

## Coyote



These highly adaptive canines are common throughout Michigan. In fact, the coyote is one of the few animals that have expanded its range after European settlement. The

patchwork of farms, forests and clear-cut areas are very suitable coyote habitat. Coyotes also do well around areas with high human activities, including living within large cities such as Chicago.

The coyote is a medium sized canine weighing 24-46 pounds but is occasionally mistaken as a wolf. Gray wolves are much larger (up to 143 pounds) and are generally absent from the Lower Peninsula. The two species may interbreed to produce “coywolves” where wolf and coyote ranges overlap but this rarely occurs.

Coyotes are opportunistic predators and will eat just about any wild animal. They are predators of most small animals and scavenge on carcasses of larger animals.



## Tracks and Scat

Coyotes are usually nocturnal but look for the clues they leave behind.



CNC's Meadow Mouse Trail and the Arboretum are great places to look for coyote tracks in the snow.

Coyote scat is long and twisted, usually containing fur or bones from a previous meal.

**Stop by the Visitor Center Office for program information.**

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