

# "TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

**TOP SECRET**

March 2013



*Happy St. Patrick's Day!*

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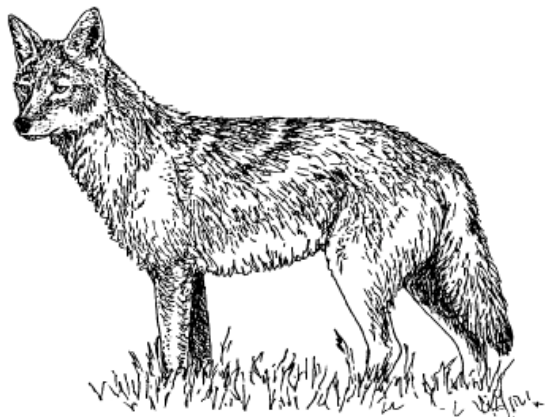
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## How To Protect Your Family & Pets From Coyotes

In Orange County, it is quite common to hear stories of how people's pets have been attacked or even killed by coyotes. The population of coyotes is on the rise and at this time, it doesn't appear that any of our government agencies are doing much to solve this problem.



Coyotes are medium-sized members of the dog family. They are larger than foxes but smaller than wolves. Coyotes stand approximately 18 inches high at the shoulders. Full grown males weigh about 20-35 lbs. and full grown females will weigh about 18-25 lbs. Their coloration is usually a blend of rust-colored to brown to gray. A coyote resembles a small German shepherd dog except they have a longer, narrower snout and a bushy

black-tipped tail.

Late January and in February is when they mate. Before giving birth, the adults will excavate one or more dens in the soil. Sometimes, they will expand the burrows of other animals. They may also use hollow logs, rock piles or culverts. In suburban areas, they typically select areas where there is minimal human activity.

Pups are born during March and April. Their litter size is about 4-7 pups. Parents and offspring will continue to live in a family group for about 6 months. Juveniles may move out in the late fall to live independently. However, if food sources are adequate, they may choose to stay with their parents through the next year.

Coyotes bark and howl in the evening and night during most of the year. But, they are less vocal when they are in the early stages of pup-rearing.

A coyote can live in almost any habitat in California. They can be found in our arid deserts, wet meadows and foggy coastal regions in the north. Coyotes have become more numerous in many suburban environments where they have an ample food supply. Southern California suburban areas are where you'll find some of the highest population densities on record.

In arid areas, where food is scarce, a coyote's territory may be 15 square miles or more. Along California's coast, in oak woodland livestock rangelands, their territory may be 1 to 3 square miles. In the suburbs, a coyote's territory

(turn the page)

### March Madness Trivia

The only team in the history of March Madness to score more than 100 points is UNLV. They did this in 1990 when they defeated Duke 103-73. This was also the first NCAA title for UNLV.



### Celebrating Sam Walton

*"There is only one boss. The customer. And he can fire everybody in the company from the chairman on down, simply by spending his money somewhere else."*

The founder of Wal-Mart, born March 29, 1918

## Rave Reviews!

*"I love that they are so complete in their service. Terry's crew did not damage a single roof tile on my house and all the termites are gone. He also took care of the rat problem last year. I am tired of hiring the cheapest service I can find. I find it much better to hire a quality company like Termite Terry and get the job done right the first time. And, his prices are very competitive."*

Rick Thomas  
Costa Mesa

*"Hello! I would like to tell you my experience with your company. I had 3 bids and decided to go with your company because of Skip. He is the only one that walked me through step by step and what it was going to take to get rid of those termites. He also joined in helping the crew. The price was fair and I'm so glad I didn't go with the other bids. Dryrot gone, wood replaced, house tented and all within a timely matter. Showed up on time and cleaned up perfect. Also, Jose and his helper (Saul) were magic. Jose helped me with some advice regarding my stucco and painting which helped me so much. So, shout out to you all for such an easy experience. Thank You So Much!"*

Sandra Lurmann  
Costa Mesa

*"We at Lion Properties truly love and appreciate your technician, D.J. (David Salamin). He is an adorable human being and we trust his judgment. He always provides options for the maintenance of the properties within 24 hours of a call. We think he is brave for sometimes having to go into places that no man should have to go and deal with creatures we don't like to talk about. He is always friendly to work with. The creatures of the world are not safe with D.J. around and we appreciate that, especially when it grosses us out! We recommend him to everyone who needs pest control services. Thank You!"*

Devra Barnes, Lion Properties  
Fountain Valley

may be as small as one quarter of a square mile. Dominant, territorial pairs may share their territory with their juvenile offspring and other related coyotes if food resources are adequate to support their expanded family.

