

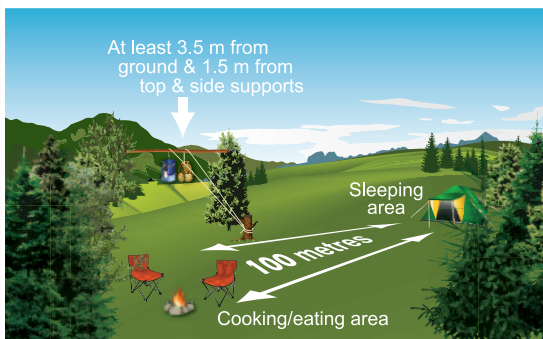
Be

# BearSmart

## Backcountry Camps Checklist

### Camp location

- Avoid areas where there are fresh bear signs, such as diggings, scat and tree markings.
- Find a site away from wildlife trails, tree cover, water bodies, shrubs and berry patches.
- Leave space between trailers, tents, vehicles and horses so bears have an escape route.
- Cook and sleep at sites that are at least 100 metres apart.



### Food, food smells and garbage

- Use bear-resistant containers to store anything that may attract a bear, such as food, toiletries, toothpaste, pet food or livestock feed. Never take these items into your sleeping area.
- Seal garbage in plastic bags and pack it out.



## BearSmart

## Checklist

- Never abandon, partially burn, or bury food scraps. Burn food scraps totally to ashes.
- Cook, store food and dispose of dishwater at least 100 metres away from your camp. Use dried foods.



### In and around camp

- Keep bear spray near at all times, especially when sleeping.
- Camp in groups whenever possible.
- Use a flashlight at night and be cautious when moving around the camp.
- Keep horses or dogs where they are likely to wake you if they detect a bear during the night.
- Use a portable electric fence to secure the camp and your animals.
- Keep dogs on a leash at all times.

### Bear Encounters

- Never approach or disturb a bear.
- Stay calm and back away slowly. **Do not run.**
- Speak to the bear in low tones and prepare to use your bear spray.

If a bear is a public safety concern, call the 24-hour Report A Poacher line (1-800-642-3800).

ISBN: 978-0-7785-9272-3 (Printed Version)  
978-0-7785-9273-0 (Online Version)

Pub No. 1/494 Revised February 2011

Photo Credit: Travel Alberta (front image)

**Government  
of Alberta** 