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## What you can do

People and wild animals live side by side in Ontario. Preventing a problem is a far better solution than dealing with wildlife after a conflict.

As a property owner, you have a role in making sure you are not attracting unwanted wildlife to your property.

## Preventing encounters

### Limit attractants:

- Keep pet food indoors.
- Use secure garbage containers with locking lids and store in an enclosed structure.
- Put garbage out the morning of a scheduled pickup.
- Use enclosed composting bins rather than exposed piles.
- Pick ripe fruit and seed from trees and remove fallen fruit from the ground.
- Protect vegetable gardens with heavy-duty garden fences or place vegetable plants in a greenhouse.

### Discourage coyotes from entering your property:

- Clear away bushes and dense weeds near your home where coyotes may find cover and small animals.
- Use motion sensor lights.
- Close off spaces under porches, decks and sheds. Coyotes use these areas for denning and raising young.
- If you fence your property, install a two-meter-high fence that extends at least 20 centimeters underground as coyotes may dig under a barrier.

### Keeping your pet safe:

- Do not leave small dogs unattended.
- Keep dogs inside at night.
- Keep your dog on a leash.
- Clean up after your dog – coyotes are attracted to dog feces.
- Carry a flashlight when walking your dog at night to scare off coyotes.

For more information and fact sheets on what you can do, visit [ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)