

## **COEXISTING WITH WILDLIFE ON CAMPUS:**

---

**Description of Task to be Performed:**  
Performing outdoor work and academic activities in areas where wildlife encounters may be reasonably expected.

**Objective:** To inform and educate the campus community about the presence of various wildlife, including coyotes, moose, deer, wolves, and bears, ensuring safety and awareness.

**Scope:** This safety talk will cover identification of these animals, understanding their behavior, and the necessary actions to prevent and manage encounters.

### **Description of Hazards associated:**

---

#### **Physical Hazards:**

Potential for bites, scratches, or other injuries if wildlife feels threatened or cornered.

Risk of injury from falls or accidents while trying to evade wildlife.

#### **Health Hazards:**

Possible transmission of diseases such as rabies from bites or scratches.

Stress and anxiety caused by wildlife encounters.

#### **Environmental Hazards:**

Wildlife may become more aggressive if they associate humans with food sources.

Disturbance to the natural behavior of wildlife on campus.

## **Prevention and Control measures:**

---

#### **Avoidance:**

Do not approach or interact with wildlife (including coyotes, moose, deer, wolves, and bears) per the Wildlife Act.

Never feed or leave food out for any wildlife. These animals hunt their natural prey self-sufficiently and do not require human handouts for survival.

Where possible, outdoor work and academic activities in areas where wildlife encounters may be reasonably expected, should be done in groups of 2 or more.

#### **Campus Guidelines:**

Adhere to designated paths and avoid shortcuts through wooded areas or dense vegetation.

Keep pets on a leash and under close supervision.

#### **Waste Management:**

Dispose of food waste properly only in waste containers.

Avoid leaving food products outside.

## **Established Methodology**

---

#### **Response:**

If a coyote or other wildlife approaches, remain calm and assertive. Do not run.

Make yourself look larger, wave your arms, and make loud noises to scare it away.

If the animal does not retreat, slowly back away while maintaining eye contact. Continue to exaggerate the above gestures and slowly back away to safety.

## Reporting:

Always be informed of task specific emergency procedures. Immediately report any wildlife concerns to campus security by calling x4444.

## **Specific Animal Safety:**

### Coyotes:

Coyotes are wild canids that share a recent common ancestor with domesticated dogs but are very misunderstood by people. Coyotes are very intelligent, curious, and adaptable to city life, where they assist with rodent control. Coyotes give birth in the spring and will protect their young through “escorting,” in which they follow the intruding person or dog until they leave their territory.

Coyotes tend to be curious but not aggressive and will usually mind their own business if left alone.

If they approach you or seem aggressive, make yourself look as large as possible.

Wave your arms and shout at the coyote in a loud, aggressive voice.

If the coyote continues to approach, don’t run or turn your back. Continue to exaggerate the above gestures and slowly back away to safety.

Any Fleming Community Members who may be walking their dog, must keep it on a leash.

### Moose:

Moose can be very unpredictable and aggressive, especially during mating season or when with calves.

Keep a safe distance and do not approach.

If a moose charges, run to cover or climb a sturdy tree.

### Deer:

Deer are generally shy but can become aggressive during mating season or when protecting fawns.

Keep a safe distance and avoid sudden movements. If a deer charges, try to find cover or move away quickly.

### Wolves:

Wolves are typically wary of humans but may approach out of curiosity.

Make yourself look larger and make noise to scare them away. Do not run; back away slowly while maintaining eye contact.

### Bears:

Bears can be dangerous, especially when surprised, with cubs, or when food is involved.

Do not run. Stand your ground and make yourself look larger.

Speak in a calm, firm voice and back away slowly.

