

# **BLACK BEAR ADVISORY**

## **PRIVENTATIVE MEASURES FOR KEEPING BLACK BEAR AWAY:**

1. Discontinue the practice of feeding suet and/or bird seed to birds for the entire summer. Bird feed is a very strong attraction even if they can't reach it.
2. Do not leave garbage outside of houses or garages. (Grease, fat, bacon and other meats are extremely attractive to bears. These items should be disposed of in sealed containers.)
3. Clean garbage cans and other refuse containers frequently with ammonia, bleach, or Lysol.
4. Place camphor disks (available from some drug stores) in garbage cans to mask food odors. Other items may work as well, e.g. mothballs, air fresheners, Lysol, and ammonia soaked rags.
5. Use plastic bags inside garbage cans to help hide odors.
6. Store garbage cans in a secure place such as a garage, rather than storing them on a porch.
7. Remove the grease can from gas and charcoal grills after every use. Turn the grill on "High" for several minutes after you are done cooking.
8. Clean barbecue pits and grills thoroughly before leaving them outside. (We recommend using aluminum foil and cleaning these items with ammonia cleaner.)
9. Do not place food outside to attract raccoons, squirrels, or other wildlife.
10. Clean old refrigerators and other insulated containers that are left outside.
11. Turn off kitchen exhaust fans that vent to the outside when not in use. Make sure the vent screen is cleaned regularly.
12. Do not feed family pets outside. An empty dish can attract a bear
13. Leave outdoor lights on or a radio playing all night.
14. Do not leave dirty diapers or diaper pail outside.

## **WHAT TO DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BLACK BEAR:**

1. Never Approach or Surround a Bear – Bears aggressively defend themselves when they feel threatened or cornered. Be especially cautious around cubs as mother bears are very protective.
2. Use Noise to Scare Bears Away – Yell, clap, or bang pots immediately upon sighting a bear near your home. **Never run from the bear**. If you feel threatened, back away slowly.

**TO REPORT BEARS GOING INTO TRASH BINS OR IF ANYONE IS FEEDING BEARS, CALL THE DEC @ 1-800-TIPP-DEC.**

**WOODBURY POLICE CAN BE REACHED AT 928-2341.**