



Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan



Environment and Parks

Community Services

City of Port Moody

Prepared by:

Kurt Frei, MSc., R.P.Bio.

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Executive Summary

The City of Port Moody is a vibrant community that values its healthy neighbourhoods, heritage character, and natural environment. Its abundant natural areas enhance the quality of life for its residents and provide valuable habitat for wildlife, including American black bears (*Ursus americanus*). Unfortunately, this plentiful habitat near urban areas, with widespread natural and non-natural attractants, creates a very high potential for human-bear conflict.

This document is a Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan that illustrates the City's ongoing commitment to reduce human-bear conflicts in the community through enforcement, policy, and education efforts. It outlines how the City's actions meet the criteria for a Bear Smart community. It also provides recommendations for strengthening existing efforts and reducing/managing conflict.

As human populations continue to expand and suitable habitat for wildlife becomes further fragmented, there will be a continuing need to explore innovative approaches to mitigate human-wildlife conflict¹⁻³. Therefore, this is a living document and will be updated as needed, based on re-evaluation and monitoring by the City.

1. Introduction

Conflicts between humans and large carnivores have occurred for millennia, often resulting in property damage, injury, loss of human life and the subsequent elimination of carnivores from entire landscapes⁴. Not only is it ineffective at addressing the causes of conflict, but the removal of carnivores is a significant threat to their conservation as recognition of their ecological and economic value grows⁵. This increased recognition has improved tolerance to their presence by the public^{6,7}.

However, conflicts are only expected to increase with more urban growth and development into wildlands, instability of natural food sources, and large carnivores' movement as they recolonize areas from which they had been removed^{1,8-10}.

This conflict risk emphasizes the need for mitigation strategies, particularly between humans and American black bears (*Ursus americanus*). This species can readily move between wildlands and urban areas to exploit available food sources, and whose overexposure to anthropogenic food sources (garbage and other attractants) can quickly generate conflict^{3,11,12}. To date, conflict reduction strategies across North America have focused on educational outreach programs, installation of wildlife-resistant waste containers, and compliance enforcement^{2,13-15}.

In British Columbia, an estimated population of 140,000 black bears results in around 10,000 reports of conflict per year, a trend that is increasing¹⁶.

Bear Smart is a provincial community-based program developed by the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, in partnership with the B.C. Conservation Foundation and the Union of B.C. Municipalities, to reduce human-bear conflicts through education and enforcement^{7,17}. It is the highest standard of proactive public safety measures that a municipality can adapt to reduce human-bear conflict. The Conservation Officer Service (BC-COS) policy, Preventing and Responding to Conflicts with Large Carnivores, gives guidance for developing a custom response plan for human-bear conflicts in designated Bear Smart communities. Thereby enhancing the implementation of non-lethal techniques when it is determined that a bear's behaviour does not pose a moderate to high risk to public safety or cause significant damage to public or private property.

The Program requires communities to meet the following criteria to be designated Bear Smart:

1. Complete a Bear Hazard Assessment.
2. Prepare a Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan to address the bear hazards and land-use conflicts identified in the previous step.
3. Revise planning and decision-making documents to be consistent with the human-bear conflict management plan.
4. Implement an effective education program directed at all sectors of the community.
5. Develop and maintain an effective bear-proof municipal solid waste management system.
6. Implement and enforce "Bear Smart" bylaws prohibiting providing food to bears due to intent, neglect, or irresponsible management of attractants.

The City of Port Moody has been working towards becoming a Bear Smart community since 2000, when it initiated the Bear Essentials Program. The Program serves to provide environmental education and awareness to the community about wildlife behaviour and how to minimize adverse human-wildlife interactions, mainly through the proper management of non-natural attractants. It is advanced through corporate-wide efforts across various City divisions, including Environmental Services, Parks, Solid Waste, Bylaws, Planning, and Communications.

In 2018, after considering resolutions adopted by the Environmental Protection Committee (E.P.C.), strong community interest prompted City Council to pass a series of resolutions to reduce human-bear conflicts in Port Moody further. Chief among them was developing a Bear Management Strategy that would involve applying to the Province to become a Bear Smart community.



Figure 1. Components of the City of Port Moody Bear Management Strategy.

2. Human-Black Bear Conflict in Port Moody

Situated between the Coast Mountains and Burrard Inlet, the City strives to balance the natural environment's protection with the community's growth by integrating sustainable practices into the planning and development process. The City has successfully preserved and protected many Environmentally Sensitive Areas (E.S.A.) such as forests, wetlands, estuaries, and riparian habitats. However, the movement of black bears and other wildlife into Port Moody is aided mainly by these E.S.A.s, which provide natural travel corridors from wildlands through the City to the marine shoreline (**Appendix A**). There is also the widespread occurrence of bear food attractants, both natural and non-natural, throughout Port Moody.

Black bears are frequently seen throughout the City. From 2016 to 2020, reported sightings to the Provincial Wildlife Call Centre (RAPP line: 1-877-952-7277) rise sharply from spring emergence, stay high through hyperphagia, and subside by winter denning (**Appendix B**). At least half of all reported sightings during this time involved bear access to non-natural attractants (e.g., residential and commercial solid waste, fruit trees, and pet food). Given the extent and proximity of habitat to residential areas, sightings are no more prevalent from one neighbourhood or Zone of the City to another (**Appendix C**).

Residential solid waste containers continue to be the most uniformly reported non-natural attractant across all City areas. Although there is inherent variability in when residents report these incidents, there is evidence that the improper storage of bear-resistant residential solid waste containers on non-collection days is the primary source of human-bear conflict

(**Appendix D**). Therefore, staff efforts are directed towards strategic education and enforcement of solid waste storage on non-collection days.

Overall, as development continues and residential populations grow, the City faces an ongoing challenge of coexisting with wildlife, particularly with large carnivores like bears.

3. Fulfillment of Bear Smart Criteria

This section outlines how the City of Port Moody has fulfilled the following criteria to achieve Bear Smart certification.

1. Complete a **Bear Hazard Assessment** (BHA);
2. Revise **planning and decision-making documents** to be consistent with the Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan;
3. Implement an **education program** directed to all sectors of the community;
4. Develop and maintain a **wildlife-resistant solid waste management system**; and
5. Develop and implement Bear Smart **bylaws**.

The final criterion is to prepare a Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan (Bear Plan), which is the purpose of this document.

3.1 Complete a Bear Hazard Assessment

In 2018, City Council directed that a BHA be initiated to identify high use bear habitat, human-use areas (e.g., schoolyards, playgrounds), and non-natural attractants such as accessible garbage, fruit trees, bird feeders, compost), and identify how the City could reduce the number of human-bear conflicts.

Later that year, a BHA was conducted by recognized bear expert Maggie M. Paquet and Registered Professional Biologist Wayne McCrory. It was produced in consultation with the City's Environmental Technician (coordinator for the Bear Essentials Program) and Solid Waste, Parks, Planning, and Bylaws Divisions. The BHA aimed to assist the City in significantly reducing the potential for human-bear conflicts, increasing resident safety and protection of private property, and providing the necessary background information for the Bear Plan development.

The BHA included the following:

- Review the history and pattern of bear conflicts in the community.
- Identify potential black bear habitats (e.g., for feeding, denning, shelter, mating, and travel corridors) adjacent to residential and recreational developments, including walking and hiking trails, residential subdivisions, schools, parks, and trails.
- Identify hazards and potential risks in specific areas (e.g., schools, parks, and recreational trails).

