

Coyote Incident in Cobourg Conservation Area: Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Issues Reminder to Keep Dogs on Leash

The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) has been notified of an incident between a coyote and a small dog in Cobourg Conservation Area, which took place in the early evening of December 8th.

Cobourg Conservation Area is located on the east side of William Street and west of Elgin Street. The natural conservation area, which is often used by dog walkers, is owned by the GRCA and is maintained by the Town of Cobourg. The Conservation Authority reminds walkers to keep their dogs on leash at all times. Allowing animals to run loose increases the chance of coyote encounters, and you are breaking the law by doing so: Conservation Authorities Act R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 105, Section 10; Town of Cobourg Animal Control By-law #075-2010, Section 7.

Coyotes have been common in the Town of Cobourg over the past year, mostly in the east end, with some sightings in the west. If you see one of these animals in your area, please contact the Town of Cobourg Public Works Department at 905.372.9971 or the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) at 1.800.667.1940.

If you encounter a coyote, the MNRF recommends that you keep your distance from the animal, as in most cases, it will likely avoid you. It has also been recommended to clap, shout, or throw a small object at the coyote to deter it from coming closer – this may also condition the animals in an urban setting to avoid people.

For additional coyote information, please visit the following website: <https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/preventing-and-managing-conflicts-coyotes-wolves-and-foxes>