



City of Mequon Coyote Nuisance Management and Response Plan Policy

(Adopted by Res. #3303)

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Introduction

The City of Mequon has a proud history of preserving “green spaces” and park lands. The City currently has almost 1,200 acres of public park, recreation and open space sites distributed among 25 parks and nature preserve areas as well as 4,056 acres of delineated environmental corridors delineated by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. These two designated land types alone constitute approximately 18% of the total land area of the City. Furthermore, the character of the western portion of the City is still primarily agricultural and natural open space. The combination of agricultural lands, green spaces, golf courses and delineated environmental corridors provides a vast amount of habitat for many different types of wildlife throughout the City. While observing wildlife can be a pleasant experience, there have been concerns voiced about the presence of coyotes in the City of Mequon.



This Coyote Nuisance Management and Response Plan Policy is intended to provide a plan for strategic action that will increase residents’ knowledge and understanding of how coyotes behave and how such behavior can be managed with human safety as a priority. The focus of the policy is to provide information about the behavior of coyotes as it relates to different forms of human interaction. The Coyote Policy for the City of Mequon acknowledges that public safety is a primary concern. Given that concern, however, the City of Mequon recognizes the environmental benefit of maintaining and encouraging natural wildlife populations and will make every effort to maintain natural ecosystems. That being said, it is not the intention of the City, nor is it an objective of this policy, to carry out a wholesale coyote culling program. The City’s Coyote Policy will provide strategies as to the best known responses to live compatibly with coyotes while providing guidance for appropriate levels of response to varying types of coyote activity and/or interactions.

The City’s Coyote Policy is rooted in the most current understanding of coyote behavior and management. It was important in the development of the policy to review the latest urban coyote studies and literature from throughout the United States. Fortunately, within the last ten years, much has been learned about coyote behavior and management although there is still work to be done. The policy provides a summary of the latest coyote studies and literature and provides the foundation for specific courses of action that are outlined in the policy.

The understanding of coyote behavior and management is evolving as wildlife experts continue to study the coyote in suburban environments. The City’s policy will need to be flexible and reevaluated as necessary when new information and techniques become available.

This document provides a summary of coyote biology/behavior, defines nuisance coyote behavior, summarizes existing state/local laws affecting coyote management, examines education/public information tools, emphasizes the need for a coyote/human interaction monitoring and data collection program, and details coyote management responses that may be necessary given specific coyote/human interaction and conflicts.

Coyote Biology/Behavior

The coyote is a member of the dog family that includes wolves and foxes. Coyotes are grayish brown with reddish tinges behind the ears and around the face and often resemble a German Shepherd or Collie. Their black-tipped tail helps to distinguish coyotes from other canids such as foxes. Their eyes are strikingly yellow with dark pupils. Adults weigh between 25 and 35 pounds, although their heavy coats make them appear larger. Coyotes produce a variety of sounds including howls, barks, whines, and yips to communicate with one another.

Habitat

Coyotes have adapted to and now exist in virtually every type of habitat from arctic to tropic. They live in deserts, swamps, tundra and grasslands, brush, dense forests, below sea level to

high mountain ranges and at all intermediate altitudes. In more recent decades, coyotes are now found in all fifty states and have become more numerous in many suburban environments where an ample food supply is available. Some of the highest population densities on record occur in suburban areas.

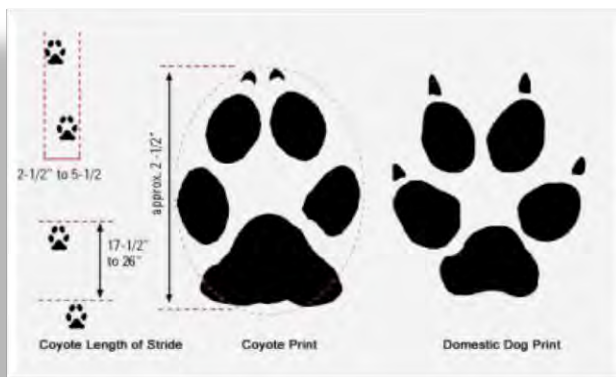


Fig. 1: Comparison of Coyote vs. Domesticated Dog footprints

food is scarce to less than one square mile in suburban areas.

