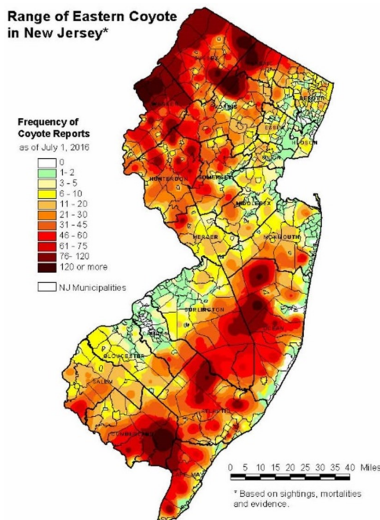


# Living with Coyotes

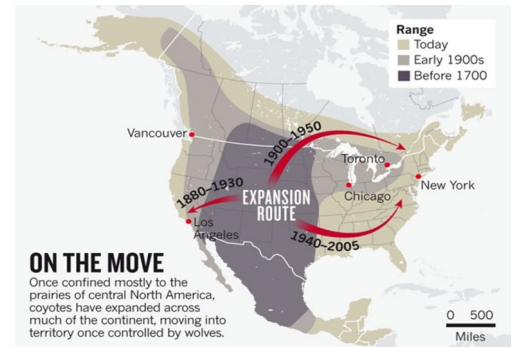


Coyotes are found all over the country, into Canada, and down to Panama. They are also found all over New Jersey, as well as here in Chatham. In general, they are not a threat to people if you take the proper precautions and know what to do if you see one.



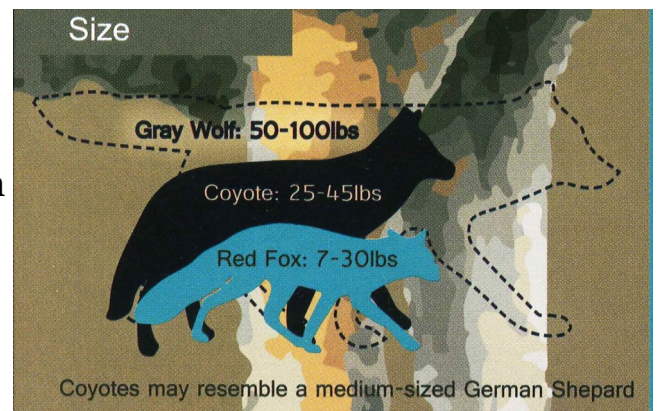
## COYOTE HISTORY:

Coyotes are not native to NJ, but expanded their range from the west, through Canada, interbreeding with wolves and dogs along the way. Eastern Coyotes are therefore larger than Western Coyotes. The first coyotes were first seen in NJ in the 1960s.



## COYOTE DESCRIPTION:

Coyotes have fur of mixed white, gray, and brown. Their long tails are held downward, which is distinct from domestic dogs. They can be up to 55 lbs. and are smaller than a German shepherd. They are dramatically smaller than wolves, which were extirpated from NJ 200 years ago.





## COYOTE SAFETY:

- 1) Do not feed coyotes. They find their own food.
- 2) Do not let pets run loose, particularly at night. Keep pets leashed.
- 3) Do not run from a coyote—it will chase.
- 4) Use fencing or repellants to keep coyotes away from your property, if necessary.
- 5) Report aggressive, fearless coyotes immediately to 1-877-WARN-DEP

Continued...

6) Do not create conflict where it doesn't exist. It is possible to see a coyote during the day and not have a dangerous situation. Use the following rubric to assess risk:

Coyote behavior / activity		Responses	
Rarely or occasionally seen at night, more rarely during dusk and dawn	LOW	Limit food sources (garbage, pets feeding, wildlife feeding) Supervise pets and don't let them run free	
Occasionally seen during the day Frequently seen at night Free-ranging pets occasionally disappear			
Frequently seen during the day Stalking or attacking pets Fleeing from people	CONCERN	Consider removal program in conjunction with education; prohibit/limit feeding of wildlife; supervise pets; use negative stimuli	
Approaching people aggressively Growling, barking when hazed (rather than running) Following children Preying on pets in yards			
	HIGH		

7) To scare away a coyote, do the following:



Make eye contact and back away slowly.



Make yourself look big.



Make loud noises.



Throw things at the coyote.