



Nice Matters!

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DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES



October 4, 2016

From: Jeffrey D. Waters, Chief of Police Emerald Isle Police Department

To: Frank Rush, Town Manager, Town of Emerald Isle

Ref: Recommendations for Coyote Trapping Ordinance Amendment

Attachments: (1) NCWRC Registered Trappers List for Carteret County
(2) Sample Coyote Harvest Log

Based on the research that has been conducted and the lengthy discussions that we have had between ourselves, concerned citizens and biologist from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission regarding the coyote population on Emerald Isle, I am recommending the following actions:

1. The board should consider adopting an ordinance that will permit the trapping of coyotes within the town limits of Emerald Isle during the permitted Carteret County trapping season which runs from December 1st through February 28th, annually.
2. The ordinance should include language that permits the trapping of coyotes by licensed trappers on private property at the discretion of the property owner, and on town property at the discretion of the Town Manger or his designee.
3. The ordinance should require the property owner or trapper to notify the police department of the following information:
 - a. Date trap set
 - b. Location of trap
 - c. Trapper's name and contact information
 - d. Date animal harvested
 - e. Sex of animal harvested
 - f. Date trap removed.

This information will be used by the department to keep track of the coyote population on Emerald Isle and address any concerns, violations or complaints.

4. The ordinance should prohibit the euthanizing of harvested coyotes within the town limits of Emerald Isle by any method.
5. The ordinance should require the removal of harvested coyotes from the town limits of Emerald Isle.
6. The ordinance should limit the use of only "soft catch traps" to prevent injury to other unintended animals or wildlife that are not permitted to be trapped and harvested.

7. The ordinance should require every trapper to comply with all NCWRC rules, regulations and all state statutes and local ordinances related to the harvesting and trapping of animals.

Sample Ordinance:

Sec. 8-63. – Trapping of coyotes permitted

It shall be lawful for a property owner to trap or contract with a licensed trapper for the purpose of removing coyotes from the property under the following provisions:

- (a) The trapper must be properly licensed by the State of North Carolina.
- (b) The property owner is responsible for securing all necessary depredation permits from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources commission, unless the trapping is taking place during the normal trapping season for coyotes in Carteret County.
- (c) 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.
- (d) Only the use of "Soft Catch" traps are permitted within the town limits.
- (e) Harvested coyotes must be removed from the town limits of Emerald Isle. Coyotes are not permitted to be euthanized by any method within the town limits.
- (f) Trappers are required to report the "catch" of any domestic animal to the police department immediately.
- (g) Trappers are required to comply with all NCWRC rules and regulations and North Carolina State Statutes regarding the trapping and harvesting of coyotes.
- (h) Violations of this section shall subject the violator to a civil penalty of \$500.00 and/or criminal penalties under North Carolina law.

Additionally, it is my recommendation that the town make available a list of licensed trappers to the public and that this list be provided from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission website at: <http://www.ncwildlife.org/Trapping/Contact-a-Licensed-Trapper>. I have attached the most current up to date list from the site and have contacted the trappers on the list to ascertain what services they provide and what fees if any would be charged (see attachment).

Should you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.