Where food is abundant, territories for coyotes are smaller than where food is scarce. Coyote territories can be greater than 15 square miles in arid areas where

Food Habits

Coyote diets are diverse and adaptable, and vary according to local or seasonal availability of food sources. Rodents or rabbits are a major portion of their diet when available; however, at times coyotes will rely on insects, fruits, berries, songbirds and carrion. In some areas, coyotes feed on human refuse at dump sites, compost bins, and may possibly even prey upon pets. Coyotes are opportunistic and generally take prey that is the easiest to secure. The Cook County (Illinois) Coyote Project found that the most common food items were small rodents (42 percent), fruit (23 percent), deer (22 percent), and rabbit (18 percent). The study noted that coyote feces often contain more than one diet item; therefore, frequencies do not

necessarily add up to 100 percent. Coyote scat is similar to dog feces in size and appearance, but unlike dog scat it is typically filled with hair, seeds, and/or bones.

General Biology, Reproduction and Behavior

Coyotes are most active at night and during early morning hours, and during hot summer weather. Coyotes largely avoid humans, which has resulted in a shift to nocturnal activity (Gehrt 2007). Coyotes usually breed in February and March, producing litters about nine weeks later in April and May. The average litter size is 5 to 7 pups. Coyote dens are found in steep banks, rock crevices and underbrush, as well as in open areas. Both adult males and females within the colonies hunt and bring food to the young for several weeks. Coyotes commonly hunt as singles or in pairs and they hunt in the same area regularly if food is readily available.

Some of the highest coyote population densities on record occur in suburban areas.

In urban and suburban areas, coyotes have adapted to residential neighborhoods, parks and open spaces. Coyotes thrive in such areas because food, water and shelter are abundant. Coyotes living in these environments may come to associate humans with food and protection. Once within a suburban area, coyotes prey on abundant rabbits, rodents, birds, and possibly house cats and small dogs that live in residential habitats when natural food sources are scarce. They will also feed on household garbage, pet food and the seeds and fruits contained in many garden and landscape plants.

Food abundance regulates coyote numbers by influencing population density (Timm, 2004). Where resources are plentiful, coyotes' territories are significantly smaller than where resources are scarce. In a food abundant environment such as a sheep ranch, the home range of a coyote is 1.2 to 2.9 square miles, while suburban coyotes in southern California have documented home ranges of .25 to .56 square miles. Such research suggests suburban environments are very rich in resources, and lead to higher densities (Timm 2004).

Habituation Towards Humans and Intentional/Unintentional Feeding

The habituation of coyotes towards humans is a phenomenon that is generally recognized. Habituation begins when animals tolerate humans at a distance and progress in some instances to taming, which is, conditioning an animal through positive reinforcement such as foods. Habituated animals can and do become troublesome and dangerous (Gehrt 2007).

Habituation of wildlife has recently been described as an animal's decreased responsiveness to humans due to repeated contact. Habituated animals, or those animals that have developed a psychological patience with human presence, are potentially much more dangerous than a non-habituated wild animal, because habituation is a state of unconsummated interest on the part of the animal expressing itself as tolerant of, or even

attracted to, humans (Schmidt, 2007). It has been noted that this phenomenon has ushered in a host of new wildlife management challenges.

Intentional feeding of coyotes is likely the principal cause of the coyote losing its fear of humans, resulting in their approaching humans at close distances where the risks of negative interaction are highly likely (Timm, 2004). Intentional feeding should be strictly avoided. Suspected intentional feeding of coyotes should be reported to the WI-DNR service center at (414) 263-8606.

Humans also unintentionally provide food to wildlife and often provide opportunities for coyotes to obtain human food items either from careless storage of foods or from garbage containers that are not animal- proof or that are full or overflowing.

