

BEARS AND YOUR GARBAGE

- Bears usually stay away from humans unless natural food is limited or they have learned to find food in urban areas.
- Decreasing garbage collection frequency is unlikely to raise bear encounters; human actions, like food odours in trash, play a key role in attracting them.
- In 2023, a drought led to fewer wild berries, prompting bears to search for food elsewhere. The Northern Lights Wildlife Shelter and Conservation Officer Service noted a significant rise in calls, which dropped in 2024.
- Communities in BC and Alberta have adopted the Bear Smart Community Program, which Telkwa could consider as well.
- For detailed information on initiatives and resources, visit the Bear Smart Community Program's official website.
- If you see a bear, call the RAPP line immediately



RAPP Report All Poachers and Polluters	24 Hr Hotline: 1-877-952-RAPP Cellular Dial: #7277 (on Telus Network)
 BRITISH COLUMBIA	 CONSERVATION OFFICER SERVICE
rapp.bc.ca	