- Audit of the public education system on bears and bear safety.
- Review of municipal bylaws.
- Review of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan and Port Moody Official Community Plan.

The BHA determined Port Moody to be one of the most progressive municipalities in proactively addressing human-black bear conflicts but did identify 39 recommendations for reducing conflict potential (**Appendix E**). After reviewing these, the City found that over half of the specialist's recommendations were already in progress or completed.

However, the feasible remainder were key opportunities to reduce human-bear conflicts, property damage further, and the number of bears put down while concomitantly increasing public safety. These opportunities involved policy updates and expansion of the City's Bear Essentials Program, including updated, targeted and translated outreach material, and an expanded presence in the community (e.g., local schools and public events).

In 2019, Council directed staff to finalize and implement the BHA recommendations into a Bear Plan and submit a Bear Smart community application to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy upon its completion.

The City has since made significant progress at fulfilling the BHA recommendations.

3.2 Revise planning and decision-making documents

Human-bear conflict reduction is incorporated into many strategic City planning and decision-making documents and procedures. For example, the City of Port Moody Official Community Plan (OCP) provides overall policy direction for protecting wildlife corridors and movements, as well as providing opportunities for educating the public on reducing conflict with black bears and requirements around new garbage storage areas in multi-family developments (Chapter 6, No. 17-19). The OCP also recognizes Environmentally Sensitive Areas and management principles based on the City of Port Moody E.S.A. Management Strategy and designates E.S.A. Development Permit Areas (D.P.A.) and guidelines.

Environmental reviews are conducted for proposed new developments, parks, trails, and roads in and bordering E.S.A.s (i.e., bear habitat and travel corridors). During these reviews, the potential for additional conflicts with bears is examined. In particular, the principles outlined by the City's Naturescape Policy are incorporated into D.P.A. Guidelines and this review process for City lands and re-developed private property in and bordering E.S.A.s, especially in the review of landscaping plans.

In 2019, fundamental changes were implemented into the Naturescape Policy to align these documents with BHA recommendations. These changes aimed to consider and address potential human-bear conflict explicitly included:

- Trail networks will seek to minimize habitat fragmentation and maximize habitat connectivity while considering wildlife and bear-safe standards and;
- The use of native plants that may attract bears will be avoided and discouraged in areas identified as a higher risk for human-bear conflict, as directed.

To further support the Naturescape Policy and align with the BHA, the City developed a Preferred Plant List (**Appendix F**). It serves as a general guide for development applicants and residents to provide food and shelter for wildlife that avoids attracting bears.

Since a focus early in the development application process is also the best time to minimize future human-bear conflict generated from solid waste, recyclables, and organic materials, the City also has developed Bear-Resistant Design Guidelines for Solid Waste, Organics, and Recycling Enclosures (**Appendix G**). These are based on the best practices review identifying several vital features that are the foundation of effective bear-resistant design, including:

- Durable and reinforced exteriors to withstand the force that bears can apply;
- Tightly self-closing lids and enclosure doors;
- Minimization of openings to prevent prying and access by bears;
- Bear-resistant hinges and latches; and
- Stability to prevent tipping by bears.

These Guidelines apply to the review of all new multi-family residential, commercial, and industrial developments. In addition, a newly developed educational flyer (7 tips to keep people and bears safe, Appendix H) is provided to applicants for all new developments. They are made available as printed material at the Development Services front counter and online through the City Planning and Environmental Services (see **3.3 Implement an Education Program**) websites. They also inform applicants of specific container models that have been tested and recommended by WildSafe BC, a program supported by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

Although municipal solid waste containers must legally be securely closed and locked not to attract bears, these Guidelines also serve as an additional benchmark for residents without indoor storage options (secure garage) to construct detached accessory buildings for their solid waste containers (see **3.5 Bear Smart Bylaws**).

3.3 Implement an Education Program

The City of Port Moody initiated the Bear Essentials environmental education program (Education Program) in 2000 to "empower the community to adopt and continually practice human behaviours to keep people and bears safe." With training through WildSafe BC and collaboration with local non-profits, the Program assists the BC-COS through its primary goal of providing year-round education and awareness to the community about wildlife behaviour and how to respond to and minimize adverse human-wildlife interactions, mainly through the proper management of non-natural attractants (see **Partnerships**).

Coordinated by the City's Environmental Services Division, the Program advances action through corporate-wide efforts across various City departments, including Parks, Recreation, Solid Waste, Bylaws, Planning, and Communications in three key areas:

- General Education – to build awareness and understanding of bears and bear behaviour to increase the community's capacity to coexist safely and respectfully with bears;

- Attractant Reduction – to support the community to effectively manage attractants and minimize the potential of bears becoming habituated in the community; and
- Targeted Communications and Reporting Support – to deliver targeted reminders during the active bear season to residents and businesses to follow bear-smart practices.

Aligned with BHA recommendations, the Program delivers information via numerous events, seminars, and workshops. Timed with spring emergence, for example, the City typically offers a free Bear Essentials Seminar to provide expertise and advice to the community on coexisting safely and respectfully with bears.

Staff perform outreach at various events and festivals throughout the year (e.g. Fingerling Festival, Community Fair, and Car Free Day, **Figure 2**). The outreach for these events ranges from 40-1000 people per event and includes the following:

- Distribution of brochures (Metro Vancouver's "Guide to Coexisting with Bears," WildSafe BC brochures, the City's "7 tips to keep people and bears safe" (**Appendix H**))
- Answering questions from the public
- Displaying garbage carts with bear clips and showing their proper use

The Program delivers targeted communications on bear safety and attractant management advice during the bear season using various media channels (**Table 3.1**):



Figure 2. A biologist with the City of Port Moody Bear Essentials environmental education program offers public communication on bear behaviour and human-wildlife interactions through workshops, performed via attendance at specific events (LEFT) and collaboration with after-school programs, summer camps, and School District #43 (RIGHT).

All publications direct further inquiries to the Program's website, portmoody.ca/bears (**Appendix G**). The website features comprehensive information in the following areas:

- Effective management of bear attractants, including obtaining or constructing Bear-Resistant Solid Waste, Organics, and Recycling Enclosures (**Figure 3**, see **Recommended Actions**).

- How to respond to encounters with black bears
- Bear encounter and sighting reporting
- Applicable bylaws and legislation.



Figure 3. Information on Bear-Resistant Solid Waste, Organics, and Recycling Enclosures that can be purchased or built DIY is available on the City of Port Moody Bear Essentials website, portmoody.ca/bears.

Finally, the Program provides call-in customer service to residents and cooperation with internal and external partners. It invites and handles a variety of call-in sighting reports and questions that relate to wildlife management in the City and regularly pools resources with Bylaws (see **3.5 Bear Smart Bylaws**), Solid Waste (see **3.4 Develop and maintain a bear-proof solid waste management system**), and representatives from the BC-COS (see **Partnerships**) to encourage an ongoing alliance, and identify challenges, opportunities, and future considerations for an effective working relationship. These relationships also address incidents where a solid waste component may have attracted wildlife (e.g., improper cart and garbage storage, improper use of bear clips, cart curbing outside of collection time or date).

Table 1.1 Summary of the City of Port Moody communications publications containing Bear Essentials education and awareness messaging. The key message is that preventing adverse interactions with bears by managing bear attractants is a community-wide responsibility.

