



# WARNING! BEARS!

## **BEARS ARE CURRENTLY PRESENT IN WILD ROSE BAY PROPERTIES!**

(We are having continual sightings in backyards, and garbage stored outdoors is a chief cause!!)

***THERE IS A VERY REAL DANGER TO PEOPLE AND PETS.***

**PLEASE TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF, YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY, YOUR PETS, AND YOUR NEIGHBOURS**

### **BE BEARSMART – HOW TO AVOID ATTRACTING BEARS:**

*(taken directly from Gov't of Alberta Bear Smart Brochure, available on our website):*

- Store your garbage in a bear-resistant container if it's outside, or inside a secure building. Regularly wash your garbage bins.**
- Never feed wildlife.**
- Clean your barbecue after each use and keep it away from bears' access if at all possible.**
- If you have a bird feeder, consider getting rid of it or remove it between early spring & early winter, when bears are most active.**
- Don't store pet food outside and bring in the feeding dishes after your pet has finished eating.**
- Consider removing fruit trees and berry bushes from your property. At very least remember to pick the fruit or berries early and never let them rot on the ground.**
- Keep a clean yard – remove anything that may attract a bear.**
- Talk to your neighbours about taking the same measures.**

The above information can be found on a Government Brochure entitled "Bear Encounters in the Community", available online and on our [www.wildrosebay.bc.ca](http://www.wildrosebay.bc.ca) website at Documents/General Documents.

**"THE BEST WAY TO SOLVE A 'BEAR PROBLEM' IS TO NOT CREATE ONE IN THE FIRST PLACE."**

*(See Reverse side for WHAT TO DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR)*



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### **BE BEARSMART – WHAT DO DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR**

*(taken directly from Gov't of Alberta Bear Smart Brochure, available on our website):*

- Do not panic and do not run.
- Gather all members of your group together and move toward the nearest safe place, such as a building or vehicle. Keep children and dogs close and calm. Don't let anyone leave the group.
- Do not approach or feed the bear or take risks to get a picture.
- Don't crowd the bear. Make sure it has an escape route.
- Once the bear has left the area, remove anything that might have attracted the bear. Talk to your neighbours and community members about following the same preventative measures. If food sources remain in the area, the bear will likely return.

“All bears are individuals, so each bear encounter will be unique. Bear spray is a proven bear deterrent. Carry a canister of bear spray, as well as a noisemaker, whenever heading into bear territory. Bears need to consume as many as 25,000 calories a day. To do so, they use their intelligence, curiosity and keen sense of smell to search out new food sources. When they can, bears will take advantage of carelessly stored human foods, garbage, pet food, bird seed and other unnatural food sources. Once bears learn that human-use places will provide them with easy, high-calorie meals, it's difficult to prevent them from returning. These become ‘problem bears.’”

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