Unruly Coyotes?

It is possible that there are certain changes in human behavior that have contributed to the rise of “bad” coyotes in suburban areas. Human modifications to the residential environment create an inviting, resource-rich habitat for coyotes entering into more urban areas (Schmidt, 2007).

Through the course of its evolution as a community, the City of Mequon has encouraged a living environment that incorporates open space, wildlife corridors, parks, greenbelts and other habitat features that attract and support wildlife. In Mequon, our close proximity to the Milwaukee River accompanied by the City’s proud history of preserving “green spaces” and park lands makes Mequon a favorable home for coyotes as well as many other types of wildlife.

Throughout the country it has been observed that a certain segment of the populace believes that any conflict between coyotes and people is solely the fault of people while another segment believes the coyote is at fault. Based upon limited testimony received during various public meetings, it appears as though Mequon may be similar in this regard.

It is clear to most expert observers that coyotes have adapted well to certain suburban habitats, successfully denning and rearing pups in suburban neighborhoods in the presence of people, pets and traffic. They essentially have become “at home” in suburban areas and do not associate humans as enemies (Schmidt 2007).

Research Projects in both Illinois (Urban Coyote Research Program) and Rhode Island (Narragansett Bay Coyote Study) have noted that removal of coyotes by lethal means—though it may be necessary for some problem or nuisance animals—is not effective for population control. Lethal methods like hunting, trapping or poisoning—especially in neighborhoods—are generally more dangerous to pets and the community than to the problem coyotes. Eliminating an entire group of coyotes, rather than addressing potential root causes of the problem, simply creates a vacuum that other coyotes will fill. Such a flux

in population can lead to ongoing interactions between coyotes and humans. This policy provides a plan to help guide informational/educational efforts that will aid residents in better understanding about how or why coyote interactions occur. Furthermore, the policy also looks to outline varying levels of response depending upon different triggering events.

Education/Public Information

When coyotes are initially encountered, many people regard them as interesting and inviting wildlife. Through research of coyote behavior, it can be safely assumed that when coyotes settle in a neighborhood and find abundant food sources, they can become increasingly bold and possibly even aggressive towards humans.

A critical element of a coyote management plan is the education and awareness of residents. The education of the public is an important tool for the coexistence of residents and coyotes in a safe environment. An educational campaign should focus on how residents can coexist with coyotes. Examples of educational outreach include: brochures, informational postcards mailed to specific neighborhoods with an increased level of coyote sightings and incidents, detailed information and appropriate links made available on the City's website, educational signs posted in appropriate parks and open spaces and at those locations experiencing an increase in coyote activity.

Hazing

Over the years, coyotes have had more contact with humans because of habitat encroachment and food supply. One of the solutions to this problem is to re-instill the coyote's fear of humans by adopting a hazing program. A hazing program will encourage harassing actions without the use of weapons or bodily harm to the coyote.

The following are some examples of hazing/adverse conditioning methods that have proven effective:

Human behavior – yelling, clapping or moving arms and acting in a threatening manner towards coyotes; however, be safe and never corner a coyote or approach one with a young coyote nearby.

Sound devices – using a device that makes a loud popping sound, air horns, banging pans, whistles or other noise makers.

Motion activated devices – spotlights, strobe lights, motion activated water sprinklers. These devices tend to be most effective when sound is also incorporated.

Plan for a Hazing Program

1. Identify geographical areas where coyotes have become habituated.
2. Contact property owners within these geographic areas to provide public information regarding anti-feeding and hazing methods.
3. Continue to monitor incidents, tracking and reporting the effect of hazing efforts.

Projectiles – throwing objects such as rocks or golf balls in the vicinity of the coyote.

Predator Scents – placing predator scent, such as wolf urine, in your yard can be an effective deterrent to coyotes.