Publications	
Focus newsletter	Delivered to 12,000 households and businesses four times per year, seasonal bear educational messaging and managing wildlife instructions featured twice annually. Bear Essentials Seminar promoted in the community events section
Port Moody Annual Calendar and Solid Waste Insert	12,000 copies delivered to households includes information about bears and managing attractants in the solid waste insert as well as the main body of the calendar
Wildlife Attractant Alert stickers	Bylaws staff attach a highly visible Wildlife Attraction Alert sticker to solid waste carts to alert the resident to a Solid Waste Bylaw infraction
7 Tips on how to keep people and bears safe sheet	Hundreds of copies handed out at City events, available at City facilities, and provided to community groups who request resource information to share with their members.
Good Neighbour Guidelines	Includes information on how to manage wildlife attractants
Community Guide	This comprehensive guide is printed every two years and includes information on what to do if you encounter a bear and how to manage attractants/solid waste carts

Table 1.2 Additional City of Port Moody communications methods and materials for Bear Essentials education and awareness messaging.

Digital Media/Media	
Solid Waste App Messaging	The Port Moody Solid Waste App has 5,711 active subscribers. Seasonal bear messaging campaigns are held for three weeks (May/June: "Bears are out – and so are bylaw officers"). Zone-specific service alerts are issued if a collection is interrupted by bear activity
Social media	Regular and ongoing posts to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram such as tips for managing wildlife attractants, what to do if you encounter a bear, and how/when to report a bear encounter to the Conservation Officer Service
Website	Comprehensive information is available on the Wildlife web page about black bears, avoiding attracting bears, what to do if you encounter a bear, and when to call Conservation Officers.
Media Relations	Seasonal media releases issued, promotion of the annual Bear Essentials Seminar, and ongoing responses to media inquiries
Community Outreach	
Community engagement at City events	City staff set up interactive and information displays and engage with residents on the topic of bears and managing attractants at Earth Day, Public Works Day, Fingerling Festival, Port Moody Community Fair, and Car-Free Day
Bear Essentials Seminar	Held at the Civic Centre annually
School visits	Information on bear behaviour and human-wildlife interactions in collaboration with after-school programs, summer camps, and School District #43.
Other	
Mobile billboards	The City has four large signage panels featuring seasonal bear messaging on the City's solid waste trucks
Parks and trail signage	"Be Bear Aware" parks and trails signage tell people what to do if they encounter a bear

3.4 Develop and maintain a bear-proof solid waste management system

As noted in the BHA, the City of Port Moody has shown a particular commitment to becoming a Bear Smart community with its solid waste management system. The City:

- Services and provides residential solid waste carts, either 120 L or 240 L sizes, for garbage, green waste, and recycling (**Figure 3**).
- Fits green waste and garbage carts with locking lids (certified bear-resistant through WildSafe BC).
- Empties green waste carts weekly, empty garbage and recycling on an alternating two-week schedule.
- Regulates the storage and placement of carts through Solid Waste Bylaw No. 3058, which requires carts to stay on the property and be inaccessible to wildlife at all times, except when out on the curb for collection (see **3.5 Bear Smart Bylaws**).
- Reminds residents about setting carts out on collection day through the City's Solid Waste app (portmoody.ca/solidwasteapp)
- Encourages residents to learn how to manage attractants effectively by visiting portmoody.ca/bears.
- Adjusts the collection route to prioritize services in neighbourhoods with higher bear activity, focusing on green waste collection.

Aligned with BHA recommendations, public space (sidewalks, bus stops, civic parks, and facilities) solid waste containers throughout the City have now either transitioned to certified bear-resistant models or are kept in certified bear-resistant enclosures (**Figure 4**). These containers are serviced and maintained regularly by the City.

Finally, the City has also developed a Bear-Damaged Cart Inspection Procedure for properties with multiple incidents in which bears damage carts on non-collection days. Residents may refuse to report these incidents to BC-COS, but they will contact the City for new carts.

This provides the opportunity for City staff to visit the property and advise on securing their bins better, such as inside storage or construction of a bear-resistant enclosure where possible.

Currently, Solid Waste staff provide residents who have received multiple visits from bears and are seeking cart replacement or repair with Education Program messaging, a “Bear Bucket” for storing organic waste inside their garage rather than their cart, as well as hardware and tips for anchoring carts outside so they cannot be tipped over by bears (see **Recommended Actions**).



Figure 4. Bear-resistant solid waste carts serviced and provided to residents by the City of Port Moody. Carts must be locked and secured from access to wildlife, except when out on the curb for collection.



Figure 5. Certified bear-resistant solid waste enclosures (LEFT) and containers (RIGHT) that are regularly serviced and maintained by the City of Port Moody on public property (sidewalks, bus stops, civic parks, and facilities).

3.5 Bear Smart Bylaws

The City of Port Moody has developed several vital bylaws that reduce human-bear conflict, including attractant management (**Appendix J**). However, given that improper storage of bear-resistant residential solid waste carts outside of permitted collection times is the main conflict driver (see **2. Human-Black Bear Conflict in Port Moody**), Bylaw Division enforcement staff focus their patrol efforts and complaint responses on non-collection days to ensure carts are being stored and locked correctly and issue fines under the City's Solid Waste Bylaw 3058. This Bylaw mandates the following:

- where and when to place carts for collection
- that garbage and green waste carts to be locked at all times other than during set collection times
- that carts be returned to the side or rear of the building before the end of the day they have been emptied.

Although carts are required to be inaccessible to wildlife at all times, except when out on the curb for collection, not all properties in the City have secure indoor options (e.g., garage).

Therefore, Zoning Bylaw No. 2937 Section 5.3.4 (viii) allows for Detached Accessory Dwelling Units up to a maximum of 4.6 m² to store recycling and waste storage containers (i.e., bear-resistant enclosures), for residents without other indoor storage options and whose carts, clipped or not, are frequented by black bears.

In addition, this practice is pressed to residents by Bylaw Division staff through the City's Bear Essentials Program (see **Education Program**) and community partners (see **Partnerships, Recommended Actions**).

In coordination with the BC-COS (see **Partnerships**), Bylaw enforcement staff conduct seasonal night and early morning solid waste enforcement blitzes of all collection zones during spring emergence and hyperphagia. A close line of communication is maintained between BC-COS and Bylaw Division staff, and Provincial Wildlife Call Centre data are integrated when initiating proactive bylaw patrols in areas with recent bear activity. Fines are issued to residents who have put their carts out before 5:30 am, have not returned their carts to their property before 8 pm on their respective collection day, or have stored carts without fastened bear clips. Stickers are also placed on the collection carts (**Appendix K**). In 2019, strong community interest prompted City Council to increase these Solid Waste Bylaw fines from \$50 to \$500 for a first offence.

Compliance appears to have improved as a result. For example, in 2017, most zones showed increased citations between the spring and fall enforcement blitzes (i.e. no change in behaviour). However, in 2019 citations decreased from the first to the second blitz as residents across most zones of the City increased their attention to securing their solid waste carts (**Appendix L**).

Untidy and Unsightly Premises Bylaw, No.1488 and Vector Control Bylaw, No. 3043 work in conjunction to reduce human-bear conflict by regulating solid waste containers, including those on commercial properties. These bylaws prohibit rubbish from overflowing solid waste containers and provide any "food, shelter, or breeding conditions" that could attract wildlife.

