

Living with Coyotes

An Information Session

Saturday, April 21, 2007

presented by

The U.S. Geological Survey, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

The Humane Society of the United States

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Patuxent Research Refuge

Suburban Maryland, Virginia, and Washington D.C. are now home to the coyote, an adaptive native wild dog whose distribution spans nearly the entire continent of North America. Although originally known from the western U.S., coyotes have expanded their range over much of the east during the latter half of the 20th century. The mid-Atlantic region is the last area to be colonized by these canids. Larger than a fox and smaller than a wolf, coyotes are the subject of much folklore and controversy concerning their predatory behavior. Due to their role as a predator, coyotes can have both social and ecological impacts in areas they inhabit, and with that comes a wealth of inaccurate information about their ecology and how they live in proximity to high density human populations.

Two research scientists well-known for their work on coyote ecology, **Drs. Stanley Gehrt** of The Ohio State University and **Seth Riley** of the National Park Service, will give presentations on the natural history of coyotes, review the role coyotes play in ecosystems surrounding the Chicago and Los Angeles areas, and answer questions from the audience.

Presentations will review the natural history of the species including reproduction, survival and mortality, social behavior, movements and landscape use, diet, and disease. Sessions will include information on conflicts between coyotes and humans, and strategies for preventing or reducing conflict.

Two identical presentations will be offered: 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM and again at 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM at The National Wildlife Visitors Center, Laurel, Maryland (approximately one mile west of Route 197 on Powder Mill Road). Each Session will include time for questions. The general public is welcome. Admission is free. For more information call 301-497-5503 or 301-497-5580 or visit <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/>

