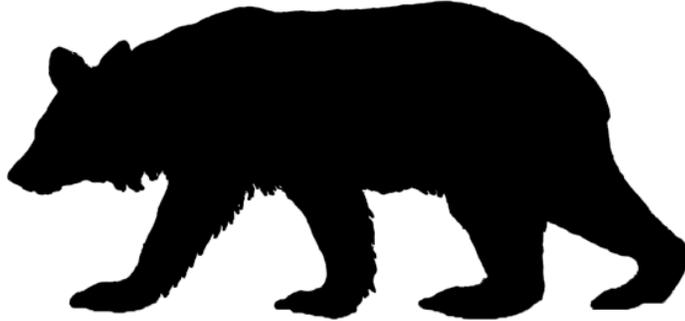


## Tips for Preventing Human-Bear Conflict



### Residential Bear-Resistant Garbage Carts:

- The 2016 bear season had the lowest % of garbage-related bear conflict in the last 8 years in Castlegar, due mainly to the City's new bear resistant garbage carts.
- The City of Castlegar is working to reduce preventable human-bear conflicts by eliminating community attractants and has replaced all City garbage bins around town with bear-resistant ones.
- In an average year, garbage is responsible for over half of all reported conflict. In 2016, the % of garbage related conflict was more than 10% below average!
- All carts should be locked and stored in a secure building between collection days.
- Any cart left outside **must have both clips locked at all times** and should to be chained to a secure anchor point (ie: a strong railing or post) so that a bear cannot drag it away.
- Garbage carts can only be placed on the curb with clips unlocked between 7a.m. and 7p.m. on collection day and never the night before. Tickets may be issued for violators.
- To reduce odours, try freezing especially smelly items (ex: bacon grease) in a Ziploc bag and add to the cart on collection day. Be sure to clean out your garbage cart regularly and consider adding ¼ cup baking soda and ¼ cup of borax to the garbage cart to absorb odours.

***\*If a bear damages your cart, the City may provide one replacement cart free of charge, provided proper storage guidelines were followed. Residents will be responsible for any subsequent replacements.***

### Other Wildlife Attractants:

- Pick all domestic fruit as it ripens and do not allow fallen fruit to accumulate beneath trees.
- Consider taking birdfeeders down until the winter months.
- Manage backyard composts carefully and never add meat, fish, bones, dairy, grains or cooked foods. Aerate regularly.
- Feed pets indoors or bring any leftover food inside immediately.

**Under the BC Wildlife Act (Section 33.1), it is the homeowner's responsibility to prevent dangerous wildlife from accessing unnatural food on their property. The City of Castlegar's Wildlife Attractant Bylaw (Bylaw 1198) also requires careful storage of all wildlife attractants.**

#### *For more information:*

- Contact the City's WildSafeBC Community Ambassador at 250-365-8971 or visit [www.wildsafebc.com](http://www.wildsafebc.com)
- Contact the City's Bylaw Officer at 250-365-9349
- **To report dangerous wildlife conflict, call the Conservation Officer RAPP line 1-877-952-7277**