

BEAR PROOFING TIPS

Take down, clean, and put away bird feeders (*hummingbird and seed*). Bird feeders (*hummingbird and seed*) attract bears to your property at all hours of the day. Once a bear has found a feeder in your yard, it will likely look around for other easy foods within reach.

Keep garbage in airtight containers inside your garage or storage area. Clean trash cans with ammonia or bleach frequently to reduce odors that attract bears.

Consider a bear-proof dumpster - if not available, ask your trash-removal company for options. Many areas now REQUIRE bear-proof trashcans or dumpsters.

Place garbage for pickup outside just before collection and not the night before.

Do not place meat or sweet-smelling food scraps such as melon rinds in a compost pile.

Do not leave pet food or dishes outdoors at night.

Barbecue grills should be cleaned thoroughly and, if possible, stored in a garage or shed when not in use. Bears can smell food many MILES away. Sticky barbecue sauce and grease can attract bears to your yard. If the wind is right, it is possible for a bear to smell your barbecuing steaks from three to five miles away.

Never intentionally feed bears. It is ILLEGAL to feed bears in Colorado.

Property owners with fruit trees should harvest fruit as soon as it ripens and immediately clean up any fruit on the ground that falls from trees.