

Vacation Rental Bear Safety Toolkit At No Cost to You!

Help protect your guests and your property with our Vacation Rental Bear Safety Toolkit. The kit includes:

VISITING BEAR COUNTRY

Welcome to the Northern Rockies, home to countless recreational opportunities, scenic views, and distinctive wildlife. Vacationing in wild country means both black bears and grizzlies can be present in the area, depending on location.

With an awareness of what's around you and a few simple actions, you can safely enjoy your visit and keep bears out of trouble.

BE BEAR-Y CAREFUL

- If eating outdoors, remove all food, food residue, and garbage when you are finished. Do not leave coolers outside.
- Clean grills after each use and ensure fire pits are cleared of food and trash.

STASH YOUR TRASH

- Garbage and food odors attract bears. Store garbage inside until you or the rental owner can dispose of it.
- If the rental has trash pickup, have the owner or manager inform you of the exact time so that trash is not sitting outside for extended periods of time or overnight.
- Keep trash canisters securely closed and don't overfill. If using a bear-resistant can, be sure to close and lock it properly.

BEARS LIKE PET FOOD TOO

- If the rental home allows pets, do not leave pet food outside or unattended, as even empty dishes can attract bears. Store food inside a building.
- Keep dogs on a leash in areas where there may be bear or other wildlife activity.

KEEP BEARS AWAY FROM...

- Garbage
- Human and pet foods
- Dirty grills and firepits
- Coolers
- Anything with a food scent!

Bears can smell odors from up to 20 miles away!

■ **Flyer:** Display this flyer in your rental unit to educate guests about bear safety.



■ **Magnet:** This fridge magnet provides quick bear safety reminders.

PEOPLE AND CARNIVORES

Purchase a Bear-Resistant Trash Can and Receive a REBATE!

Bears are drawn to anything with an odor, and garbage is the most common residential attractant.

When bears get into trash they become food-conditioned. One of the best ways to prevent a bear from getting into garbage is to use a certified bear-resistant trash can. Bear-resistant trash cans help you and your guests secure garbage—protecting your guests and your property.

People and Carnivores is offering a rebate to help reduce your cost of purchasing a bear-resistant trash can for use at your vacation rental. These trash cans can be found at Ace Hardware, Lowe's, Home Depot Online, and other hardware stores.

NOTE:

- If you have trash pick-up service, please contact your trash collector. You may be required to purchase a trash can through them.
- Cans must be certified bear-resistant by the IGBC. See IGBCOnline.org.

REBATE

To receive a rebate, return this completed form along with a copy of your receipt for a certified bear-resistant trash can to:

People and Carnivores
PO Box 6733
Bozeman, MT 59771

Please email questions to: info@PeopleAndCarnivores.org

Full Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Vacation Rental Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PEOPLE AND CARNIVORES
(406) 587-3389

■ **Rebate Form:** Receive a rebate if you purchase a bear-resistant trash can.



■ **Trash Can Sticker:** Affix this 5" x 7" sticker to a trash can lid to remind guests to use it properly.



PEOPLE AND CARNIVORES

For questions, more information and resources, contact People and Carnivores:

info@PeopleAndCarnivores.org
(406) 587-3389

Tips for Providing a Bear-safe Vacation Rental

As a vacation rental owner or manager, you want to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for your guests as well as protect your property. Making your vacation rental bear-safe by providing basic information to your guests is an important part of managing a vacation home in bear country. A few key practices will go a long way to protect your property and guests:

✓ Secure Trash

- Provide a certified bear-resistant trash can with your rental home. For trash pick-up service, please contact your trash collector to request a bear-resistant can or information on how to obtain one. If you do not have or want trash pick-up service, bear-resistant cans can be found at Ace Hardware, Lowe's, Home Depot Online, and other hardware stores. IGBCOnline.org has a full list of certified products.
- If possible, provide indoor space for garbage cans, and instruct guests to keep garbage inside until removal/pick-up.

✓ Store Items With Food Odors

- Instruct guests not to leave coolers, pet food, or odorous items outside.
- If your rental has a grill or fire pit, require that guests clean them with each use, removing food odors. If possible, provide storage for grills.
- If your rental is used by hunters, give them additional instructions about storing carcasses, game meat, and coolers and remind them not to leave these items outside.

✓ Use the Enclosed Toolkit

This toolkit will inform guests that they are in bear country and how they can stay safe and protect your property. The kit includes a bear safety flyer, refrigerator magnet, bear-resistant trash can rebate offer, and trash can sticker.



By sharing these resources with your guests, you can help minimize bear attractants—items with food odors that draw bears in—and damage by bears to your property as well as risks to human safety.

✓ Report Bear Activity

Instruct guests to inform you of any bear activity on your property and to never approach a bear. If you are notified of bear activity, report it to your nearest wildlife management agency bear specialist.



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Bears are most active between March and November.



Photo credit: IGBC

WHEN RECREATING IN BEAR COUNTRY...

- **Be alert** to watch for signs of bear activity.
- **Make noise** to avoid surprising a bear, especially in areas of low visibility.
- **Carry bear spray**, keep it easily accessible, and know how to use it.
- **Travel in groups**, keeping members together at all times.
- **Never run from a bear.** If you encounter a bear, stay calm, back away, do not run.
- **Never leave trash or food remains unattended**, on a trail or at a picnic area.



REPORT BEAR ACTIVITY

- If you see a bear or evidence of bear activity on the rental property, alert the rental owner or manager so that they may report the activity to a bear management specialist.
- If you see a bear on the property and you are in a safe location to do so, make loud noises by shouting or banging pots and pans together to scare the bear. When the bear moves off, remove any potential attractants.



For more information about visiting and recreating in bear country, visit the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee website at igbconline.org.



PEOPLE AND CARNIVORES

Solutions that work for people and wildlife



Various tools and methods can help prevent conflicts with bears, keeping people and property safe, and wildlife moving. For more information on conflict prevention solutions, visit PeopleAndCarnivores.org.

- ▶ **Keep Lids Locked**
- ▶ **Do Not Overfill**



PEOPLE AND
CARNIVORES

You're in BEAR COUNTRY

- ✓ Secure garbage
- ✓ Keep food and coolers inside
- ✓ Clean and store grills
- ✓ Keep pet food inside
- ✓ Store items with odors



PeopleAnd
Carnivores.org



PEOPLE AND CARNIVORES

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This bear tested a trash can to determine whether it can be certified.

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PEOPLE AND CARNIVORES

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Rebate expires 6 months from receipt of this form.

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PO Box 6733
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Full Name _____

Address _____

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Vacation Rental Address _____

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