

Community Bulletin

URGENT: Coyotes On Site & Chicken Coop Repairs – Action Required

@TorontoWestFoodCooperative | October 1, 2020

Attention Toronto West Coop Members.

There are 15 chickens missing from the pen as of this morning. Few of the chickens' remains have been found, but with the large tracks in the surrounding soil and the damage to the pen and coop, it's clear that coyotes are the cause of this unfortunate incident. We anticipated attempted raccoon incursions, but it seems we should have reinforced for larger wildlife.

The coop board is actively engaged with other community groups to address to address the encroachment of larger animals into Toronto neighbourhoods. Years of newly introduced greenspace throughout the city has been immensely beneficial for walkability and carbon absorption while also providing the space for urban livestock farms like ours. However, it has come with some unexpected challenges. It seems that coyotes enjoy a greener Toronto as much as we do!

Repairs are needed immediately for the North-East fence and to the wire caging of the coop itself. The repairs will begin immediately, and the chickens have been moved to our UrbanHensTO partner farm until project completion.

Thanks for your understanding. We're deeply saddened by this whole ordeal, but so goes the nature of things.

@BuddysBreakfastTO

It'll be the egg-free breakfast menu at Buddy's until the hens are home! Will anything aside from the egg and poultry be unavailable during the repairs?

@TorontoWestFoodCooperative

Community gardens, pantries, fridges, & the greenhouses will remain open. There will be some decrease in the high protein vegetables usually reserved for restaurants as we reallocate to individual members for the time being.

@NicoleLashley99

I saw a coyote at a park in the West End last weekend. Has the city said if they'll be doing anything?

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Animal services said they've gotten more calls than usual recently but that no action has been decided on.

@juliaaatonato

there's a post going around on Facenet that says to avoid public parks

if you're out walking with a dog, especially at night :) be careful y'all

@Cris_Anderson

my daughter heard about the coyote attack and is demanding we take some chickens home where they'll be safe! don't be too worried if a few more go missing lol

@Dan.The.Man

I have lived in the city my whole life, and up until my 50s you only saw coyotes along the Humber... I wonder why they're near Dupont station, huh? STOP FEEDING THEM!

@NicoleLashley99

There's a petition here for stronger action from @TOAnimalServices about the coyote problem.

@rubytuesdays

ever think that the caged chickens might have attracted the coyotes? & you only want to push "for stronger action" because it's inconvenient for you.

@Dan.The.Man

They ate 15 chickens... It's not inconvenient, it's a waste.

@rubytuesdays

is there a reason you think you're more entitled to the chickens than an actual animal? maybe let nature take its course and do your part

@TOAnimalServices

Feeding coyotes is strictly prohibited. If you see someone feeding a coyote or if you need to report a coyote sighting, text 'REPORT' to PAWS (7297). It is also prohibited to kill, harm, or capture wildlife, including setting unauthorized traps. To participate in an animal services community cohabitation workshop or provide feedback during our virtual town halls, visit our events calendar [here](#).

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