Urban Coyote Initiative creates exceptional photos and films documenting the stories and science of urban coyotes across North America.

We bring together the most recent research about coyotes and combine it with unique, intimate, and beautiful photography that reveals everything there is to know about the species to inform, educate, and encourage coexistence with urban wildlife.

We collaborate with researchers, biologists, city managers and planners, community organizations, and media companies to create visual assets that advance research studies, promote public safety, and explore urban ecology and biodiversity.

Whether documenting a research project or crafting a portfolio for print and online publications for public awareness, we provide the highest level photography and media assets documenting and promoting urban coyote ecology and coexistence.

Through high quality, ethically created photography and videography, we advance science-based awareness and understanding of urban coyotes, the role they play in healthy urban ecosystems, and how urban residents can coexist with urban coyotes.

By working toward coexistence with coyotes, we promote healthy natural ecosystems in urban spaces for the benefit of all.
Urban Coyote Initiative, LLC became a Benefit Company in Spring 2018.

We hold ourselves to Green America’s Green Business Certification standards for photographers. A respected nonprofit since 1982, Green America is a leader in encouraging businesses toward environmental responsibility and setting a high bar for sustainable business practices.
• Created informational brochures for a Florida-based shop owner interested in educating community members about urban coyotes
• Created informational magnets and fliers for purchase, which supports both communities and our business

IMPROVING COMMUNITY HEALTH & SAFETY

IMPROVING AWARENESS

• Our Initiative Director gave a talk at the North American Nature Photography Association’s Photography Celebration in Jackson Hole, which had a focus on Urban Coyote Initiative’s work.
• Our team provided images to multiple publications running articles about urban coyotes.

ASSISTING RESEARCHERS AND ADVOCATES

• We reached out to work with Portland Urban Coyote Project and created the early stages of collaboration.
• We licensed images with International Fund for Animal Welfare, supporting an upcoming campaign for coyote coexistence, and established a relationship for further collaboration
• We provided imagery to Gotham Coyote Project in support of their work in New York.
Our team is not just a collection of colleagues. We choose to work together out of a profound sense of friendship, and shared core values surrounding urban ecology. UCI encompasses that camaraderie in our compensation of team members.

UCI provides a 90 percent compensation rate to team members when their images are licensed, keeping just 10 percent to cover administrative expenses. (This is compared to the highest paying stock agencies which compensate at 50 percent or less.)

UCI advocates for fair and competitive rates for image licensing and image asset creation. When we discuss payment rates with our clients and collaborators, we negotiate for living-wage rates for the professional photographers and videographers who will work on the project.
BENEFITING THE PLANET
MINIMIZING TRAVEL THROUGH A NATION-WIDE TEAM

• Our team members are located around the country. When we take on new projects, the team members nearest to the project location are called to action based as much on their home location as possible so that we can minimize the carbon footprint of travel as well as excessive travel costs.

BUYING USED GEAR & USING RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

• It’s good for the wallet and good for the planet. Whenever possible, our team purchases used equipment for our photography kits, including camera trap equipment. We also utilize rechargeable batteries for our camera traps, minimizing e-waste.

MINIMIZING PRINTING VIA PRINT-ON-DEMAND

• All items sold in our online store (except magnets, stickers and flyers) are printed on demand. This minimizes the amount of printing, shipping and storage we participate in, minimizes the potential for waste when our designs or materials choices change.
During 2019, we are expanding to include another vertical to the business, Urban Wildlife Initiative. It will have the same goals as Urban Coyote Initiative, but will cover additional species that cause controversy or conflict within urban environments.

- We have already brought on an additional team member, a talented photographer based in San Francisco with extensive urban wildlife photography experience.
- We will be launching collaboration with Dr. Chris Schell at University of Washington-Tacoma for his Grit City Carnivore Project and partner Seattle Urban Carnivore Project.
- We will remain in the field with Gotham Coyote Project, documenting their work in New York.
- We are scouting locations and photography opportunities for Portland Urban Coyote Project.