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COYOTES AND COYDOGS: A THREAT TO SOCIETY

Given the recent media attention to coyote attacks involving humans and pets, I thought it would be appropriate to broach this topic.

This is a very sensitive issue for me because, years ago, my 18 year old cat was attacked by 3 coyotes in broad daylight, only 3 yards from my back porch. He subsequently died from his injuries. At the time I was living in a rural setting so accepted that wildlife would surround me but. I could not believe that these creatures were so bold as to approach my house in daylight. I think the problem is that they have become almost “half domesticated” and have no fear of human beings or their dwellings.

Milton, once the sleepy bedroom town, has, over the past 5 years been transformed into a metropolis and, hence, all wildlife that used to reside on the periphery, are residing close to us. Unfortunately Darwinian Theory prevails (survival of the fittest), and our pets are on the bottom of the food chain.

After my loss, I vowed never to let my cats outside again, and have done just that. My advice to cat owners is to keep them inside, if possible and my advice to owners of small dogs: do not leave them unattended in the back yard. These creatures are able to scale 5 foot fences. 6 months ago there was even a report of coyotes attacking a large dog in its own fenced backyard

We need to protect our innocent beloved pets from this huge threat.

I realize that I just printed this article a few months ago but it bears repeating because of the recent incident, last month, in Georgetown, whereby a coyote jumped the fence and attacked and killed a small dog in his own backyard.