SAFETY ALERT- West Valley College

Incident Type: Coyote animal attack
Date Occurred: July 20, 2019
Date Reported: July 22, 2019
Reference: District Police # 19-07-22-003095

Details: On July 20, 2019 at approximately 8:20 pm a person was walking a small dog (approximately 12 pounds) on a short leash in the area of the Kvanne Planetarium at West Valley College. The dog was walking behind it's owner when two coyotes physically attacked her dog. The dog owner made a lot of noise which stopped the attack and allowed the owner to pick up her dog and leave campus. The owner walked down Allendale Avenue and then discovered the coyotes had followed her and her dog off campus. Both the dog and the dog's owner were uninjured in this incident.

If you observe any suspicious people or activity or a crime on campus, call 408-299-3233 on your cell phone or 911 immediately

Safety Tips

1. PROGRAM CAMPUS POLICE DISPATCH NUMBERS INTO YOUR PHONE – Within the campus community our police department can respond to emergencies faster than local law enforcement. The seven digit 9-1-1 number is: 408-299-3233

2. REPORT AGGRESSIVE ANIMALS– Coyotes are naturally timid animals and will usually flee at the sight of a human. If they linger or approach, it's time to begin "hazing." This is a term applied to the following actions that can be taken to scare coyotes and chase them away:
   - Be as big and loud as possible. Do not run or turn your back.
   - Wave your arms, clap your hands, and shout in an authoritative voice.
   - Make noise by using an air horn or whistle. These sounds can also alert others nearby.
   - Throw small stones, sticks, tennis balls or anything else you can lay your hands on. Remember the intent is to scare and not to injure.
   - Spray with a squirt gun filled with water and vinegar.
   - Shake or throw a "coyote shaker"—a soda can filled with pennies or pebbles and sealed with duct tape.
   - The effects of hazing may not last unless all food attractants are permanently removed.

   Small pets and children should never be left unattended, and dogs should always be walked on a leash. Problems are more likely to occur when the animal is out of the owner's control. If a coyote approaches, pick up the pet or child, then start hazing. If the coyote does not leave, back away slowly while continuing to haze and go indoors if possible. Any aggressive behavior should be reported to the campus police or animal control officer. If bites or other injuries are sustained, medical attention should be sought and a report made to the campus police.

3. BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS!

It is the duty of the West Valley-Mission Community College District to warn of possible dangerous conditions or on-going threats on or near campus. This message is being sent in compliance with the "Timely Notice" provisions of the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998.

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