

IS A BEAR VISITING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?



Most bears are naturally fearful of humans, but their behavior may change if there is a food source near your home.

DETER BEARS FROM YOUR PROPERTY

- Subscribe to bear-resistant trash barrel services
- Don't leave any scented products outside, even non-food items such as suntan lotion and insect repellent
- Clean BBQ after each use
- Remove outdoor pet food, including bird feeders
- Contain compost
- Trim your yard; harvest fruit off trees as soon as it is ripe, and promptly collect fruit that falls
- Securely block access to potential hibernation sites such as crawl spaces under decks
- Keep your pet indoors or on a leash at all times
- Strategically place motion-sensing lights and sprinklers around your property

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

- Stand and face the bear directly. Never run away from or approach him.
- Make yourself look as big as possible by spreading your arms or, better yet, a coat.
- Make as much noise as possible by yelling, banging pots and pans, or using other noisemaking devices.
- In the very rare case that a black bear does attack you, fight back (don't play dead).
- After the bear leaves, remove whatever attracted him to the location.
- If you see a bear in your yard, leave him alone until he leaves. Supervise your pet, and do not let your dog interact with him.
- Be especially cautious if you see a female with cubs; never place yourself between a mother and her cub.

TIPS

California Department of Fish and Wildlife has jurisdiction over all wildlife in California, which includes bears. For more information about bear proofing your home, hazing and other safety tips, visit www.wildlife.ca.gov.

For more wildlife tips, information, or wildlife training opportunities, visit www.rcdas.org.

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