DETERRING COYOTES

1. Wire mesh fences at least five feet high are the most effective fences to keep coyotes away. A coyote roller — which can be purchased or made cheaply with PVC piping — can also be added to the top of the fence to keep them from being able to jump over.

2. Remove all food and water sources from your yard. This may include pet food, birdfeeders, fallen fruit and dirty barbecue grills. Install net wire fences around water features like birdbaths, ponds and fountains, or consider removing them entirely.

3. Clearing away brushy areas around your property that coyotes may see as safe den or hiding spot. Mow tall grass and remove thin brush and rubbish piles.

4. Flashing lights can help to deter coyotes as well. You can install motion-activated lights on your property to keep them away.

5. “Hazing” is the process of discouraging undesirable behavior in animals using multisensory deterrents, like sound, light and motion. Be loud and large by waving your hands, yelling and making loud noises using props like pots, pans, noisemakers, airhorns or cans filled with marbles or pennies. Throw a small projectile to scare the coyote like a tennis ball or a rock. You can also try spraying the coyote with your hose or turning on the sprinklers. It may take several times.