Finally, Animal Control Bylaw No. 2677 mandates that dogs always be leashed on public property unless in posted off-leash areas, given that domestic dogs have the potential to harass wildlife and provoke defensive behaviour in black bears.

4. Partnerships

The City of Port Moody continues to foster several critical partnerships with other agencies and organizations to help reduce human-bear conflict, not only within its boundaries but in the surrounding areas. Foremost, there remains a continuous close line of communication between City staff and local Conservation Officers. Provincial Wildlife Call Centre data continually inform proactive bylaw patrols and education efforts in areas with recent bear activity. Public advisories are also posted when these reports reveal a bear or other dangerous wildlife is near schools or civic parks and facilities. With training through WildSafe BC, the City assists the BC-COS through its primary goal of providing education and awareness, throughout the year, to the community about wildlife behaviour and how to respond to and minimize adverse human-wildlife interactions mainly through the proper management of non-natural attractants.

In 2019, the City began collaborating with a local non-profit organization, Tri-Cities Bear Aware, whose mission is "To help reduce human-bear conflicts in residential neighbourhoods through education, collaboration and community." Led by members of the community, its purpose is to champion progressive management policies that reduce both the number of bear-human interactions and the number of bears destroyed in urban areas by prioritizing the following actions:

1. Identifying and reducing or eliminating human-caused bear attractants in areas of conflict.
2. Educating Tri-City residents about:
 - The importance of reducing bear attractants on their properties and within the neighbourhood.
 - How to recognize, reduce and eliminate bear attractants on their properties and neighbourhood.
 - Increasing local knowledge about bear biology and habits.
3. Collaborating with our residents, municipalities, provincial agencies, local business sector and non-governmental organizations
4. Working with our municipality and the Province to achieve Bear Smart Status
5. Sharing solution-focused strategies on reducing and eliminating bear attractants in our neighbourhoods

As part of this collaboration, the City provides its Bear Essentials Program material on reducing human-bear conflict, including the necessity to secure their solid waste collection carts and store them appropriately as defined under the Solid Waste Bylaw directed by the BC-COS. In addition, updates on bear activity using Provincial Wildlife Call Centre data, other community observations, and human-wildlife conflict reduction messaging, aligned with WildSafe BC, are also shared with Tri-Cities Bear Aware.

The Bear Smart Program recommends that a Bear Stewardship Committee be formed to oversee the process, delivery, and implementation of the community becoming Bear Smart. It is to promote ownership of the Program within the community. To support the intent of this recommendation and the implementation of the Plan, City staff regularly engage in two active committees, each comprised of a variety of community stakeholders who monitor the Program's progress.

First, the City has been an active member of the Northeast Sector Black Bear Working Group since 2015. The Working Group aims to reduce human-bear conflict across the North Fraser zone by exchanging information on municipal initiatives and relevant bylaws that promote Bear Smart practices in the communities during semi-annual meetings. Other active members of the Working Group are the City of Coquitlam, City of Port Coquitlam, City of Maple Ridge, District of Mission, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks, BC Parks, WildSafe BC, and the BC-COS.

Second, the City's Environmental Protection Committee (E.P.C.), which meets monthly, monitors the progress of the Bear Management Strategy. Comprised of residents (including representatives of Tri-Cities Bear Aware) and chaired by City councillors, the E.P.C. is kept informed on progress towards achieving Bear Smart status and regularly examines overall human-wildlife conflict reduction in the City.

Finally, additional local environmental stewardship partners with the City of Port Moody include the Burke Mountain Naturalists, Port Moody Ecological Society, Burrard Inlet Marine Enhancement Society, Critter Care Wildlife Society, Salish Sea Research and Education Society, and the Wildlife Rescue Association of B.C.

5. Recommended Actions














Although the City of Port Moody and its **Partnerships** have made significant progress towards reducing potential human-bear conflict, it is committed to continuing working towards solutions that ensure the City remains safe for its residents.

As such, below lays out priority actions to improve solid waste removal and storage systems, enforcement, and educational outreach for the next five years (2021-2026), ensuring residents are empowered with the information to make their properties and behaviours Bear Smart.



Figure 6. Full-size bear signage (example from Resort Municipality of Whistler) should be installed at strategic locations (i.e. Rocky Point, Bert Flinn, Shoreline Trail etc.) to better inform residents and visitors to the City (LEFT). Examples of locking carabiners and concrete anchors, easily obtained from hardware and outdoor equipment retailers, that residents should be provided to trial to secure solid waste carts upright as well as information and/or support through Partnerships for enclosures to trial using (RIGHT).

- 🐻 Include the “ongoing commitment to the Bear Smart Community Program and its *principles*” and references to this Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan into the next Official Community Plan (OCP) update and all relevant community documents to signify the City is committed to initiating and maintaining the actions identified in this Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan.
- 🐻 Work with established **Partnerships** and WildSafe BC to:
 - increase the size and design of existing permanent metal Wildlife Signage in parks and trails to align with the larger WildSafe BC version currently used for temporary signage
 - Install permanent full-size bear signage (i.e. Resort Municipality of Whistler example, **Figure 6**) at select strategic locations (i.e. Rocky Point, Bert Flinn, Shoreline Trail etc.)

-  Work with established **Partnerships** and the Bear-Damaged Cart Inspection Procedure to provide residents, without secure indoor storage options, the necessary hardware (lockable rock-climbing style D carabiners and anchor rings etc.), cart repair/modification, and guidance to anchor solid waste carts to a concrete wall (i.e. large D carabiner, concrete wall anchor and cart handle) and/or driveways/concrete (anchor ring to ground, carabiner, and anchor rings on cart sides similar to cart lid) to prevent tipping by bears (**Figure 6**).
-  Work with established **Partnerships** to develop a potential Cart Garage Discount Program, similar to Revelstoke Bear Aware bear-resistant storage bin model and the existing City of Port Moody Rainbarrel and Composter Program, where residents either
 - receive a discount on a metal enclosure through a retailer (potential partner with other Tri-Cities municipalities) or;
 - receive wooden building supplies, either through local hardware store or City (Operations- carpenter shop) to either construct and pilot themselves **OR** to connect with Tri-Cities Bear Aware and Scouts Canada Fraser Valley to build
-  Continue to find opportunities with Partnerships to install chain-link or fenced enclosures around outdoor garbage and organics bin storage areas at civic facility buildings while also working with businesses and strata to install these chain-link enclosures around dumpsters.
-  Partner with WildSafe BC to develop and distribute brochures that target businesses and restaurants and trail users.
-  Work with established Partnerships to amend City of Port Moody Vector Bylaw No. 3043 to include simplified language and a list of potential wildlife attractants similar to other municipalities (i.e. Squamish Wildlife Bylaw No. 2781, Coquitlam Wildlife Vector Bylaw No. 4284)
-  Update current trail/recreation site closing and large "Bear in Area" signage procedures
-  Undertake a review of Solid Waste Bylaw 3058 for opportunities to require inside storage of solid waste containers within bear-resistant solid waste enclosures, where possible.
-  Undertake a review of Zoning Bylaw No. 2937 regarding small-scale electric fencing.
-  Continue to work with private and commercial property owners to install chain-link or fenced enclosures around outdoor garbage and organics bin storage areas.
-  Continue to transition public space (sidewalks, bus stops, civic parks, and facilities) solid waste containers to bear-resistant models or be kept in certified bear-resistant enclosures.
-  Continue to conduct seasonal night and early morning Solid Waste Bylaw 3058 enforcement blitzes and proactively and as a high priority.
-  Continue to deliver information on Bear Smart behaviour via the Bear Essential Program, particularly in collaboration with School District #43.
-  Continue to partner with Tri-Cities Bear Aware and the BC-COS in education efforts.

