



Patricia O'Neil <poneil@natickma.org>

Coyote "problem" in TF

6 messages

francine g <francinetfc@outlook.com>

Fri, Feb 2, 2018 at 2:11 PM

To: "Selectmen@natickma.org" <Selectmen@natickma.org>

Hello

I am writing as a sole member of the Town Forest Committee, and not as a spokesperson.

I am concerned about people threatening to shoot or attempting to relocate the coyotes. They have lived in the forest for decades, at least, that I am aware of, and it is unfortunate that they do at times get hungry enough eat pets. I am well aware of how truly heartbreaking it is, as it happened to my mother's cat, and she lived no where near conservation land.

I am in the TF nearly every day, and I have encountered coyotes on multiple occasions while alone, and not walking a dog. In each case, the coyote took notice of me, and walked on, minding its own business. They are neither aggressive nor friendly. They are, however, an integral part of the ecosystem. Top predators keep other animal numbers in balance.

We have a problem with illegal hunting in the Town Forest and other areas in town, and this situation may inspire private citizens to take matters into their own hands. I have to wonder, if wildlife were not being hunted in there, would the coyotes have to bother with pets? Though pets are so easy to catch, small dogs in particular.

This situation is bound to continue to be a problem all over town, as less and less undeveloped space is left for the wild things.

If I can be of any assistance in this matter, please let me know. I will be posting 'coyote' information in our kiosks, but more outreach needs to be done.

Thank you for your consideration.

Francine Gay

Clerk, Natick Town Forest Committee

Sent from [Outlook](#)

Patricia O'Neil <poneil@natickma.org>
To: francine g <francinetfc@outlook.com>

Fri, Feb 2, 2018 at 2:17 PM