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Things you should know about bears

Each year in British Columbia, nearly 950 black bears and 50 grizzly bears are destroyed due to conflicts between people and bears. But you can reduce this number by doing the following to bear-proof your home...

Garbage and Compost

1. Keep garbage in the house, garage or shed until pick-up day.
2. Don't add meat products or cooked food to compost, turn it regularly and keep it covered.

Fruit trees

3. Pick ripe and fallen fruit daily.
4. Remove unused fruit trees.

Bird Food

5. Use birdfeeders only in winter.
6. Keep ground free of seeds.

Barbeque

7. Clean BBQ grill after each use.
8. Store covered in a secure area.

Pet Food

9. Bring pet dishes inside and clean up any spillage.
10. Store pet food indoors.

Remember:

In B.C. it is an offence to feed or leave attractants available to dangerous wildlife.



If

you see a bear...

- Remain calm: don't panic.
- Keep away from the bear and bring children and pets indoors.
- Never approach the bear and do not run from it.
- Warn others of the bear's presence, without yelling.
- Once the bear has left, check your yard to ensure there are no attractants available.

If the bear is threatening...

Call the Conservation Officer Service at 1 877 952-RAPP (7277) or local police. For more information on being BEAR AWARE check out our website at www.bearaware.bc.ca



Are you a "Bear Smart" Community?

What is "Bear Smart"?

The "Bear Smart" Community program is a proactive conservation strategy that encourages efforts by communities, businesses and individuals to reduce bear-human conflicts.



The goal of the program is to focus efforts on addressing the root causes of bear-human conflicts, reduce the number of conflicts and, ultimately, reduce the number of bears that have to be destroyed due to conflicts.

For more information on how to be a "Bear Smart" Community, please visit the Ministry of Environment website at: <http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/wld/bearsmart/bearsmintro.html>



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