

COYOTE ATTACKS ON THE RISE IN NEW JERSEY

Why are coyote attacks on people and pets on the rise in New Jersey?

Thirty years ago, there were less than 100 coyotes in New Jersey. Today the population exceeds 3,000 and is growing. Coyote sightings have been reported in all of New Jersey's 21 counties and 400 municipalities across the state. In recent years, random attacks by coyotes on people and pets have been on the rise.

The coyote population was being kept in check by trappers using the leg hold trap as the tool to slow the population increase.

In 1984 the New Jersey legislature, in a knee jerk reaction to animal rights organization pressure, banned the use of leg hold traps. This removed the top tool used to control coyote, fox and raccoon populations.

Are attacks on people and pets increasing in New Jersey? All of these attacks listed have occurred since 2019. I will let you draw your own conclusion after you read the following:

A 37-year-old woman, her 4-year-old son and her 18-month-old daughter were attacked as they walked by the tennis courts and pool in a Fairfield Park. The coyote attacked from the rear knocking her to the ground and tipping over the stroller. She required treatment for her injuries.

A man walking on Road 3 in the area of Suttons Lane near Rutgers parking lot 105 at 7:30 PM was approached from the rear and attacked by a coyote. This attack comes just days after another victim was walking on a foot path off Avenue E near Hospital Road by the Rutgers Preserve on the Livingston Campus and was attacked and bitten by a coyote.

Ramapo Valley County Reservation, Mahwah Township. In two separate incidents a woman walking her dog and for the second time in 5 days a 53-year-old woman was attacked by coyotes in the same park reports the Bergen County Sheriff's Department.

Piscataway N.J. Middlesex County. Piscataway Police warned residents to be on the lookout for coyotes after a woman's dog was killed in her back yard while on a leash.

Mahwah officials issue a warning to residents after three coyote attacks in one week.

Mahwah A New Jersey mother is recovering after fighting off a coyote attack. Doreen Latargia Entep was walking near her home in Mahwah when she was suddenly ambushed by a coyote. She was bitten multiple times before she grabbed a baseball bat from her neighbors' garage and was eventually able to run the animal off. Entep was treated for her wounds and received 13 shots for tetanus and rabies

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Carlos Castello was hiking with his girl friend when a coyote stopped them in their tracks. "As soon as it jumped up it basically attached to my leg. I punched it off and it ran away.

If you are worried about the current coyote population you shouldn't be. Assembly bill A-1365 is a veiled attempt to end hunting in New Jersey and is just another junk law designed to hide the real issue. Coyotes are protected by Title 23 laws setting seasons and bag limits. Division of Fish and Wildlife's trained and educated biologists are continually monitoring the coyote population. Coyotes are an underutilized potentially dangerous species with an expanding population. A population that is difficult to hunt and extremely elusive. By having contests, it encourages hunters to peruse a species that they otherwise would not hunt. Since New Jersey trappers lost the best tool for controlling coyote populations in 1984, the leg hold trap, their population has exploded. This explosion has resulted in increased human coyote interactions with disastrous results.

When the animal rights and anti-hunting organizations compare New Jersey to other States I can only wonder where they get their scientific facts to back up their claims. New Jersey is a unique state with areas of dense population and large expanses of open space. Coyotes in search of food have learned to survive and expand in both environments posing an even greater threat to our citizens if coyotes are not properly managed and controlled.