6. Conclusion

Urban landscapes present habitat, food, and other resources for wildlife, but often at a substantial cost to both people and wildlife, like American black bears, as each comes into closer contact with the other⁷. Community bear-resistant containers are one step to reduce conflict potential but are inadequate without education and proactive enforcement to change human behaviour to secure attractants properly¹².

This Bear Plan is the City's ongoing commitment to reduce human-bear conflicts for its residents through ongoing enforcement, policy, and education efforts from now on.

7. Acknowledgments

This report would not have been possible without the support and input of many others. The author would like to thank fellow and former City colleagues (Patrik Kolby, Angela Crampton, Deavon Bilodeau, Donna Buscis, Paul Leblanc, Jillian Reynolds, and Anur Mehdić), WildSafe BC (Vanessa Isnardy, Daniel Mikolay), the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (Todd Hunter, Nicole Caithness, Alicia Stark, Chris Miller, Mike Badry), the City of Coquitlam Urban Wildlife Program (Julie Kanya, Stephanie Wagner, Amanda Weltman), the Northeast Sector Black Bear Working Group, and provincial Large Carnivore Specialist, Garth Mowat, for your passionate contributions, devotion, and expertise.

Special thanks to Tri-Cities Bear Aware (Carla Parr-Pearson) for their dedication and hard work to minimize conflict between people and American black bears in the community.

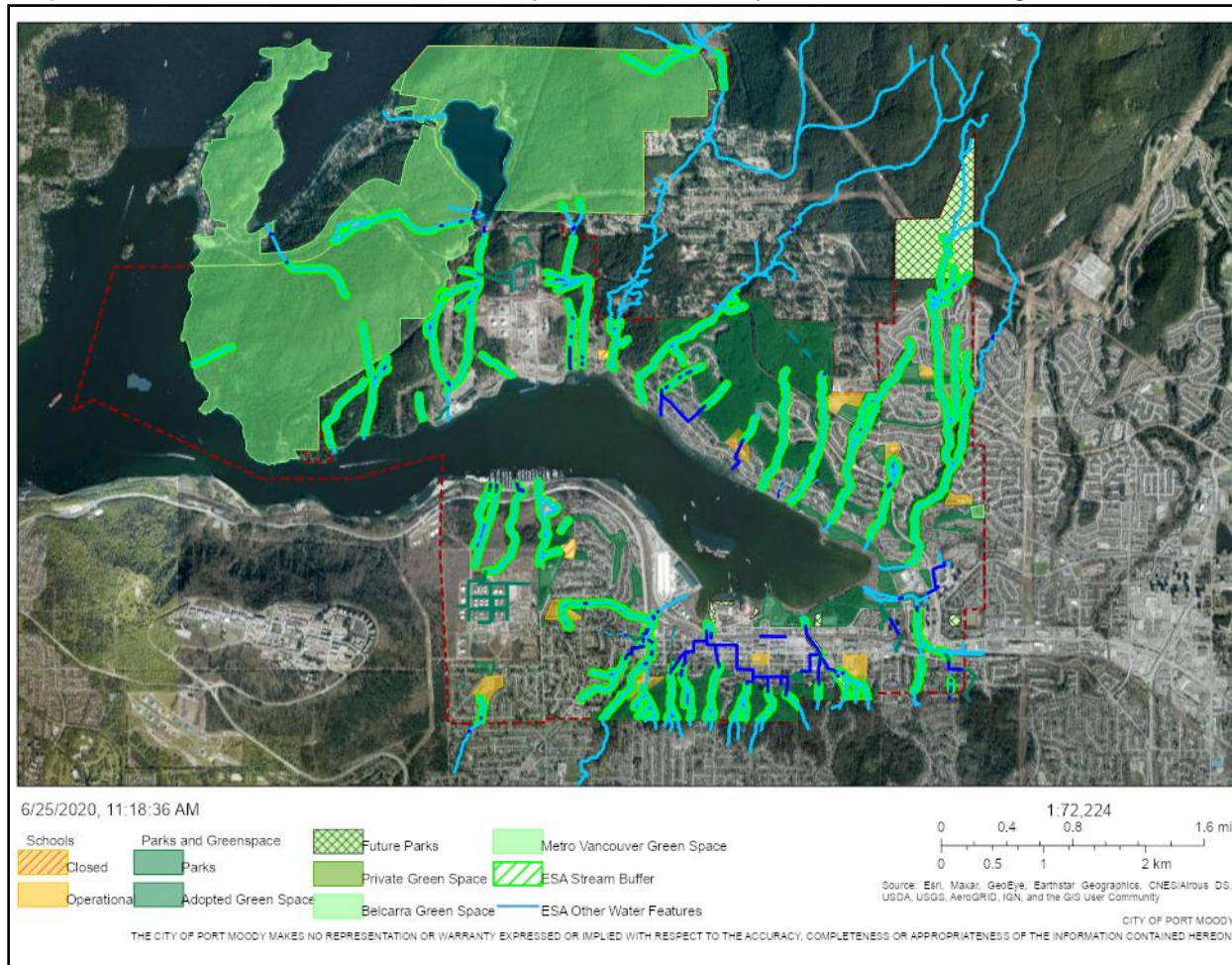
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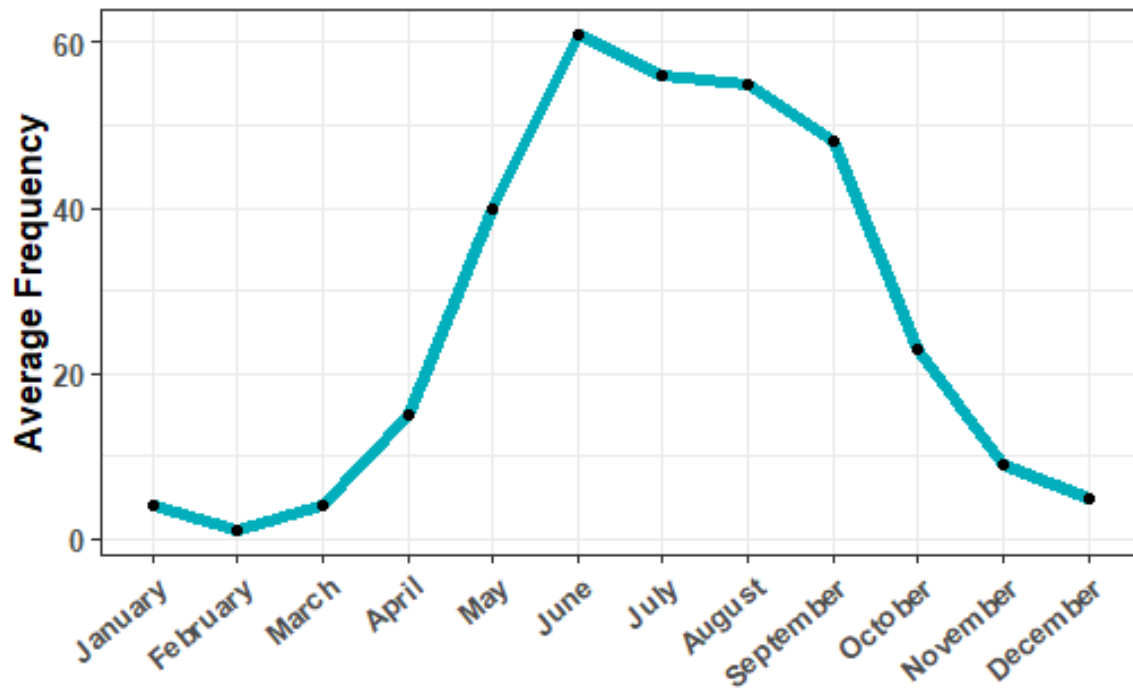
9. Appendices

Appendix A – Map of black bear habitat in the City of Port Moody and surrounding areas.



