

### **Coyote Safety Tips**

#### As Presented by Kaitlin Goode, Georgia Wildlife

### For more information contact the Georgia Wildlife website at www.georgiawildlife.com

**Georgia Status:** \* Considered a Non-native species\* Not a managed game species\* Can be trapped/hunted at any time provided no local ordinance prohibition

**Biology/Appearance**: \* Resembles a small dog (25-35 pounds)\* Excellent eyesight and sense of smell \* Breed in Spring

<u>Diet:</u> \*Small mammals (rodents) \* Soft/hard mast berries and acorns \* Can eat small livestock \* small cats, deer and fawns

**Behavior**: \*Crepuscular (hunt at twilight)\* Extremely adaptable (adjusts schedule based on human activity) \* More active in the Spring \* Naturally curious

<u>Conflicts:</u> Coyotes are in neighborhoods for food (rodents, trash, pet food, bird seed, water, pet watering bowls), shelter for den covering

<u>Safety Concerns:</u> \*Coyotes are naturally weary of people \* Continued exposure with no negative actions reduces the natural fear of people

# Do the following to protect against Coyotes

Keep cats indoors 2. Supervise your pets when outside 3. Keep pets on short leash 4. Pickup small dogs in presence of coyotes 5. Walk with noise maker, air horn, repellent 6. Be aware of your surroundings 7. Do not feed coyotes 8. Do not approach coyotes 9. Do not turn away or run from a coyote 10. Yell, make loud noises when you see a coyote.

# Do the following to resolve conflict with Coyotes

- 1. Remove things that attract coyotes
- 2. Provide negative reinforcement
- 3. Trap and remove problem coyotes to decrease conflict, more coyotes will move into an area, if attractants are not removed.