

# Coyotes on Vandenberg SFB



## What You Need to Know

- Coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem by preying on rodents.
- They are fearful of humans by nature; feeding them disrupts their normal behavior.
- Access to human/pet food and garbage changes their natural behavior and they lose fear of people.

## Safety Tips

### If You See a Coyote

- Do not approach — maintain a safe distance.
- Do not run — running may trigger a chase.
- Be loud and assertive — shout, clap, wave your arms, or use a whistle/air horn.
- Make yourself look bigger — stand tall, wave a jacket, or raise your arms.

### Around Your Home/Office

- Never feed coyotes. Secure garbage, compost, and pet food.
- Supervise pets while they are outdoors, day or night.
- Remove attractants such as fallen fruit, bird seed, or spilled food.

### When Walking Outdoors

- Keep children close and hold hands with younger kids.
- Keep pets on a short leash (not retractable).
- Carry a deterrent such as a whistle or small air horn.

### If a Coyote Acts Aggressively

- Do not turn your back. Maintain eye contact and back away slowly.
- Stay loud and assertive. Throw small objects (not food) near the animal to scare it off.

## Report an Incident

- For an **emergency response** or if a coyote is exhibiting threatening behavior, call **805-606-3911**.
- For all other coyote sightings or intrusive behavior, contact **Base Conservation Law Enforcement Office** at **805-606-6804** (Monday–Friday, 7 a.m.–4 p.m.).