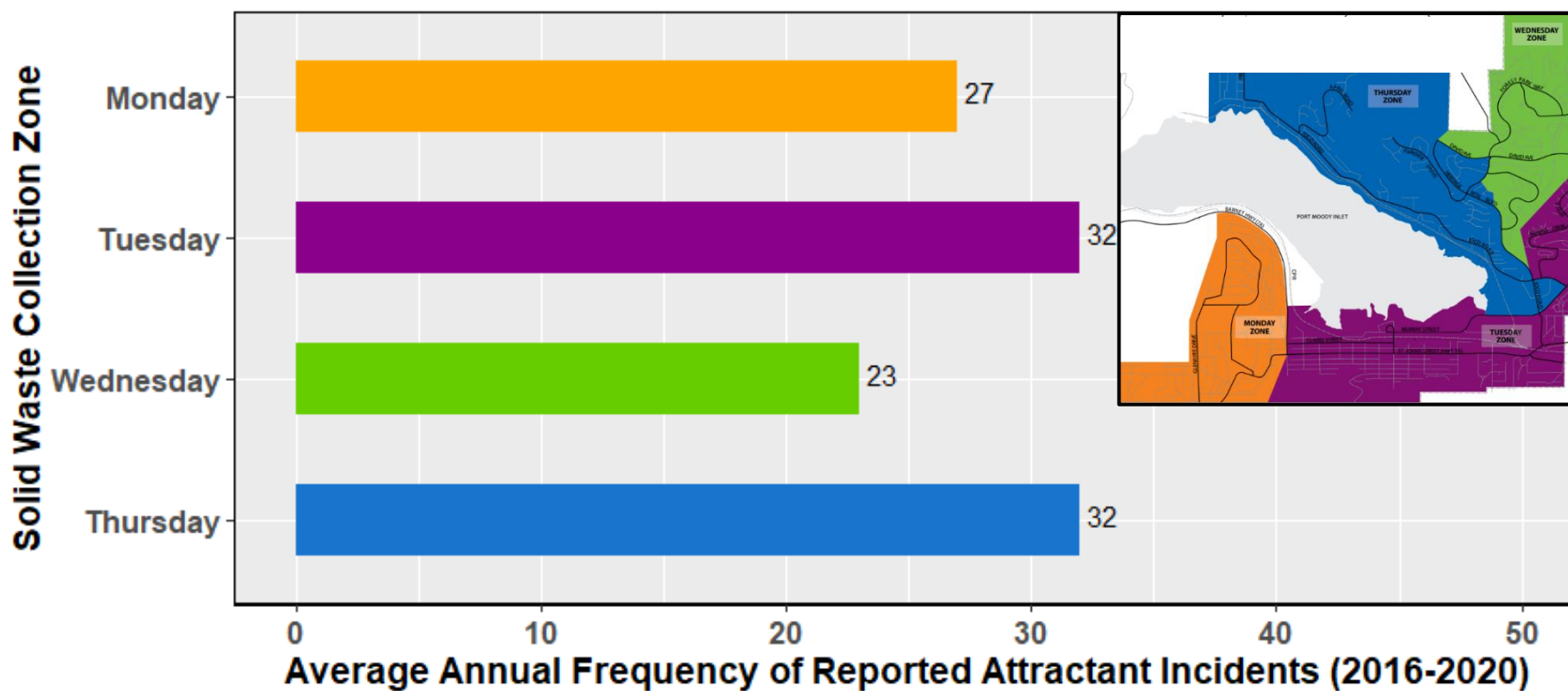
Orthographic map of the City of Port Moody and surrounding residential and wildland areas illustrate the spatial extent of Environmentally Sensitive Areas that provide natural habitats (e.g., for feeding, denning, shelter, mating, and travel corridors) for American black bears (*Ursus americanus*) and other wildlife.

Appendix B – Monthly Wildlife Occurrence Reports involving black bears (2016-2020).



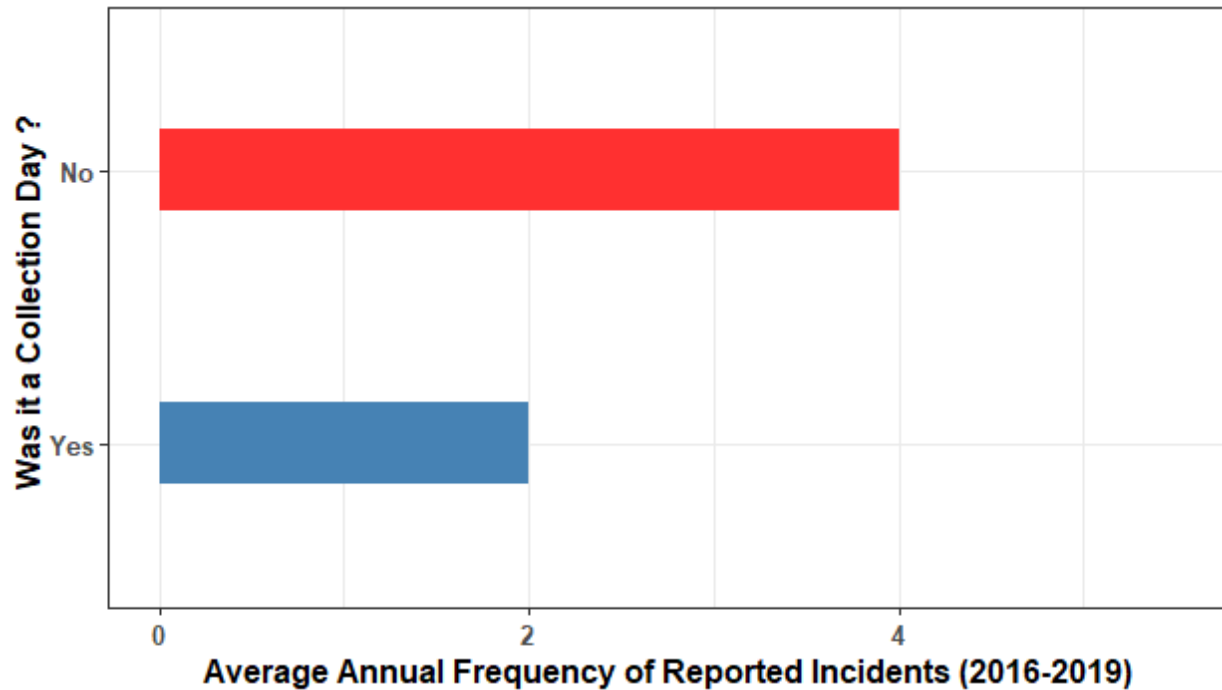
The average number of Wildlife Occurrence Reports per month to the Provincial Wildlife Call Centre (RAPP line: 1-877-952-7277) involving American black bears (*Ursus americanus*) within the City of Port Moody, British Columbia from 2016 to 2020 (n= 1358).

