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Coyote killing contests seem totally at odds from conservation practices and hunting ethics. Mass killings of a species are harmful to wildlife ecology; coyotes play a role in preserving a healthy environment by keeping deer populations moving before there's too much browsing damage.

A number of states have already prohibited this practice, which is so far removed from thoughtful and deliberate policies, and other states, like Maine, are considering it. I hope Maine will join the ranks of states that have banned it.