









*Please help keep bears out of trouble by sharing this information with your friends and neighbours. The more people that help bears stay wild by not watching them and removing attractants, the more likely it is that bears and humans can successfully coexist.*



## Around the Yard

-  **Watching bears** conditions them to being near people. **When you see a bear in your yard** do not allow the bear to stay, if it is possible to safely make it leave. From a safe location, bang a wooden spoon on a metal pan, yell “get out of here bear” and keep it up until the bear leaves
-  **Pet food** should be stored indoors and pets fed indoors. If you must feed a pet outdoors, feed only as much as will be eaten as one meal. Avoid leaving pet food dishes full of food and remove dog bones with meat on them from the backyard and kennel.
-  **Birdfeeders** attract bears. Birdfeeders should be taken down between April 1 and December 1. Replace hummingbird feeders with hanging flower baskets, also attractive to hummingbirds.
-  **Barbeque grills** should be cleaned and stored after each use in a secure shed or garage away from windows and doors.
-  **Fruit** should be picked from trees when ripe and fallen fruit immediately collected. Do not allow fruit to rot on the ground.
-  **Gardens** should be harvested immediately as vegetables, fruits and herbs mature. Locate gardens away from forests and shrubs that bears may use for cover. Do not apply blood meal.






## Garbage

-  **Garbage** should be stored in bear-proof containers. Place all garbage in tightly sealed plastic bags to reduce odours.
-  **Recycled containers**, including pop cans and liquor bottles, should be stored in bear-proof containers — sweet odours attract bears.


## Roadside Bears

-  In many areas, **roadside vegetation** is considered an important food source for bears.
-  If you **see a bear along the road**, consider not stopping. Viewing roadside bears is the first step towards habituation, which can often lead to food conditioning. In many cases, roadside bears risk being killed by vehicles, poaching or removed from the population by wildlife managers due to escalating bear human conflict.

## On the Trail

-  **Make noise** when approaching creeks and rivers or when “line of sight” visibility is poor. This lets animals know of your approach and gives them time to move into cover.
-  Look for **evidence of recent bear activity** such as bear digs, scat and tracks. Berries lying on the ground at the base of berry bushes can indicate bears feeding. Broken logs can indicate bears feeding on ants. Concentrated raven activity may indicate a dead animal nearby and, potentially, a bear feeding on the carcass.
-  If you see a **bear on the trail**, remain calm and slowly leave the area. Stay in a group if possible.
-  Respect **areas closed** due to bear activity. They are closed for your safety and the bears.
-  **Report** all bear sightings to the appropriate authorities.

## Prevention is Key

-  **Be aware** of your surroundings and make noise when approaching poor lines of visibility, noisy creeks etc. to reduce the chance of a surprise encounter.

*Disclaimer: The information provided in this brochure in no way guarantees the public a risk free experience in bear country. It is intended as a guideline only.*