Interactions between Coyotes and Humans

Coyote interactions range from sightings of an occasional coyote without additional incident to pet killings, to the most extreme cases where coyotes attack people. Coyotes will attack and sometimes kill pets. Most metropolitan areas in the Midwest have reported an increase in the number of coyote interactions.

In the Cook County (Illinois) Coyote Study, researchers were surprised to find so many coyotes living near people, despite the fact that relatively few conflicts had been reported. Of those radio-collared coyotes, various sex and age classes became nuisances, and in nearly all cases, either disease or feeding by residents was involved. However, the Cook County Study also noted that overall, very few coyotes had become “nuisances” in Cook County, providing further evidence of a coyote’s general pattern to avoid humans.

For the purpose of this policy, nuisance activity is considered as a reported and verifiable pet attack(s) and/or a pattern of threatening human interactions.

In an effort to help gather localized data about coyote/resident interactions, the City created an online survey for individuals to submit information about their particular interactions here in Mequon. Survey results were cataloged over a 4-month period from January to April 2015. Responses were not specific to that same time frame, but rather residents could provide information about an interaction from anytime over the last several years. Approximately 70% of the nearly 180 completed surveys reported that coyotes have been seen or heard from a distance, which is consistent with various research studies that noted coyotes’ preference to avoid human interaction.

Factors Leading to Conflicts

Appendix C contains a helpful tool for property owners to utilize when reviewing the yards for possible coyote attractants. The “Yard Audit” is a listing of common attractants and recommendations on how to reduce the potential for attracting a nuisance animal. Important factors leading to coyote/human conflicts include (Schmidt 2007):

- 1) An attractive, resource rich suburban environment which provides sources of food, shelter and water to attract coyotes;
- 2) Human acceptance or indifference to coyote presence (i.e. not establishing boundaries);
- 3) Lack of understanding of coyote ecology and behavior, particularly when coyote habituation progresses to aggressive behavior towards humans;
- 4) Intentional feeding.

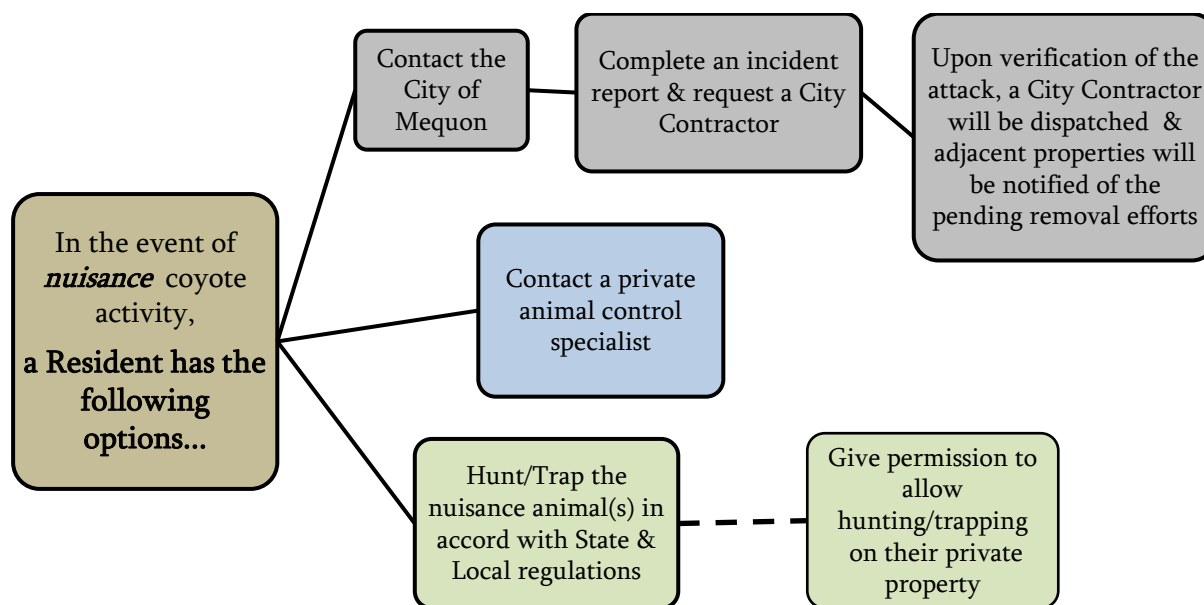
The City of Mequon encourages all residents to take steps to eliminate attractants on your property in order to minimize interactions with coyotes. Residents are also urged to share this information with friends and neighbors because minimizing interactions is most effective when entire neighborhoods work together.

