

Is this your story?

Keep the conversation going ...Don't wait for your city to ban poison on their own...it won't happen.

Hi

My name is Sarah Gates.

As my Representatives on the Altadena Town Council, I wanted to email you regarding a serious issue that has come up in our town this year.

I have lived in Altadena since 2006 and not until the last few years have I noticed so many sick coyotes.

To the point where I'm wondering what has changed and what's going on here? Then there was one in the spring that was staying on my block and was in such bad shape, through my research I learned that it was suffering from mange. Luckily through social media, I was able to contact a group, Wildlife Care of Southern California, and learn of their success's in treating these coyotes with mange and was able to get them to come here and help me with this sick coyote.

Because I had a good sense of her schedule, I was able to help them treat and cure her. It was through this involvement with these experts that I learned a great deal about coyotes and honestly, it has been a life changing experience for me.

One of the important things I learned and was made aware of, is the use of anticoagulant rodenticides, or rat poisons is what is making our coyotes sick and also killing other wildlife like owls, hawks, bobcats, mountain lions. **The constant posts of sick coyotes in Altadena** cannot be ignored, this will continue if we do not get poison off the shelves and out of use of businesses and pest control companies... we can start in our backyards in Altadena.

After learning all of this and realizing how important our presence is here in the foothills, a wildlife corridor, a few of us have started a grass roots group to educate our community about the use of poison, alternatives and the detrimental impact its having on our ecosystem.

We are calling it Poison Free Altadena.

