

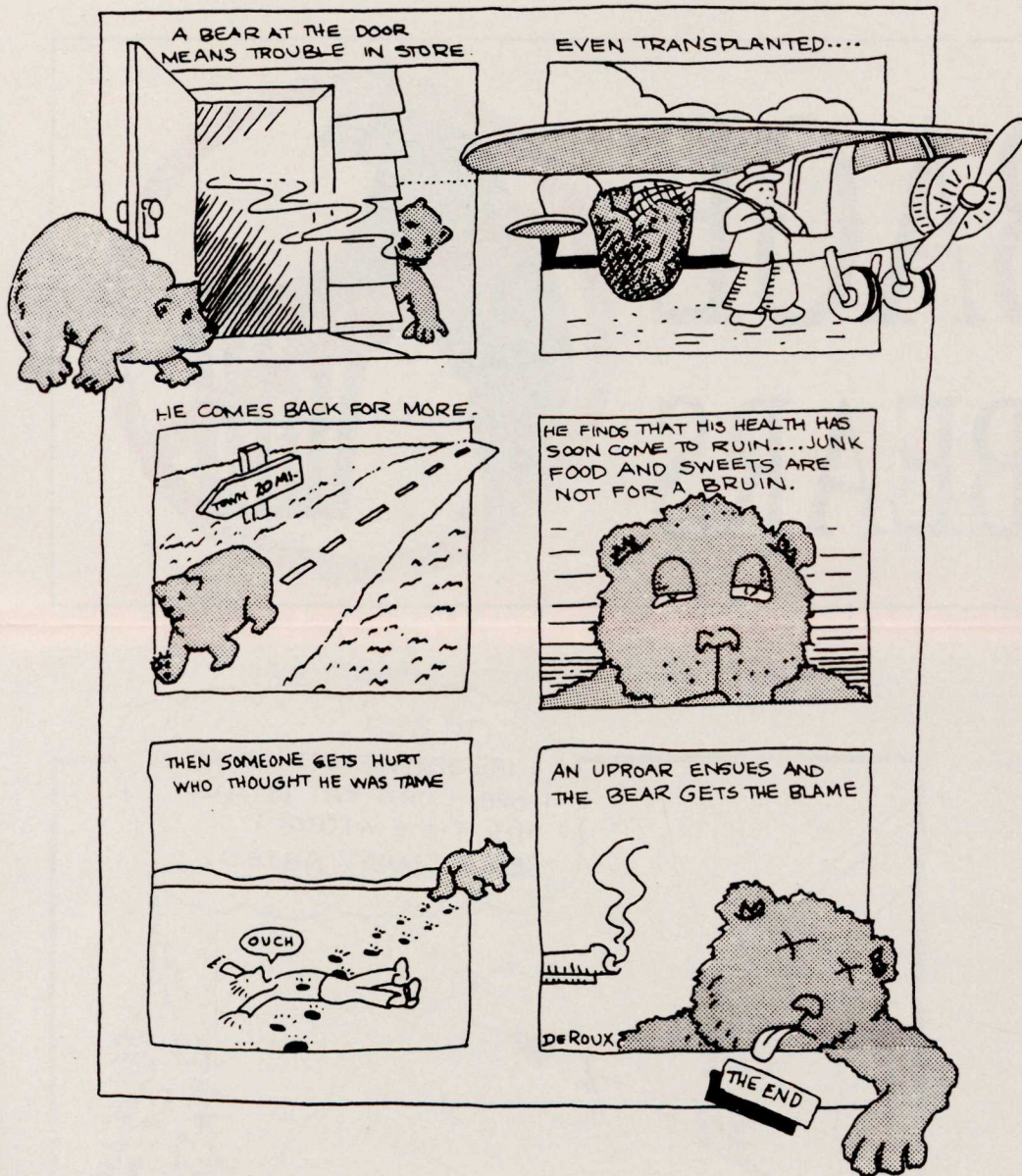
# GARBAGE KILLS BEARS



## SAVE A BEAR Garbage Care Tips

- Store garbage in sealed plastic bags or in bear resistant containers until taken to a refuse site.
- Take advantage of regular trash pickup services. Don't stockpile your garbage because it will begin to smell and attract bears.
- Store fish parts and meat bones in freezer until they can be transported to a refuse site.
- Keep storage containers air tight and odor free. Use bear resistant containers whenever possible (for pet foods and horse feed, too).
- Pack out all garbage from camp sites and picnic areas.
- Pour cooking grease into a can or bottle and take to a refuse site. Do not pour grease on the ground or into rodent holes.





Montana is bear country. No matter where we live in the area we're never far from bears. People have moved into places where bears have lived for thousands of years. We can't expect bears to change. Therefore, our behavior must change if both bears and man are to live near each other.

## DON'T LET YOUR CARELESSNESS CAUSE THE UNNECESSARY DEATH OF A BEAR!

Federal law prohibits feeding bears in national parks and national forests. This includes feeding bears from garbage cans. Bears are attracted to garbage and dead livestock if they are in bear habitat. Garbage should be made unavailable to bears by storing it in bear resistant containers or in sealed plastic bags in small quantities. Improper disposal of garbage may lead to fines and also to a bear's death.

Bears are intelligent creatures. They don't take long to realize that

improperly maintained garbage cans are easy sources of food. The pattern of events is predictable. A bear feeds on garbage and we enjoy the spectacle. After a few visits, the bear loses its fear of humans because the lure of garbage is greater than its natural aversion to man. When the bear no longer fears humans, it must be destroyed before it can harm someone.

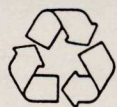
Garbage bears are often killed because it is the only practical option available. Transported bears often return from great distances to their

home territory, and those that don't return take their raiding habits with them to new areas.

People who do not take care of their garbage properly create a situation that causes the death of the bear. The only way people and bears can coexist in Montana is if we care enough to keep bears from becoming accustomed to human foods and garbage.

We must all do our part and accept responsibility for our trash.

Help us conserve bears!



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