Monitoring/Data Collection

Coyote monitoring and data collection are critical components to implementing an effective coyote management action plan. One of the important tools of a monitoring program is input from both residents and employees. The purpose of monitoring coyote interactions with humans is to document where coyotes are frequently seen, how many coyotes are within an area, and possible identification of problem or nuisance coyotes. Gathering specific data on incidents will allow the City to focus specific components of its management action plan with a more defined effort to prevent possible negative coyote/human interactions.

From the Coyote Incident Reports (**Appendix B**), an Incident Map will be developed. The Incident Map will allow for quick identification of areas within the City where incidents are high and may require implementation of a component(s) of the management plan. The Incident Map will also allow for better understanding of coyote habitat as it interfaces with residential areas. The Incident Map will also provide the ability to generate notification lists in identified areas for the distribution of educational materials as needed.

Coyote Encounter Reports are available online (www.ci.mequon.wi.us) and in paper form at City Hall and at the Police Department. Residents may have a blank report mailed to their residence simply by contacting the **Mequon Police Department at (262) 242-3500** or the **City Clerk's Office at (262) 236-2911**. Completed hard-copy reports can be submitted either to the Police Department or to the City Clerk's office. Electronic submittal via the City's website (www.ci.mequon.wi.us) is also available.



Coyote Hunting and Trapping Laws in Mequon, WI

Wisconsin has a year-round firearm season and specified trapping season for coyotes subject to possession of an appropriate Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI-DNR) license. It is legal to use any type of call or amplified sound for attracting coyotes. Private property owners may also grant permission for another person to carry out hunting and/or trapping activities on their property. Furthermore, on private property, landowners, occupants and family members can legally hunt or trap coyotes without a WI-DNR hunting license to remove nuisance animals. It should be noted that both archery and firearm hunting are NOT ALLOWED within 300 feet (100 yds.) of a habitable building per Wisconsin State Law. Hunting regulations are enforced by both the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as well as the Mequon Police Department. Violations may result in citations and/or forfeitures.

It is highly recommended that those individuals interested in hunting and/or trapping contact the **Milwaukee area WI-DNR service center at (414) 263-8606** to obtain a full explanation of hunting and trapping regulations.

The City of Mequon also has firearm discharge regulations. These regulations cover the discharge of firearms, crossbows as well as archery (bow and arrow) equipment for hunting activities. Individuals interested in hunting within the City of Mequon should refer to Section 46 of the City's Code of Ordinances and can contact the **Mequon Police Department at (262) 242-3500** with any further questions or to obtain a firearms discharge permit.

Key Points of Hunting/Trapping in Mequon

- Hunting and trapping of coyotes is allowed year-round in Wisconsin.
- A WI-DNR hunting license and a Mequon Firearm Discharge Permit are both required.
- Archery and firearm hunting are NOT ALLOWED within 300 feet (100 yds.) of a habitable building.
- A property owner may grant permission to another person(s) to hunt/trap coyotes on their property.
- It is legal to use any type of call or amplified sound for attracting coyotes.
- On private property, landowners, occupants and family members can legally hunt or trap coyotes without a WI-DNR hunting license to remove nuisance animals.

***Please be sure to contact both the
WI-DNR & the Mequon Police Department
for complete hunting/trapping regulations.***

Coyote Response Plan

The City of Mequon has taken both a progressive and proactive approach to the creation of a formal policy to help address the potential root causes behind human-coyote interactions within the community. The following matrix, found in **Appendix A**, sets forth a sequence of suggested actions by the City in response to varying classifications of coyote interactions.

