

- Remember that bears and other animals are attracted to anything edible or smelly.
- "Bear-safe" containers really are not "bear safe." Bears can get into just about anything.
- Keep food indoors in airtight and odor-free containers.
- Put away picnic leftovers and clean barbecue grills right away.
- Keep pet food inside, and put all bird feeders away.
- Pick up fallen tree fruit as soon as possible.
- Remove any items with fragrance from your yard (sunscreen, insect repellent, soap, candles, etc.) and other attractants, including compost piles.
- Don't leave trash, groceries or animal feed in your car.
- Keep garbage cans clean and deodorize them with bleach or ammonia.
- Keep doors and windows closed and locked. Scents can lure bears inside.
- Remove all food from homes and cabins that will be unoccupied for an extended period of time.
- If camping, never keep food in your tent. Keep a tidy, attractant-free camp by cleaning up and storing food and garbage immediately after meals. Use bear-safe garbage cans whenever possible or store your garbage in a secure location with your food.
- During wilderness outings or camping trips, store food and toiletries in bear-safe containers or in an airtight container in the trunk of your vehicle.

Bear Country Precautions

- Keep a close watch on children, and teach them what to do if they encounter a bear.
- Keep pets inside as much as possible.
- While hiking, make noise to avoid a surprise encounter with a bear.
- Never approach a bear or pick up a bear cub.
- Securely block access to potential hibernation sites such as crawl spaces under decks and buildings.
- Consider installing motion-detector alarms or motion-activated sprinklers.
- If a bear attacks a person, immediately call 911.
- If there is a bear in your home, do not approach the bear. Remove yourself from danger, and when safe, call 911 or the PMC Patrol. Do not block any exits that the bear may use to escape.
- If you see 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.

Please visit the website listed here for more info from the Department of Fish and Wildlife: [Keep Me Wild: Black Bear \(ca.gov\)](#).