



Reducing Conflict where we live: Garbage

For more information visit WildSafeBC's website at <https://wildsafebc.com/black-bear/#>

WildSafeBC strives to learn and to share about how we can reduce human-wildlife conflicts in all of our day-to-day activities. We must all think about how we live, work, play and grow with respect to wildlife.

Where and how we “LIVE” is one of the greatest opportunities and challenges for reducing human-wildlife conflict. Our homes and yards are where we spend the bulk of our time and it is here that we are most protective of ‘our’ space. It is also where we create so many attractants and opportunities for wildlife to get into conflict with us.

For some species, it is just a matter of properly managing the attractant. Garbage, for example, accounts for 60% of calls regarding bears.

Here are a few Bear-Smart Methods to keep in mind when managing your Garbage:

1. Store garbage in a secure building until collection day or consider purchasing a bear-resistant household container.
2. Ensure bins are tightly closed.
3. Regularly wash all recycling items and clean the bins that contain garbage or recycling.
4. Do not leave garbage in the back of a truck, even if it has a canopy.
5. If you cannot store garbage securely, freeze smelly items and add to the bin only on the morning of collection.

Residents are reminded that if you see or have issues with any wildlife in conflict, please call the Conservation Officer Service RAPP Line at 1-877-952-7277 and report it. You may also call your Local Community Coordinator, Danica Roussy at 250-908-8101 or email her at cranbrook@wildsafebc.com.