

COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Help Keep Bears Wild



Hiking in Bear Country

Bears will usually hear or smell you and leave the area long before you see them. Avoid surprising a bear and don't leave food behind, which will disrupt their natural behavior and cause bears to lose their healthy fear of humans.

LOCK RV's and VEHICLES.

BE ALERT AT ALL TIMES: Warn bears you're in the area with a firm clap or shout.

KEEP DOGS LEASHED: Exploring canines can surprise a bear.

KEEP CHILDREN BETWEEN ADULTS: Teach them what to do if a bear is seen--Stand still, stay calm, and let the bear identify you and leave. **Don't run!**

KEEP PICNIC AREAS CLEAN: Bears are attracted to odors of all kinds and will investigate anything in the hopes of finding food.

STASH YOUR TRASH: Double-bag food and never leave any trash or leftovers behind. Finding treats teaches bears to associate trails with food.

Call your local Division of Wildlife office or Denver headquarters at (303) 297-1192 or visit www.wildlife.state.co.us/bears to learn more about bears and what you can do to help.