Appendix C – Annual number of Wildlife Occurrence Reports involving black bears accessing non-natural attractants (garbage, fruit trees, compost)



The average number of Wildlife Occurrence Reports per year to the Provincial Wildlife Call Centre (RAPP line: 1-877-952-7277) involving American black bears (*Ursus americanus*) accessing non-natural attractants (garbage, fruit trees, compost) across Solid Waste Collection Zones (i.e. the day of week curbside residential solid waste is municipally collected in an area) in Port Moody, British Columbia from 2016 to 2019 (**INSET MAP**).

Appendix D - Annual number of Wildlife Occurrence Reports involving black bears accessing residential solid waste containers on collection days versus non-collection days



The days of the week that black bears access garbage containers in Port Moody. The average number of Wildlife Occurrence Reports per year to the Provincial Wildlife Call Centre (RAPP line: 1-877-952-7277) involving American black bears (*Ursus americanus*) accessing residential curbside solid waste containers between the days of the week where **1)** the container should be set out on the curb for collection (Yes) and **2)** the container should not have been set out on the curb for collection (No), in Port Moody, British Columbia. The data per group (collection day vs. non-collection day) is statistically weighted to account for variability between groups (n=1 vs n=6).

Appendix E –Recommendations from Bear Hazard Assessment

	Consultant Recommendations from 2018 Bear Hazard Assessment	Implementation	Responsibility	Target Date	Notes
1	Develop a community vision statement that supports Bear Smart principles that is specific to Port Moody.	Develop through Environmental Protection Committee.	Environment and Partnerships	2021-2025 Work plan	OCP update
2	Establish a community-based Bear Stewardship Committee consisting of at least one City of Port Moody staff member, residents, conservation officers, local First Nations members, biologists, local politicians—anyone with interest and commitment to helping make the community Bear Smart. If the committee incorporates as a non-profit society, then there is increased recognition and a greater likelihood of applying for funding from various sources, particularly if the society gets charitable status.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Partnerships
3	Apply to WildSafe BC for a Bear Aware Coordinator for Port Moody (or develop an in-house staff position for the purpose) to establish a dedicated ongoing program for public information about bears and conflict reduction, and to monitor bear-people conflicts.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Education Program and Partnerships
4	Develop a list of "best practices" for businesses, including restaurants and other types of food establishments (especially those that are located in or near parks and trails), focusing on attractant management and that will reduce conflicts with bears, property damage, and, ultimately, the number of bears that are destroyed and at the same time increase safety for people.	Develop through the expansion of Bear Essentials communication materials	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	2021-2025 Work plan	See Education Program
5	Install bear-proof garbage cans/bins in all public places, including all commercial areas (notably along sidewalks, near bus stops, in front of businesses, etc., such as in Newport Village area and local malls), in city parks, and at strategic locations along trails; ensure they are emptied regularly during heavy use periods and during hot weather to reduce smells that attract bears.	Currently being implemented.	Solid Waste and Engineering (bus stops)	Ongoing	See Solid Waste
6	Require housing complexes, schools, institutions, and businesses to use only bear-proof garbage bins and dumpsters (no plastic lids!), or to place existing bins and dumpsters (including grease bins at restaurants) inside secure bear-proof enclosures. These must also be properly maintained, including not being left open. Bylaw officers may need to step up enforcement in this regard.	Develop through an increase in Bear Essentials messaging, patrols, and communication with School District #43	Environment and Bylaws	2021-2025 Work plan	Further, develop the relationship with School District #43 through the Bear Essentials Program. Unightly Premise Bylaw 1488.

7	Require all new housing and commercial developments to "build in" bear-proof waste management practices and equipment at the time of development. Any children's play areas, including the small playsets in neighbourhood areas, need to be situated in good view of the residences and as far away from green spaces as possible, or if proximal to green spaces, then adequately fenced to prevent access by black bears and other carnivores (cougars, coyotes).	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Parks (landscaping plan review), Planning	Ongoing	Proximity to bear habitat and waste management practices is currently part of the development review process. Environmentally Sensitive Areas Strategy
8	Increase the use of informational signage about bears in parks and on trails, including quick response time for temporary signage when bears have been sighted in a particular location.	Develop through the expansion of Bear Essentials communication materials	Environment, Parks, Communications, and Partnerships	2021-2025 Work plan	
9	Ensure dog-walkers know about the Bylaw requiring dogs to be on-leash in all public locations except posted off-leash areas by use of appropriate and obvious signage.	Currently being implemented.	Bylaws	Ongoing	
10	Recommend School District #43 include Bear Smart information in the school curriculum or present to staff and students at least twice yearly (spring and early fall). Alternatively, recommend that SD #43 develop their own bear-people conflict prevention plan based on our report.	Develop through an increase in the Bear Essentials messaging and communication with School District #43	Environment and Partnerships	2021-2025 Work plan	
11	Install adequate chain-link fencing between schoolyards and playset areas at the schools that have been identified as having higher hazard ratings to prevent black bears and other carnivores from being able to access areas where children are present.	Develop through the increase in the Bear Essentials messaging and communication with School District #43	Environment and Partnerships	2021-2025 Work plan	
12	Conduct at least annual safety audits of schoolyards and small city parks and the closely surrounding area for bear food plants and dense cover. Where necessary, remove bear food plants and/or erect secure bear-proof fencing.	Develop through an increase in Bear Essentials messaging, patrols, and communication with School District #43	Environment and Partnerships	2021-2025 Work plan	

13	Increase public education and consultation to find ways to prevent conflicts between bears and people. Also, provide local and regional media with articles and other information about bears and how to be Bear Smart on a frequent and regular basis. While Port Moody's website has excellent information, there needs to be occasional public events and other activities to keep the subject high in the public's awareness (strategically throughout the year to highlight the timing of bear behaviours and local climate conditions).	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Education Program
14	Produce an easy-to-read brochure, in appropriate languages other than English, on bear behaviours, bear foods, and waste/attractant management information to help ensure new residents to Port Moody are informed about the issue. Put these on the City's website in the "Bear Essentials" section. Also, provide them to all local realtors to give to new residents.	Currently being implemented	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Completed	
15	Conduct detailed habitat assessments to enable your Planning and Parks & Recreation departments to consider (and reject or modify, if necessary) proposed new developments, including new parks and trails, and new and expanded roads, that have the potential to result in additional conflicts with bears.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Parks (landscaping plan review), Planning	Ongoing	See # 7.
16	Develop a bylaw, and include the intent and language of such a bylaw in the Official Community Plan (re Naturescape requirement), regarding not using plants that are known to be bear food attractants unless they are secured behind adequate fencing.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Completed	See Planning documents.
17	Modify the OCP to further define the requirement to use Naturescape principles but excluding plant species that are known to be bear food attractants.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Completed	See # 16.
18	Consider modifying OCP, Parks & Recreation Master Plan, and any relevant bylaws to allow the use of bear-resistant fencing for play areas and schools where needed based on the surrounding area, including a minimum 1-metre buffer between shrubs and the fence to prevent bears having access to these locations.	Develop through the increase in Bear Essentials messaging and communication with School District #43	Environment and Partnerships	2021-2025 Work plan	See # 12.
19	Modify the zoning bylaw to allow for small-scale use of electric fencing around beehives, garden plants, and fruit trees inside areas that are already located within a completely fenced area.	Review definitions in the Zoning Bylaw	Environment and Bylaws	2021-2025 Work plan	

