

YOU'RE IN BEAR COUNTRY



- **Never Feed Bears** – Feeding bears is prohibited in New Hampshire because it conditions them to approach humans and may establish conflict behavior. Always properly store food in bear-resistant containers, secure buildings or closed vehicles.
- **Garbage Kills Bears** – Bears allowed to access garbage can become habituated. Bears that exhibit persistent conflict behavior may have to be killed. Use bear-proof dumpsters. Don't burn food scraps or grease in campfires.
- **Separate Cooking/Eating Areas from Sleeping Areas** – Bears are attracted to food or other strong odors, like toothpaste and deodorant. Keep these odors away from your sleeping area. Change and stow clothing soiled with these odors before going to bed.
- **Leash and Control Your Pet** – Uncontrolled pets antagonize bears and can escalate a bear's defensive behavior.
- **Respect a Bear's Space** – Never approach a bear to take pictures. A bear may perceive your advance as a threat.
- **If You Encounter a Bear** – Remain standing and do not run. Maintain eye contact. Talk in a calm, nonthreatening voice and slowly back away. Report bear encounters to authorities.

