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Coyotes play a vital role in ecosystems by controlling rodent populations and scavenging carrion. Random killing can disrupt pack structures, leading to increased breeding and more coyotes. This is an ineffective method of population control. Studies show that indiscriminate killing does not reduce coyote populations long-term. Coyotes compensate by having larger litters and expanding their territories.

Many people, including hunters, consider these contests unethical and disrespectful to wildlife. Killing for sport, prizes, or entertainment rather than necessity is a disgusting lack of respect for wildlife. These contests give ethical hunters a bad reputation and harm public perception of hunting.

Hunting contests are an embarrassment for the state of Maine.