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You Don't Like Canadian Geese? New Canaan Seems to Have a Mountain Lion

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Town officials said on Monday that they received a credible report of a mountain lion sighting in New Canaan earlier this month. And not far from Darien.

The Jan. 16 sighting on the eastern end of [Nursery Road](#) (just north of the Merritt Parkway and about a mile from the northeast corner of Darien) came in from a man who described a tail three feet long — a physical characteristic that distinguishes the cougar from smaller felines, such as bobcats — and saw the animal directly in front of his car.

— *This article [previously was published](#) by [NewCanaanite.com](#).*

The man said the big cat was walking under a streetlight, in a well-lit area, according to Officer Allyson Halm, head of the New Canaan Police Department's Animal Control section.

"We are not alone," Halm said of the sighting.

She said it's important for residents to be aware that larger predators are becoming increasingly comfortable in this area.

"The food sources are out there," Halm said. "They are big white-tailed deer hunters."

Mountain lions [have been known](#) to travel through Fairfield County in the past.

Two Aprils ago, a woman claimed to see a mountain lion on a Fox Run Road property in New Canaan, though state officials said they were [unable to confirm](#) the sighting based on paw prints left by the animal.

It isn't clear how many mountain lions have been seen in Connecticut this year. Officials with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Conservation could not immediately be reached for comment.