

PREVENT COYOTE DENS

There is a misconception that coyotes den year-round. *This is not true.*

Coyotes only den once a year during pupping season which begins in March. A few weeks before the pups are born, the pack seeks out or reconstructs previously used dens. The den is critical to the survival of coyotes. It provides protection from rain, cold, and predators when the pups are born and as they grow into adolescents. Coyotes search for secluded areas with heavy foliage, preferably near a hillside, culvert, or under hollowed-out tree to the den.

Why is it important to take action now to prevent unwanted visits or dens?

January marks the beginning of the mating season for the alpha male and alpha female. In January and early February there is adequate time to conduct the [At-Home Coyote Prevention Checklist](#) and safely perform 'wildlife smart' landscaping. If landscaping is carried out in late February or March, you may unknowingly disrupt a coyote den. Protective parents and pack-mates may act aggressively if the den is threatened or disturbed.

A coyote den functions as a headquarters for the pack. It's a safe space for the litter to be born, grow, play and learn

What is 'Wildlife Smart' Landscaping?

Does your backyard welcome coyotes? Or are there deterrents that discourage wildlife visits? Make your home inhospitable to coyotes by taking the following steps, especially in January.

- 1) **Trim ground-level shrubbery.** Coyotes can use overgrown bushes to den or hide as they hunt.
- 2) **Clear out wood or rock piles.** Rodents can hide in these areas which attract coyotes.
- 3) **Remove bird feeders.** These attract squirrels, mice, and other common coyote prey. Plant native flowers to attract birds instead.
- 4) **Pick ripe fruit from trees.** The number one food source for coyotes in LA County is fallen fruit and seeds planted by people. Pick up fallen fruit.

Example of 'Wildlife Smart' landscaping



Examples of a welcoming backyard



[View Weekly Coyote Activity Report](#)

Learn. Prevent. Report.

For coyote education resources and resident action plans, visit:

TorranceCA.Gov/Coyotes



SCAN ME