



COYOTE FACTS AND SAFETY

COYOTE: OUR URBAN PREDATOR

Coyotes, originally from the Southwestern US and northern Mexico, have spread throughout North America. Around Pala, most coyotes are about 30 lbs. or less and eat small animals, fruits, and trash.

COYŌTL

Coyote comes from the Aztec word Coyōtl. Coyotes are related to dogs and wolves, but are their own species, *Canis latrans*. They live alone or in family groups.

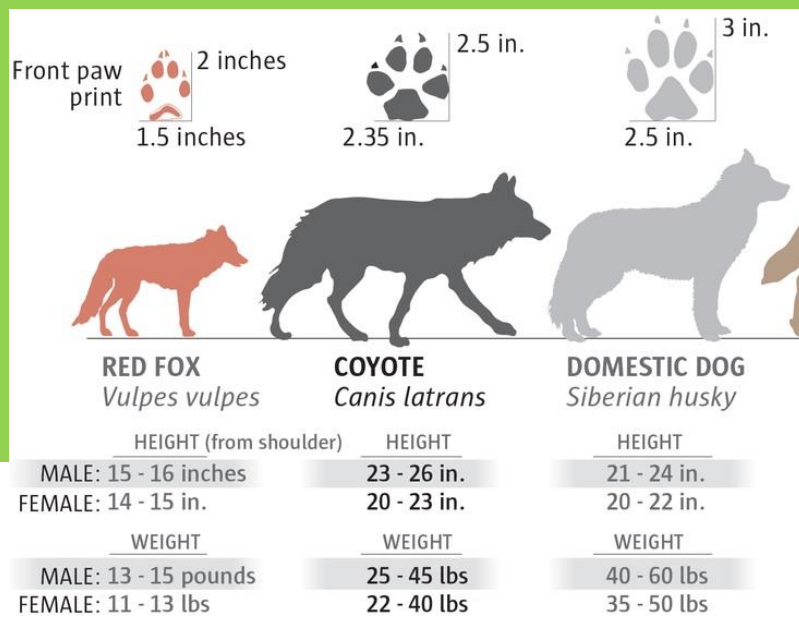


IN NATURE

- Coyotes eat many pests, like gophers and mice.
- Females den in burrows, old logs, or debris piles.
- They usually live alone or as pairs with young, almost never in large packs.

SAFETY TIPS

- Never touch a wild coyote, even a pup.
- Don't feed coyotes or leave out meat scraps.
- Don't leave out pet food.
- Keep chickens and pets sheltered at night.
- Don't hike alone.
- If a coyote approaches, make noise and try and appear larger or more aggressive.



DISEASES

Coyotes can spread rabies and other diseases, so keep domestic dogs away from coyotes. Mange is common in urban coyotes and is characterized by a loss of hair. Fearless coyotes are more likely to be sick than those acting naturally and avoiding people.

