WALKING IN BEAR COUNTRY

Your neighborhood is bear country too!

1. **Heed warning signs.**
2. **Keep dogs on leash,** especially near streams.
3. **Make noise**. Reduce your chances of surprising a bear
4. **Avoid berry patches.**
5. **Move away.** If a bear is watching you, you are disturbing it.

IF YOU MEET A BEAR STAY CALM!

Black bears rarely attack people unless they feel threatened or provoked.

1. <u>NEVER RUN.</u> Running can make a bear want to chase you.
2. **Keep your distance.** Back slowly away facing the bear. Avoid eye contact.
3. **Slowly and calmly leave the area.**
4. Be extra careful around a **female with cubs.** Never approach a cub.
5. **NEVER throw food** to distract a bear. This teaches a bear to approach people for food.
6. **Fight back if attacked.** Black bears have been driven away when people fight with rocks, sticks, binoculars, or even bare hands.
7. **Report** your sighting or encounter **by calling 303-441-3440**. This helps us keep both you and the bear safe. **Call 911 if it's an emergency.**

IF YOU SEE A BEAR IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

1. **Stay Calm** – If the bear finds no food, it will usually leave.
2. **Stay Away** – bears may attack when they feel threatened.
3. **Warn Others** – Bring kids and pets indoors. Remind others to keep their distance.
4. **Scare that Bear** – Make sure the bear has a clear escape path. Make lots of noise, yell, clap, turn on lights, bang pots. Don't let the bear become comfortable around your home.
5. **Remove Attractants** – After the bear has left, make sure your home is bear proof so it won't come back.

WHO TO CALL FOR HELP:

Reporting bear activity in town can help save a bear's life! Wildlife officials will "haze" the bear (frighten it so it learns to avoid people), making it less likely to be killed in the future.

Call 911 if the bear is threatening human safety.

Call Boulder's non-emergency dispatch **303-441-3333** to report a bear in your neighborhood.

Call **303-441-3440** to report sightings and bear activity after the bear has left the area.

Be Aware!

Keep Bears Out of Your Backyard

This young bear learned to eat from trash cans and had to be killed as a "problem bear."

KEEP BEARS AWAY!

BEAR PROOF YOUR BACKYARD

1. **Keep garbage indoors overnight** until morning trash pick up, or use a bear-resistant garbage can.

2. **Feed pets inside** and store pet food and bird seed indoors.

3. **Lock Up Grills.** Burn barbecues to clean them immediately after use and store in a secure shed or garage.

4. **Only Feed Birds in Winter** when they need it and when bears sleep. Bears love bird seed and hummingbird feeders. You can also string feeders high out of reach on a cable.

5. **Fruit-bearing trees attract bears.** Harvest fruit and vegetables as they ripen. Pick up fallen fruit from the ground. Keep your lawn mowed and free of flowering dandelions and clover.

6. **Never store any food outside.** Bears will tear open locked freezers.

7. **Keep a clean car.** Never leave food, trash, pet food or coolers in your car. Bears will tear open doors and break windshields.

8. **Keep bears out of your house.** Lock doors and windows, especially at night.

9. **Compost:** use a 2:1 dry:wet ratio. Do not put meat, fish or bones in your compost pile.

10. **Educate your Neighbors.** If you follow these steps but neighbors don't, bears will still come to your backyard.

Once a bear finds food, it will come back for more.

A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR
People's trash creates problem bears.

Bears that find an easy source of food around people's homes will stay in town. Bears that become a repeated nuisance or public safety threat are killed.

For More Information:

City of Boulder
Wildlife Coordinator
303-441-3004

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
303-297-1192

City of Boulder Open Space
and Mountain Parks
303-441-3440

Garbage Kills Bears!

Is THIS worth a $1,000 fine??!!

Unsecured trash is against the law.

It attracts bears, putting YOU, your neighbors and the bear at risk. If a bear spreads your trash around, you can be fined.

If you feed us, we will come.

Bird feeders and hummingbird feeders also lure bears to your yard.