

TOWN OF EMERALD ISLE COYOTE TRAPPING PROGRAM



Nice Matters!

Town of Emerald Isle
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Residents and property owners are now authorized to utilize licensed trappers to trap coyotes in Emerald Isle. The authorized trapping season begins December 1 and extends through February 28.

Coyotes in Emerald Isle

Emerald Isle, like many communities in North Carolina, is now home to a (likely) small coyote population. Coyotes generally cover a wide area, and sightings of coyotes have been reported near The Point, in Pointe Bogue, in Lands End, in Emerald Isle Woods Park, in Osprey Ridge, near Emerald Landing, on Janell Lane, near the large vacant tract behind the Town Government Complex, near Lee Avenue, on Canal Drive near Craig Drive, at the Emerald Isle Public Boating Access, near Bogue Sound Drive, and near the Eastern Ocean Regional Access. It is likely that the same coyotes have been sighted in multiple locations listed above.

According to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, there has never been a recorded, unprovoked attack by a coyote on a human being in North Carolina. Attacks by coyotes on smaller wild and domestic animals are more common, and in Emerald Isle there have been several observations of coyotes carrying small wild animals (including feral cats) in their mouths, presumably back to feed their young. In the past year, there have been three incidents in Emerald Isle involving domestic animals reported to the Police Department. In two incidents involving dogs, fortunately there was no significant harm. The third incident involved the death of a family dog, however, NC Wildlife Resources Commission biologists could not confirm that a coyote was responsible.

Coyote Trapping Program on Private Property, Town-Owned Property

In an effort to eliminate the coyote population, the Town of Emerald Isle is sponsoring a new Coyote Trapping Program this winter. The Town's program is intended to make it very easy for our property owners to arrange for coyote trapping on their private property, if desired. The Town's program also includes coyote trapping on select Town-owned properties (Emerald Isle Woods Park, Emerald Isle Public Boating Access, and Town Government Complex). Under this new program, coyote trapping is authorized between December 1 and February 28.

Licensed Coyote Trappers

Town officials have identified a total of 6 licensed coyote trappers willing to conduct trapping activities in Emerald Isle at no or minimal cost to our property owners. Property owners interested in authorizing coyote trapping on their private property are encouraged to do so, and may contact the following licensed trappers:

Richard Fulcher	252-671-6172	\$50 fee
Bryan Rhude	910-358-3116 bryanrhude@gmail.com	No fee

Ronnie Thomas	252-342-1160	biggbuck10@hotmail.com	No fee
Robert Webb	252-723-5852	buckmaster2@hotmail.com	\$25 fee
Jerry Wise	252-227-1773	dougwise@hotmail.com	\$25 fee
Jamie Yerges	843-271-9669	jamie@yerges.com	No fee; may charge mileage

Emerald Isle Coyote Trapping Program Regulations

Trappers are required to comply with all North Carolina laws and regulations regarding the trapping and harvesting of coyotes.

All trapping activities in Emerald Isle will be conducted using non-lethal traps, and traps must be checked daily by the trapper. The potential for other domestic or wild animals to become trapped is minimal, and any accidental trapping should not be harmful to the trapped animal. Trappers are required to report the accidental trapping of any domestic animal to the Police Department immediately.

Ultimately, any coyotes trapped in Emerald Isle will be removed from Emerald Isle and will either be euthanized off-site or sold to a legal hunting dog training facility.

If you retain the services of a licensed coyote trapper, the trapper is required to notify the Police Department of the following information:

1. date trap set
2. location of trap
3. trapper's name and contact information
4. date animal harvested
5. sex of animal harvested
6. date trap removed.

More Information, Questions

For more information, or if you have questions about the Coyote Trapping Program, please contact the Emerald Isle Police Department at 252-354-2021 or the Town Manager's Office at 252-354-3424.