



## All About Bobcats

Bobcats are medium-sized Texas wildcats weighing 15-30 pounds. Preferring natural areas, they are often found in riparian zones such as along the Trinity River. Urban bobcats commonly eat small mammals like rats, rabbits, and squirrels.



## All About Coyotes

Coyotes are canids weighing 25-45 pounds and often live near parks, creeks, and floodplains. They are omnivorous and will eat fruits, nuts, rodents, and food scraps. Resident coyotes are territorial with breeding pairs marking out home ranges. Coyotes rarely have rabies and only 12 attacks on humans have ever been documented in Texas.

## Learn more about bobcats and coyotes

Humane Society of the United States, [humanesociety.org](http://humanesociety.org)

Texas Native Cats, [texasnativecats.org](http://texasnativecats.org)

Texas Parks and Wildlife, [tpwd.texas.gov](http://tpwd.texas.gov)



## Questions?

Call 911 Wildlife to speak to a wildlife specialist.

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Dallas: (214) 368-5911

Denton: (940) 898-0911

Fort Worth: (817) 737-0911

Houston: (713) 287-1911



## Coexisting with Wildlife

**BOBCATS AND  
COYOTES IN TEXAS**

# Guidelines for Coexistence

Bobcats and coyotes are here to stay. As adaptable predators, they have established populations across Texas, but are rarely seen by people. Keep yourself, your pets, and local wildlife safe by following these guidelines.



## REMOVE FOOD SOURCES

- Never intentionally feed wildlife.
- Feed pets indoors and do not feed feral cats.
- Secure trash with a lock or bungee cord.
- Sweep up bird seed from the ground.
- Remove fallen fruit and leftover scraps.



## SECURE PETS

- Keep your pets indoors or in secure, protective cages or pens.
- When outdoors, supervise your pet and keep dogs on-leash and within six feet.
- Ensure pet vaccinations are up to date.



## DISCOURAGE WILD VISITORS

- Trim back excess vegetation that provides cover for wildlife.
- Close off crawl spaces in attics and under decks.
- Add a roller to fences to prevent coyotes and bobcats from entering your yard.
- Use deterrents like motion-sensor sprinklers or radio noise.

**SHARE WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED!  
COEXISTENCE WORKS BEST  
WHEN WE ALL TAKE PART.**

# When Should I Be Concerned?

## HIGH RISK BEHAVIORS:

- Carnivore injures or kills a pet with a person nearby
- Carnivore acts aggressively toward person, showing teeth, lunging, or growling with back fur raised
- Carnivore appears sick or injured (like limping or staggering with paralyzed back legs)

*If you observe high-risk behavior or signs of illness, report the incident to Animal Services. In the case of an attack, call 911 immediately.*

*Eliminating attractants, using hazing techniques, and educating your neighbors will prevent potentially harmful behaviors from escalating.*

## DID YOU KNOW?



More people are killed by errant golf balls and flying champagne corks each year than are bitten by coyotes.

# What to Do When You Encounter a Carnivore

Just spotting a bobcat or coyote is not cause for alarm. Take precautions to prevent the animal from frequenting areas near people by following coexistence and hazing guidelines.

## HAZING

When you see a coyote or bobcat in a populated area, like a neighborhood, use hazing techniques to scare the animal away.

**DO** use noisemakers, wave your arms, clap, shout, and throw small objects until the animal leaves the area.  
**Do NOT** chase or corner the animal.  
**Do NOT** stop to take pictures or encourage the animal to come closer.  
**Do NOT** run or bend over.

This may seem harsh, but keeping wildlife afraid of people protects them and us.



## WHY CARNIVORES MATTER

Coyotes and bobcats are part of nature, and their ability to thrive and raise families in human-dominated habitats reminds us of the importance and resilience of wild animals.

These carnivores also provide ecological services by eating invasive rodents that spread disease and pose pest control problems for homeowners and businesses.