



Help Keep Bears Wild

Black Bears Live in This Area

- **BE ALERT AT ALL TIMES:** Leave your headphones at home. Be extra cautious at dawn and dusk, when the wind is in your face, visibility is limited or you're walking by a noisy stream. A firm clap or quick shout warns bears that humans are in the area.
- **AVOID TRAILS THAT GO THROUGH NATURAL FOOD SOURCES:** In late summer and fall, bears need to forage up to 20 hours a day. Avoid trails that go through berry patches or oak brush.
- **IF YOU SURPRISE A BEAR ON THE TRAIL:** Stand still, stay calm and let the bear identify you and leave. Talk in a normal tone of voice and be sure the bear has an escape route. Never run or climb a tree. If you see cubs, their mother is usually close by--leave immediately.
- **IF THE BEAR DOESN'T LEAVE:** A bear standing up is trying to identify what you are. Wave your arms slowly overhead and talk calmly. If a bear huffs, pops its jaws or stomps a paw, it wants you to give it space. Step off the trail to the downhill side and slowly back away until the bear is out of sight.
- **IF THE BEAR APPROACHES:** A bear knowingly approaching you could be a food-conditioned bear looking for a handout, or very rarely, an aggressive bear. Stand your ground. Yell or throw small rocks in the direction of the bear.
- **IF THE BEAR ATTACKS:** Don't play dead. Fight back with anything available.

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.