A coyote is generally regarded as less social than a wolf. They often live successfully as solitary individuals or pairs. If food supplies are abundant, they may form packs of up to 10 members. It doesn't appear that coyotes are highly territorial in suburban areas.

Their diets are diverse and adaptable, depending on local or seasonal food resources. A major portion of their diet is often rodents or rabbits. Sometimes, their diet may consist of insects, fruits, berries, songbirds and dead animals. Coyotes are capable predators and will attack and kill a full grown animal, such as a deer. Poultry, sheep, goats and calves are easy targets because they lack effective natural defenses against wild predators. **Some coyotes learn to kill livestock and pets and they will continue to do so unless some corrective action is taken.**

A coyote is normally elusive and will avoid contact with humans. But, in Southern California's suburban areas, some coyotes have adapted to residential neighborhoods, parks, open spaces and seem to have lost their fear of humans. They thrive in these areas because food, water and shelter are abundant. They may have come to associate humans with food and protection. Once they have become attracted to a suburban area, they will prey on rodents, rabbits, birds, house cats and small dogs. They also like to feed on household garbage, pet food and the seeds and fruits of garden and landscape plants. Some will stalk and even attack children or adults. Others will attack pets being walked on a leash by their owners.

Many residents of Orange County have called our government agencies for help in solving their problems with coyotes. Most have been told to hire a professional trapper. The current cost of a 30 day trapping program runs

about \$300 with no guarantee they will be able to catch anything.

Back in the twentieth century, producers of livestock and government agencies were able to suppress numbers of coyotes by using toxicants, traps, shooting and other techniques. Studies have shown that in order to control them through removal, you would have to kill more than three-quarters of all coyotes annually.

Today, we have an increasing number of regulations on predator control tools and society's attitudes towards predators have changed. These factors, along with our government's lack of effort are making control of coyotes increasing difficult. Sorry to say this, but we may have to wait until a celebrity's child or pet gets killed before the problem is addressed.

## What Can You Do To Help Solve Your Problems With Coyotes?

Here is a list of 10 things you can do to help protect your family and pets from coyotes:

1. Install fences around your property which are at least 6ft high. Coyotes like digging under fences, so experts recommend you bury a galvanized wire-mesh apron that is 4-6 inches below the soil and extends outward at least 15 inches. You may also want to install a wire-mesh overhang of at least 18 inches, slanted outward, on top of your fence. In rural areas, you might want to consider an electric fence.
2. Close off areas under homes, decks, porches and sheds. This will prevent coyotes from building nests in these areas.
3. If you see a coyote, certain hazing techniques may frighten them off. Shouting, throwing rocks, spraying them with a water hose, using an air horn or acting aggressively will help in some cases. Motion sensitive lights on homes or buildings

may deter coyotes from approaching.

4. Make your property less attractive to coyotes by clearing or thinning thick vegetation. Prune back the lower limbs of shrubs and small trees to a height of at least 2 feet. Plants or trees that produce fruit and seeds are not a good idea. If you have these, you need to keep the areas picked up.
5. Eliminate water sources, such as ponds or fountains. Or, have wire fencing installed around them.
6. Feed your pets indoors. If you feed your pets outdoors, remove pet dishes and food after they finish eating. Store pet food indoors or in sealed heavy-duty containers.
7. Keep your garbage cans covered and sealed.
8. Keep small pets, such as cats, rabbits and small dogs indoors. If you keep them outdoors, you'll need to have them kept within enclosed kennels. Large dogs should be brought in after dark. Never allow cats or dogs to run free at anytime because they are easy prey for coyotes!
9. When you take your dog for a walk, always have them on a leash. You may want to bring a walking stick or cane to fend off an attack. Avoid walking dogs at dawn or dusk. You should also avoid areas of dense vegetation or cover. Walk at different times and in different areas so that coyotes won't learn your routine.
10. Don't ever feed or provide water to coyotes. This may cause them to lose their fear of people and make them more aggressive. Anyone who feeds coyotes is putting the entire neighborhood's children and pets at risk!

