## **X**

## Be Bear Wise and keep your cottage safe from bears

Most human-bear conflicts occur when bears are attracted by smells and rewarded with an easy meal. When bears pick up a scent with their keen noses, they will investigate it – even at your cottage.

Bears will return to an available food source, so keep your cottage clear of attractants like:

- Open garbage bins
- Grease and food residue from barbecue grills
- Ripe fruit that has fallen
- Meat scraps and food in the composter
- Bird feeders
- Pet food
- Outdoor beverage fridges.

It takes all cottagers working together to be Bear Wise. Remove attractants or take precautions to avoid unwanted visitors.

Visit **ontario.ca/bearwise** for more tips on being Bear Wise at the cottage.

## When you leave your cottage:

- □ Remove garbage or drop it off at a waste disposal site
- Eliminate odours by disinfecting garbage and recycling bins and removing scented products from the outdoors
- □ Clean the barbecue and remove any grease or food scraps
- □ Remove open food from inside your cottage
- □ Close and lock all windows and doors
- Have neighbours check in on your house if you are away for an extended period of time.

/ONresources TTY 705-945-7641



Always call 911 in an emergency. Call 1-866-514-2327 to report a sighting.

