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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 31th 2020

Reported Coyote Spotting and Activity in Barnegat Light Borough

An incident involving a wild coyote was reported to The Health Department on July 29, 2020 by Stafford Animal Control who provides Animal Control Services to several municipalities on Long Beach Island, including Barnegat Light Borough.

The coyote was spotted on East 11th Street in Barnegat Light at 0900hrs on 7/29/20. Authorities were contacted after the coyote had attacked a domestic feline on the owner's property then retreated to the dunes. The Long Beach Township Police Department along with Stafford Animal Control were on scene. The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has been notified along with the USDA who oversees and regulates this protected game species. At this time, they do not feel that any action needs to be taken, as coyotes frequently prey on smaller animals, and it is the Division's policy to refer homeowners to employ a licensed trapper to remove any wildlife that has caused property damage. They would like residents to refrain from leaving their pets outside specifically cats and small dogs, and to refrain from walking small dogs in that vicinity. In addition, any food source that could serve wildlife should be restricted and household trash placed in containers with tight fitting lids.

All sightings, incidents, and or attacks involving a Coyote should be reported directly to the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife; along with the USDA. Contact number is (908) 735-4513, Anna Scesny- Animal Technician for the USDA.

Should any person or child be exposed to the coyote/s please report it immediately to the police and seek out immediate medical attention. Any domestic pets exposed to a coyote should also be seen by a veterinarian