**Please be safe and let's all work together to solve this problem.**

## President's Economic Stimulus Plan

Some say that our economy is improving but President Termite Terry is still not satisfied. Now that gas prices have soared again, more and more citizens need help with controlling their expenses. That is why Termite Terry is going to keep promoting his economic stimulus plan. Here are just a few of your fellow citizens who have received a **FREE TANK OF GAS** from our President:

- Mike Hill of Huntington Beach referred us to Sabrina Schreiber of Huntington Beach.
- Moe Mamo of Costa Mesa likes getting **FREE GAS**, so he referred another friend, Bruce Blachford of Sunset Beach.
- John Clinard of Irvine referred us to his son, Trevor Clinard of Santa Ana.
- Sweetpea of Fountain Valley really likes getting **FREE GAS**. She referred us to another friend, Lee Johnston, also of Fountain Valley.
- Dr. Lois Abrams of Huntington Beach is another person who likes **FREE GAS**. She referred more friends, Chuck & Kathy Wootsen of Huntington Beach.
- Susie Mix of Fountain Valley referred us to Liz Okoubian of Huntington Beach.

As you can see, there is no limit on how many times you can get a tank of **FREE GAS**. All you have to do is to refer us to your family or friends. And, if they have us do termite treatments, repairs or start a regular pest control service, you'll get your **FREE GAS**, too!

## The Story of St. Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick was born in Wales around the year of 385AD. His father was a deacon and his grandfather was a priest in the Christian church. Irish raiders kidnapped him at the age of 16, took him to Ireland and made him a slave.

He became closer to God while in captivity for six years. In a dream, he said he was told by God that he should flee from captivity and go to the coast. There, he was able to board a ship and return to Britain.

He joined a monastery to study for the next twelve years. During this training, he was called by God to convert pagans to Christianity.

Patrick was very successful in his efforts and established monasteries across Ireland. Schools and churches were also set up to help support his ministry. Patrick retired after serving his mission for thirty years. He died on March 17<sup>th</sup> in 461AD. That is the day that has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day.

The shamrock is a traditional icon of the day. They say that Patrick used the three leafed shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity during his sermons. The three leaves represent the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

St. Patrick's Day is a public holiday in the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Newfoundland and Labrador and Montserrat. It is also celebrated in Argentina, Australia, Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand and the United States. The first United States Saint Patrick's Day celebration was held in Boston during the year of 1737.



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785 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St. #G, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

(949)631-7348 [www.termiteterry.com](http://www.termiteterry.com)





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785 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St. #G  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Office: (949)631-7348 Fax: (949)722-6190

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## Many Homes In Orange County Are Being Eaten Alive!

Back in the 1990's and early 2000's, almost every home sold in Orange County had to have a full termite inspection. They also had to have all termite treatments and repairs completed before a lender would fund the home loan. Studies have shown that the average person moved about once every seven years back in those days. In other words, many homes were inspected, treated and repaired about every seven years and that was enough to keep most homes in fair shape.

Most lenders in today's world could care less about wood damage and a majority of homes are being sold without any termite inspections, treatments or repairs. Almost everyone who buys a home says that they are going to have the termite work done someday, but many never seem to get around to it. So, what we're seeing now are a lot of homes that haven't had any termite corrective work done on them for 10, 15 years, or more. **That is why so many homes in Orange County are being eaten alive!**

Ladies and gentlemen, if you are considering purchasing a home in today's market, this is a subject that you really need to take seriously. I can tell you of many homes in Orange County which have given me a "*migraine headache*" when I inspected them because they were so heavily damaged and it took so long to perform the inspections.

Some home sellers and real estate agents get upset when you give them a long report and an expensive repair bill. But, please remember that we're not the ones who created the damage. You can blame the termites, dryrot and deferred maintenance for that.

If you're selling a home, now more than ever, you've got to **have us inspect the home before you put it on the market** so you'll know exactly where you stand **before you price it**. And, if you're buying a home, insist on **having us inspect it before you buy**. **You don't want to get stuck with a lemon!**



"Termite" Terry Singleton