As coyotes continue to adapt to the suburban environment and their populations continue to expand and increase, interactions with humans may be expected to occur. (Timm, 2007) To reverse this trend, residents must attempt to correct coyote behavior problems before they rise to a safety risk. If appropriate preventative actions are taken before coyotes establish feeding patterns in neighborhoods, further problems can be avoided. This requires aggressive use of hazing, as well as correcting environmental factors that have attracted coyotes into the neighborhood (especially intentional and unintentional feeding). Non-emergency calls to report coyote incidents involving pets should be directed to the City Clerk's office at (262) 236-2911. All calls/reports will be included in the City's data collection efforts as set forth in this policy. It should be noted that the City of Mequon Police Department will respond to any emergency calls involving coyote interactions resulting in injuries to a human.

The City's data collection efforts, via resident submitted "Coyote Incident Reports", are intended to help identify any trends of nuisance coyote activity within a specific area(s) of the City. Nuisance coyote activity, for the purpose of this response plan, is considered as a pattern of aggressive coyote activity that has been established through multiple reports of threatening interactions towards humans and/or a report of a verified pet attack.

In the event that a pattern of nuisance coyote activity is identified or that a pet attack is verified, and upon resident request, the City of Mequon will engage a contracted professional in an attempt to locate and remove the nuisance coyote(s). A pet attack will be verified by the City based upon a review of photographs depicting the subject injuries and a veterinarian's bill/invoice/statement of charges, submitted in connection with a completed Incident Report. It should be noted that a pet that may be injured while off-leash and off of its owner's property does not constitute a verifiable pet attack that would trigger the engagement of City contractor under this Policy and Response Plan. As indicated, the City of Mequon does not intend to pursue a large-scale culling program, but rather a specific and targeted approach to addressing problem (i.e. nuisance) coyotes.

Nuisance coyote activity can also be addressed by individual property owners, in that coyote hunting and trapping activities are permitted year-round in the State of Wisconsin. Furthermore, the City of Mequon maintains an assignable nuisance removal permit from the WI-DNR, which allows individuals to utilize additional measures (meat bait, cable restraints) in facilitating the removal of problem animals.

This Coyote Management and Response Plan Policy is intended to provide a plan for strategic action that will increase residents' knowledge and understanding of how coyotes behave and how such behavior can be managed with human safety as a priority. The City of Mequon also recognizes the environmental benefit of maintaining and encouraging natural wildlife populations and will make every effort to maintain natural ecosystems. Thus it is not the intention of the City, nor is it an objective of this policy, to carry out a wholesale coyote culling program. The City's Coyote Policy will provide strategies as to the best known responses to live compatibly with coyotes while providing guidance for appropriate levels of response to varying types of coyote activity and/or interactions.

Helpful Contact Information

For general wildlife information, a listing of registered trappers, or complete State hunting/trapping regulations:

WI Department of Natural Resources

<http://dnr.wi.gov/>

(414) 263-8606

To request an Incident Report or to report a coyote-pet interaction:

Mequon City Clerk's Office

www.ci.mequon.wi.us

(262) 236-2911

Incident Reports are available online at www.ci.mequon.wi.us

For City hunting regulations, to apply for a discharge permit, or to request an Incident Report:

Mequon Police Department

(262) 242-3500

In case of EMERGENCY dial 911

Appendix A: COYOTE RESPONSE PLAN

<u>RESPONSE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>TRIGGER</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>
LEVEL 1	EDUCATION	PUBLIC AWARENESS	CITY/COMMUNITY
<p>The City of Mequon will engage in ongoing efforts to provide educational materials, both online and in paper format, pertaining to coyotes within the community. Partnerships between the City, the Mequon Nature Preserve, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI-DNR), and other appropriate organizations will be utilized to promote and distribute educational materials and to coordinate informational workshops as needed.</p>			
LEVEL 2	DATA COLLECTION & EDUCATION	SIGHTING/INTERACTION	COMMUNITY/CITY
<p>In order to collect specific and useful data pertaining to coyotes within the community, the City of Mequon will provide an avenue for residents to report various types of coyote interactions. A “Coyote Interaction Report” will be made available in both an online electronic form on the City’s website (www.ci.mequon.wi.us), in a paper format available for pick up at City Hall or sent via U.S. mail upon request. Please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (262) 236-2911 to request a paper copy. Collected data will be utilized to identify coyote activity trends and in turn to best direct nuisance animal removal efforts, as necessary.</p>			
LEVEL 3	TRAPPING/HUNTING & EDUCATION	INQUIRY/LOCAL CONCERN	INDIVIDUAL/GROUP/HOA
<p>The trapping and hunting of coyotes is legal throughout the State of Wisconsin on a year-round basis in accord with state law. The City of Mequon does, however, have additional specific regulations governing hunting activity within city limits. For those who are interested, information about trapping/hunting regulations and WI-DNR registered trappers are available online at the City website (www.ci.mequon.wi.us), the WI-DNR website (http://dnr.wi.gov/) or by calling the WI-DNR at (414) 263-8606. Paper copies of local and State hunting/trapping regulations are also available at City Hall and at the Mequon Police Department.</p>			
LEVEL 4	NUISANCE REMOVAL & EDUCATION	THREAT/PET ATTACK	CITY CONTRACTOR
<p>The goal of collecting data via resident submitted “Coyote Interaction Reports” is to identify a trend of nuisance coyote activity within a specific area(s) of the City and to provide a tool for residents to be able to report pet-coyote interactions. In the event that such a pattern is identified or a pet attack is verified, and upon resident request, Mequon may either dispatch a City contractor in an attempt to locate, trap and/or lethally dispatch the nuisance coyote(s) or may assign a WI-DNR nuisance permit to a resident/contractor. A “Coyote Interaction Report” is available online (www.ci.mequon.wi.us), a paper copy may be requested from the City Clerk’s Office, or City staff can assist in taking a report via telephone by contacting the City Clerk’s Office at (262) 236-2911 or the Mequon Police Department at (262) 242-3500.</p>			
LEVEL 5	EMERGENCY RESPONSE NUISANCE REMOVAL, EDUCATION	HUMAN ATTACK	PUBLIC SAFETY & CITY CONTRACTOR
<p>In the event of a coyote attack on a human, Mequon will dispatch emergency services to provide medical attention to the individual and to possibly dispatch the aggressive animal if it is still in the area. If emergency services are unable to locate the animal, the City-contracted professional will be engaged in an attempt to locate , trap and/or lethally dispatch the nuisance coyote(s). In the event of an Emergency please dial 911.</p>			

Appendix B: COYOTE INCIDENT REPORT

1. Incident Date: _____
 2. Incident Time: _____ AM or PM
 3. Location *(please provide nearest address or cross street)*: _____
-

4. Incident Type *(incident types defined below)*

- Known Food Source
- Observation *(skip to #5)*
- Sighting *(skip ahead to #6)*
- Encounter *(skip ahead to #6)*
- Aggressive Behavior *(skip ahead to #6)*
- Injury/Attack *(skip to ahead #6)*

Known Food Source: Any location where food (pet food, compost piles, garbage, edible plants, etc.) is left outside

Observation: Act of noticing or taking note of tracks, scat (feces) or hearing coyote calls or howling

Sighting: A visual observation of a coyote(s) generally from a distance

Encounter: An unexpected direct meeting between human and coyote(s) with no physical contact and no aggressive behavior displayed by the coyote(s)

Aggressive Behavior: Meeting between a pet or human and coyote(s) that results in one of the following types of aggressive behavior: growling, baring teeth, lunging, scratching, flanking, chasing or biting

Injury/Attack: Pet or human is physically contacted, bitten or killed by a coyote(s)

5. Please Describe the Signs/Evidence of Observed Coyote Activity (e.g. tracks, hearing calls, feces, etc.):

If reporting an observation, completion of question #5 concludes the report. Please feel free to provide additional information at the bottom of this report. THANK YOU.

