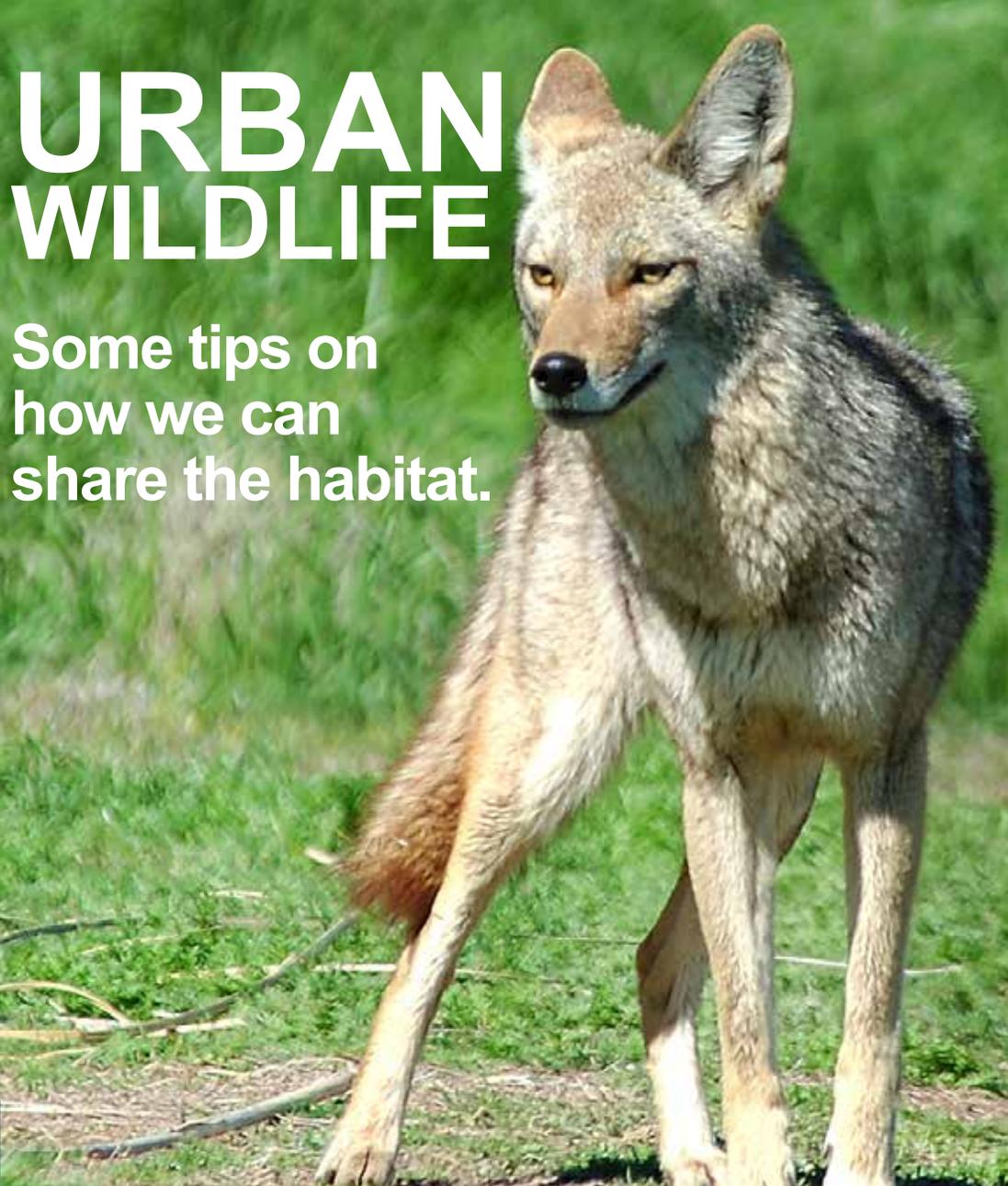




URBAN WILDLIFE

Some tips on how we can share the habitat.



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Bring in pet food and water dishes each night.
- Limit bird feeders, especially in the backyard.
- Secure all trash by following the City of Allen’s Trash and Recycling Guidelines – place trash in securely tied plastic bags in trash cart and keep the lid closed.
- If you have a pet door, keep any indoor pet food dishes and trash away from the opening. It is best to lock it at night.
- Eliminate grubs from yards and landscaping.
- If you have a rodent problem, contact a local pest control agency for assistance.



Allen is at the heart of the Blackland Prairie region and, as such, is home to a wide variety of wildlife creatures. Several of the species native to the area have not only adapted to the growth and development but have found ways to thrive. Like all animals, they need three ingredients to survive: food, water and shelter. Removing access to at least two of these – food and shelter – can go a long way to preventing any conflicts between us and them.



GET RID OF THE “WELCOME MAT”

The other essential need wildlife seek out is a “welcome mat” to build their nest or shelter. Quick examples of easy access for wildlife include tree branches that hang over the roof, loose shingles, rotting or rotten wood and warped siding. By keeping up with simple home maintenance, there will be less temptation for wildlife to move in.

If you do discover a hole and suspect you have an animal nesting, before making a permanent patch, cover the hole with newspaper. If the newspaper remains intact, there is most likely no creature living there. However, if the newspaper becomes torn, there is a good chance your home has become their home. Seek a wildlife removal expert before patching the hole and trapping an animal or a litter of babies inside.

