MEDIA ADVISORY

Keep Coyotes Wild and Safe This Thanksgiving Weekend

As you visit the Bay Area's beloved parks and open spaces over the busy holidays, remember: never feed coyotes, even if they appear sick.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, November 27, 2026 – Presidio wildlife ecologists have received increased reports of people attempting to feed coyotes with mange. While well-intentioned, feeding coyotes causes them to lose their natural fear of people**.** This raises the potential for conflicts among wildlife, people, and pets.

Everyone Has a Role to Play in Keeping Wildlife Wild

Park users can help protect coyotes and other wildlife by taking a few simple steps:

- Never feed coyotes or other wildlife, even if they appear sick.
- Give coyotes space. Keep dogs on short leashes and under control at all times.
- Avoid leaving human or pet food outside.
- Securely dispose of all trash; pack it out if trash receptacles are full.
- Deter coyotes by making eye contact, waving, and yelling at them. Learn more in this video.
- Report coyote sightings or concerning encounters to Presidio Trust wildlife ecologists at the work order desk .coyote@presidiotrust.gov.

Understanding Mange

Recent sightings of coyotes affected by mange throughout San Francisco have prompted understandable concern from the public. Mange is a skin disease caused by parasitic mites that can result in hair loss, intense itching and skin irritation. While some coyotes may recover naturally, others may not survive.

There are currently no available treatment options for wild coyotes in the Bay Area. The Presidio Trust is working in concert with San Francisco Animal Care and Control and other partners to review emerging research regarding treatment options.

The Presidio Trust thanks all park users for helping to keep the Presidio a place where people and wildlife thrive. For more information about coyotes in the Presidio, visit www.presidio.gov/coyote.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS: Presidio Trust wildlife ecologist Phoebe Parker-Shames is available for interviews on Friday 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. and on Saturday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Presidio Tunnel Tops at 210 Lincoln Blvd.

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