

# SAFETY ALERT

## What to Do If You Encounter a Coyote

Coyotes have been seen around campus in the early morning and evening hours. This Safety Alert will provide you with information to protect yourself and decrease the likelihood of aggressive coyote encounters.

What to do if a coyote approaches:

- Face the coyote. Never turn away.
- Place larger adults in front of children and pets.
- Make yourself look large. Raise your arms, set feet apart.
- Make loud noises, shout or use noisemakers.
- Shine a strong flashlight or strobe light at the coyote.
- Throw rocks, dirt clods, etc. to intimidate but not to injure.
- Vinegar—water or pepper sprays on or near the animal help.
- Back away slowly.

What not to do:

- Do not turn and run.
- Running away can encourage an attack.
- Do not feed a coyote or leave food out for any wild animal.
- Do not approach coyote dens or coyotes that have pups.
- Do not cut off a coyote's escape path.

Staying Safe:

- Keep children and pets close.
- Keep food indoors and trash containers covered.

Coyotes learn that people should be avoided if they are faced with harassment rather than fear and when people are not associated with an easy source of food.

If you witness a coyote displaying aggressive behavior, contact Public Safety by calling on a campus extension 911 or by cell phone (323) 343-3700.