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## Camping in Black Bear Country

- Keep your camp clean and odor free. All items that come in contact with food carry odors that bears can smell.
- Thoroughly clean all utensils and wipe off your table immediately after use. Do not deposit food residue or cooking grease into campfires.
- Place garbage either in bear-proof containers or in dumpsters provided by the campground. Do not bury or burn garbage. Bears will dig it up.
- Do not eat or cook in your tent. Avoid storing food or attractants in tents, sleeping bags, or backpacks.
- Treat non-food items such as gum, soap or deodorant as food; they are attractive to a bear's keen sense of smell.
- Immediately store food articles after every use in airtight containers. *Coolers are not airtight and bears often associate them with food.* Secure them in a locked trunk or trunk cab *concealed from view.*
- Cook only as much food as you will eat.
- Keep your dog on a leash, and clean up leftover food and scraps after your dog.
- ***Never feed or approach a bear or any other wild animal.***

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Bears learn very quickly. Black bears that associate food with people may become aggressive and dangerous. This may lead to personal injury and property damage. The bear may have to be killed.