



# Bear-proofing your yard

When bears associate food with humans, they lose their natural fear of humans and tolerate them in closer proximity than what is safe – for bears and people.

When you don't take precautions with things that attract bears, such as household waste, you create a safety risk for yourself and others in your community.

## Here is what you can do:

### Secure garbage

- Store garbage in a secure building or buy a bear-resistant container.
- Only put bin out on the morning of collection.
- Wash all recycling items and regularly clean garbage or recycling bins.
- Freeze smelly items.



### Bird feeders

- Avoid using bird feeders (including hummingbird feeders) in areas that bears frequent.
- Only use bird feeders in the winter when bears are hibernating and natural bird food is limited.



### Pet food

- Avoid leaving pet food accessible to wildlife.
- If pets are fed outside, ensure all food is cleaned up.
- Store pet food in a secure location or bear-resistant container.



### Compost bins

- Do not add fish, meat, fat, oils, unrinsed eggshells or any cooked food.
- Avoid overloading the compost during fruit season.
- Try freezing materials and adding gradually.



### Barbecues

- Clean after each use, including the grease trap.
- Cover or store your barbecue in a garage or shed.



**The best way to avoid conflict with bears is to remove all food sources.**

## Help keep everyone safe!

If you have an aggressive encounter with a bear, and/or if public safety is at risk, call the Turn in Poachers and Polluters (TIPP) line at 1-800-667-7561 or from your SaskTel cell phone at #5555.

To report concerns about nuisance bear(s), contact the ministry's general inquiry line at 1-800-567-4224 or by email at [centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca](mailto:centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca).

Additional information about bears and bear safety is available at [saskatchewan.ca/wildlife-issues](http://saskatchewan.ca/wildlife-issues).