

NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish and Wildlife

Bear Facts for Homeowners

Additional Tips



- If you live in an area with a large black bear population, close all windows and doors in your house when you are cooking or you are away.
- Have a "Bear Plan" in place for children including the use of whistles, air horns and an escape route.
- Consider installing motion sensor lighting to try to frighten bears away if they enter your yard.
- Other items you can use to try to scare bears out of your yard include air horns and banging pots and pans.
- Maintain a safe distance when attempting to scare bears out of your yard. Try shouting, clapping, stomping the ground and making other loud noises to deter bears.
- Refer to [Bear Safety Tips](#) (pdf, 21kb) to know what to do if you encounter a bear at your home or while hiking or camping.
- Consider starting a Neighborhood Watch to keep residents alerted to bears in the area. A Watch can also help to ensure that no one is intentionally or unintentionally feeding black bears. One person feeding bears can create a problem bear that may affect the entire neighborhood.