

IF A BEAR ENTERS YOUR HOME



If you encounter a bear in your home:

Do not approach the bear.

Remove yourself from danger.

When safe, call 911.

Do not block any exits that the bear may use to escape.



If you encounter a bear in your yard:

Slowly back away. DO NOT approach the bear.

Allow the bear plenty of room to pass or withdraw.

Once you are a safe distance away, encourage the bear to leave by banging pots and pans or making other loud noises.

WHEN TO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

It's not uncommon to see bears in and around communities located near bear habitat. A bear sighting alone is not a cause for concern.

If a bear causes damage to your home or property, contact your Department of Fish and Wildlife Regional Office.

CDFW will provide strategies to make your property less attractive to bears, explain the depredation permit process and may conduct a site inspection.

Remember prevention is always the first step. It's up to all of us to help keep bears alive and wild for generations to come.

TO REPORT A BEAR PROBLEM

Contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regional office nearest you:

Northern Region (530) 225-2300

North Central Region (916) 358-2900

Bay Delta Region (707) 944-5500

Central Region (559) 243-4005

South Coast Region (858) 467-4201

Inland Desert Region (909) 484-0167

Sacramento Headquarters (916) 322-8911

Alternate communication methods are available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed, contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife, (916) 322-8911 or the California Relay Service serving deaf and hearing-impaired residents using TTY/TDD phones, and speech-impaired callers at (800) 735-2929.



Homeowner's & Renter's Guide to Living in Bear Country



California Department of Fish and Wildlife



A Fed Bear is a Dead Bear



Once conditioned to human sources of food, bears will seek them out, creating conflicts with humans. Attracting bears to urban areas can also increase risk of vehicle collisions, harming both humans and bears.

The bear's behavior will not stop voluntarily, and unless the nuisance behavior can be corrected, bears may be killed to ensure public safety. In order to avoid these deaths, food sources must be removed.

People have a responsibility to the wildlife whose habitat they are sharing.

Never Feed a Bear!
For more information visit,
www.keepmewild.org

Visit your local home improvement store for supplies and information.

Bears are attracted to anything that is edible or smelly. Use the checklist below to help bear-proof your home:

- Garbage problems can be solved with the purchase and correct use of a bear-proof garbage container. Save money by sharing one with a neighbor! For bear-proof containers and where to buy them visit www.dfg.ca.gov/keepmewild/products.html.
- Don't leave any scented products outside, even non-food items such as suntan lotion, insect repellent, soap or candles.
- Wait to put trash out until the morning of collection day.
- Keep barbecue grills clean.
- Don't leave trash, groceries or animal feed in your car.
- Keep pet food and pets inside.
- Keep garbage cans clean and deodorize them with bleach or ammonia.
- Securely block access to potential hibernation sites such as crawl spaces under decks and buildings.
- Harvest fruit off trees as soon as it is ripe, and promptly collect fruit that falls.
- Keep doors and windows closed and locked. Scents can lure bears inside.
- Avoid using bird feeders. They are a powerful attractant.
- Consider installing motion-detector alarms, electric fencing or motion-activated sprinklers.
- Remove all food from homes and cabins that will be unoccupied for an extended period of time.