

How to use your bear resistant garbage bin

Using your bear resistant garbage bin is simple. Place your garbage in regular-sized plastic garbage bags (36" x 24"), compacting the garbage as much as possible so that they will fit in the bin. Each bag should not exceed 20 kg or 44 lbs. Filled bags should be put into the garbage bin, with up to two full bags in each container. The bin provided is equivalent to approximately two standard garbage bins.

If you ever have an extra bag to put out for collection, please do not put it out without being secured in a container. Attach the orange "Extra Bag" tag at the top of the bag beside the knot or tie and place the bag inside of your garbage container.

Please keep your old garbage containers and perhaps use them for the yard trimmings collection. Two yard trimmings stickers are included with this brochure to put on your old garbage containers if you choose to.

If you have a secondary suite, you may be eligible for an extra container. Please let us know by calling 604-927-3537.

Completing the Bear Incidents Log

With your new bin you will receive five copies of a Bear Incident Log. Please complete a log each time you witness bear activity in your neighbourhood or on your property. For your convenience, you can also complete the Bear Bin Log online under "Garbage and Recycling" at www.coquitlam.ca.

It is important to include the serial number on your garbage bin, your address, the date and time and the name of the person who observed the incident. If you are completing the logs manually, please send them to our office during the year. If you are completing the log online, please input the information as the incidents occur.

Any information you provide during the study will only be used for the purposes of the project. No personal information or names will be shared with others.

Contact Us

For more information, call 604-927-3537 or visit our website at www.coquitlam.ca.

Bear Resistant Bins

Solutions for a Safer Community



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEARSAVER



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Coquitlam
Engineering &
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Simple Solutions for a Safer Community

Known for its dynamic, urban lifestyle and beautiful natural setting, Coquitlam's community coexists with different wildlife. Unfortunately, this causes increasingly frequent interactions between people and animals like black bears. Residential garbage is one of the main attractants for bears, and Coquitlam is exploring options to decrease problems related to exposed or accessible garbage.

In addition to new measures related to garbage pick-up, the City of Coquitlam is running a one-year Bear Resistant Containers Trial that will test three different bear resistant garbage bins in your neighbourhood. The goal of this study is to determine which bins are the best to keep bears out of residential garbage and reduce the number of negative interactions between humans and bears.

Properly managed garbage, as well as reducing other bear attractants can greatly reduce the risk of bear and human conflicts. The new garbage bin will be provided to you at no cost and your input will help to determine the best option for the city.

Funded in part by the BC Conservation Office, this project takes a proactive approach to managing the relationship between Black bears and residents. The information gathered from the trial study will benefit many other municipalities facing the same challenges in BC and across Canada.

Your Participation is Needed

You have the opportunity to be part of a groundbreaking study. Besides helping the City determine which bear resistant garbage bin works best, you will also protect your home from dangerous interactions with black bears.

At the end of the study, if the bear resistant container's performance is successful, you will either get to keep the bin you trialed or we will provide you with another approved bin at no cost to you, with a value of more than \$125.00.

Here is how you can participate in this study:

1. Test one of the bear resistant garbage containers provided to you at no cost for one year
2. Record any bear activity that you see in your neighbourhood during the year, particularly related to the garbage containers or other attractants
3. Complete a survey at the end of the study in September 2008.

Bear Bin Trial Area



BearSaver



Rollins Schaefer



Bin 120