6. Please Describe the Sighting / Encounter / Conflict / Pet Interaction:

7. How Many Coyote(s) did You See? _____

8. Did the Coyote Appear Sick or Injured? Yes or No *(if No, please skip to #10)*

9. If so, Please Describe (e.g. limping, foaming at the mouth, missing patches of hair):

10. Are You Aware of a Food Source in the Area where the Incident Occurred? Yes or No

11. If so, Please Describe (e.g. bird feeder, bait pile, animal carcass, etc.):

12. Was an Attempt Made to Haze/Discourage the Coyote? Yes or No (if No, please skip to #15)

13. If so, What Efforts were made to Haze/Discourage the Coyote? (mark all that apply)

- Shouting
- Noise Maker
- Garden Hose or Water Gun
- Throwing Object(s)
- Firearm or Bow-and-Arrow
- Other _____

14. Please Indicate how the Coyote Reacted to the Hazing?

- Unfazed by Hazing Efforts
- Walked/Trotted a Short Distance and Stopped
- Walked/Trotted Away without Stopping
- Ran a Short Distance and Stopped
- Ran Away without Stopping
- Other _____

15. Please Provide any Additional Information/Detail about your Incident not Covered Elsewhere

16. Please feel free to attach photographs or other documentation to this report that you feel is appropriate. If you are submitting this report to document an attack on your pet, please attach photographs of the injuries, as well as a bill or statement of charges from your veterinarian.

17. Contact Information (optional)

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Appendix C: COYOTE YARD AUDIT CHECKLIST

(For homeowner use)

Item	OK	FIX	N/A	Ways to Mitigate
Food				NEVER hand-feed or intentionally feed a coyote!
Pet Food				Never feed pets outdoors; store all pet food securely indoors.
Water Sources				Remove water attractants such as pet water bowls.
Bird Feeders				Remove bird feeders or clean fallen seed to reduce the presence of small mammals that coyotes prefer to eat.
Fallen Fruit				Clean up fallen fruit around trees.
Compost				Do not include meat or dairy among compost contents unless fully enclosed.
BBQ Grills				Clean up food around barbeque grills after each use.
Trash				Secure all trash containers with locking lids and place curbside the morning of trash pickup. Periodically clean cans to reduce residual odors.
Landscaping				Trim vegetation to reduce hiding places and potential denning sites.
Structures/ Outbuildings				Restrict access under decks and sheds, around woodpiles, or any other structure that can provide cover or denning sites for coyotes or their prey.
Fencing				Establish a 6-foot fence (only as permitted by City code and/or Homeowner Association [HOA] regulations) to deter coyotes. Ensure that there are no gaps and that the bottom of the fence extends underground 6 inches or is fitted with a mesh apron to deter coyotes from digging underneath.
Pets				Never leave pets unattended outside.
				Never allow pets to “play” with coyotes.
				Fully enclose outdoor pet kennels.
				Walk pets on a leash no longer than 6 feet in length.

The City of Mequon encourages all residents to take steps to eliminate attractants on your property in order to minimize interactions with coyotes. Residents are also urged to share this information with friends and neighbors because minimizing interactions is most effective when entire neighborhoods work together.

Appendix D: REFERENCES

Village of Riverside

Coyote Policy, Village of Riverside, Illinois

City of Greenwood Village

Coyote Management Plan, *Greenwood Village, Colorado.*

City of Wheaton

Coyote Management Plan, *City of Wheaton, Illinois.*

Cook County

Cook County Coyote Project/Urban Coyote Research Program, Cook County Illinois

Conservation Agency

Narragansett Bay Coyote Study, Jamestown Rhode Island

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