reporting the observance of coyotes in the daytime hours. Coyotes are not strictly nocturnal and will frequently travel in search of food during the daytime hours.

To reduce the risk of coyote's in your yard, please be sure to remove potential food sources outside that may encourage the coyote to return. Potential food sources include uncovered trash cans, cat and dog food, birdseed on the ground and other edible items that can be left around the yard. It is recommended to keep cats indoors, do not allow small dogs to be unattended outside and be watchful when letting larger dogs outside, especially after dark.

If you feel threatened by a coyote in your yard, be aggressive in your behavior towards the coyote by making loud noises, wave your arms and throw things at it. If you believe the coyote may be sick or an immediate threat, you can contact the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department at 485-3666. For more information, go to www.dec.ny.gov/animals.6971.html or www.nycoyote.org and any questions can be referred to the Town of Poughkeepsie Animal Control Officer at 790-4677.