

# PREVENTING HUMAN-BEAR CONFLICT

KEEPS OUR COMMUNITY SAFE



Fall is typically the busiest time of year for human-bear conflict in Castlegar. While reports of bear conflict have been down this year compared to previous years at this time, there are still bears accessing improperly stored garbage and other unnatural attractants in the community.

## BEAR-RESISTANT GARBAGE CARTS:

- 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 be chained to a secure anchor point (ie: a strong railing, post or tree) so that a bear cannot drag it away. It is much more difficult for bears to break into a cart if it is upright and more likely that damage to the cart will be minimized.
- Garbage carts should only be placed on the curb with clips unlocked between 7a.m. and 7p.m. on collection day and **never the night before**. The City may issue a ticket for carts placed on the curb before or after your collection day/time.
- To reduce odours:
  - try freezing especially smelly food items (ie: bacon grease, meat bones etc) in a Ziploc bag and add to the cart on collection day.
  - 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.

## OTHER 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, dairy, grains or cooked foods.
- Feed pets indoors or bring any leftover food inside immediately.

### For more information:

- Contact the City's Bylaw Officer at 250-365-9349
- Contact WildSafeBC at 250-365-8971  
or [castlegar@wildsafebc.com](mailto:castlegar@wildsafebc.com)



British Columbia Conservation Foundation

To report wildlife conflict, call the RAPP line 1-877-952-7277