20	Work with adjacent jurisdictions (particularly other parks, such as Belcarra, as well as Burnaby and Coquitlam) to harmonize Bear Smart practices so Port Moody's efforts are enhanced by efforts in neighbouring communities.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Partnerships
21	Encourage the organization of a volunteer community organization to harvest gardens and fruit trees to help prevent bears from being attracted to people's yards. The food gathered in this way can be donated to a local food bank, shelter, or to help raise funds in one of the community public markets.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Partnerships See # 2
22	Encourage residents/property owners/schools to prune or remove shrubs and trees to reduce the cover available to bears adjacent to buildings and play areas.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Education Program
23	Fruit trees, bird feeders, gardens, composts, backyard pools, hot tubs, ponds, barbecues, pet food, outdoor storage of fridges and freezers are all bear attractants. Ensure the public has complete education on the various kinds of attractants.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Education Program See # 13
24	Increase ongoing public education events throughout the year for the public to attend, including programs for schools and child care centres.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See # 13
25	Public information/education should emphasize the fact that while South Coast black bears are rarely aggressive, any bear has the potential to become dangerous. Public education also needs to be multilingual as appropriate for the City's demographics.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See # 4,# 8,# 14
26	Consider enclosing information reminding people about how to be bear smart when doing city mail outs, such as for tax notices/mil increases, and others.	Currently being implemented	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Ongoing	See # 4,# 8,# 14, # 25

27	Hiring a dedicated at least half-time bylaw enforcement officer to deal specifically with bylaw infractions relating to bear issues, or at least to do a follow-up on compliance.	Currently being implemented.	Bylaws	Ongoing	Follow-up on compliance is a standard operating procedure
28	Provide Port Moody Police with information specific to responding to bear conflict situations.	Develop through the existing relationship with Conservation Officer Service	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	See # 36
29	Produce a bear smart information package for realtors and property managers to provide to new residents.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Ongoing	See # 4, # 8, # 14, # 25, and # 26
30	Provide local media local and regional media with articles and other information about bears and how to be Bear Smart on a frequent and regular basis.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Education Program
31	Educate residents on safe ways to carry out low-level hazing practices on their properties, such as by banging pots and pans, using an air horn, or generally scaring bears away, but always—and only—from a safe vantage point.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Ongoing	See Education Program
32	In areas, including parks and schoolyards, where bears have previously been observed, permanent bear warning signs should be posted so people remain alert to the possibility of a bear entering the area.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Communications, and Partnerships	Ongoing	Expansion of the Bear Essentials communication materials.
33	Any new trails to be developed should be designed to avoid good quality bear habitat and travel corridors. Trails should not be developed along riparian corridors that bears are known to use	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Parks	Ongoing	Environmentally Sensitive Areas Strategy

34	Develop a procedure for the emergency closure of trails and other facilities when a hazardous situation is reported or identified.	Develop in coordination with Parks	Environment and Parks	2021-2025 Work plan	
35	We strongly recommend that Port Moody's public education programs advise hikers, joggers, and trail cyclists (such as in Bert Flinn and other parks) to carry bear spray and know how to use it in the event of an aggressive bear or other carnivore encounters. However, care must be taken in using it around residential areas or where other people are present. The public should be aware that once it is deposited on the ground, it is a bear attractant and also to be sure to keep it in a sealed container when in transport in a vehicle, especially where the potential for an accidental discharge or product failure could involve children or pets left in vehicles.	Currently being implemented.	Environment	Ongoing	
36	Maintain open communication between C.O.S. and Port Moody Bylaws to inform the City about garbage/waste management issues reported by residents.	Currently being implemented.	Environment and Partnerships	Ongoing	
37	Where the OCP refers to riparian setbacks and habitat and uses corridors for fish and wildlife, these terms should be defined and include specific recommendations to maintain safe separations between bear use areas (including travel corridors) and residential and commercial developments.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Parks (landscaping plan review), Planning	Ongoing	See # 7, # 15, and # 33
38	Community planning should include using a detailed bear habitat and travel corridor map so that bears and other wildlife concerns can be adequately addressed when planning new developments.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Parks (landscaping plan review), Planning	Ongoing	See # 7, # 15, # 33, and # 37
39	Inform developers about bear smart requirements, including landscaping requirements to prevent attracting bears into newly developed areas and thereby habituating them to human-use areas.	Currently being implemented.	Environment, Parks (landscaping plan review), Planning	Ongoing	See # 7, # 16, and # 17.

Appendix F- City of Port Moody Preferred Plant List to help avoid attracting bears

Preferred Plant List

When landscaping your yard or business property in Port Moody, use this Preferred Plant List as a general guide for selecting the most appropriate native plants for the area. We recommend native plants because they provide food and shelter for wildlife and are adapted to our local climate, soils, predators, pollinators, and diseases. However, not all native plants are suitable for urban gardens. The flip side includes a list of plants to avoid because they may attract bears to your yard.

When selecting your plants, remember to consider factors such as soil type, moisture conditions, sun exposure, human-wildlife interaction and wildfire risk.



Recommended for your garden

Attract birds, bees, butterflies, and other pollinators to your yard

Ground Cover and Perennials

Low or Dull Oregon Grape	<i>Mahonia nervosa</i>
False Lily of the Valley	<i>Maianthemum dilatatum</i>
Nodding Onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>
Red Columbine	<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>
Sword Fern	<i>Polystichum munitum</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>

Shrubs

Baldhip Rose	<i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>
Beaked Hazelnut	<i>Corylus cornuta</i>
Hardhack	<i>Spiraea douglasii</i>
Mock Orange	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>
Nootka Rose	<i>Rosa nutkana</i>
Oceanspray	<i>Halodiscus discolor</i>
Pacific Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Tall Oregon Grape	<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>

Trees

Big Leaf Maple	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>
Cascara	<i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>
Douglas Fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
Native Willow Species	<i>Salix</i> spp
Pacific Dogwood	<i>Cornus nuttallii</i>
Sitka Spruce	<i>Picea sitchensis</i>
Vine Maple	<i>Acer circinatum</i>
Western Red Cedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>

Vines

Western Trumpet	<i>Lonicera ciliosa</i>
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Pacific Dogwood *Cornus nuttallii*



Saskatoon/Serviceberry *Amelanchier alnifolia*



Not recommended for your garden

Avoid attracting bears to your yard

Ground Cover

Lady Fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>
Salal	<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>
Sedge	<i>Carex</i> spp

Shrubs

Indian Plum	<i>Oemleria cerasiformis</i>
Salmonberry	<i>Rubus spectabilis</i>
Saskatoon/Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>
Red-osier Dogwood	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>
Red Flowering Currant	<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>
Thimbleberry	<i>Rubus parviflorus</i>
Twinberry	<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>

Trees

Bitter Cherry	<i>Prunus emarginata</i>
Pacific Crab Apple	<i>Malus fusca</i>
Red Elderberry	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>
Sitka Mountain-ash	<i>Sorbus sitchensis</i>



Plants listed as 'not recommended' still have ecological value and may be used in shoreline restoration or other restoration projects with appropriate oversight by qualified environmental professionals.

The City's Preferred Plant List supports our Naturescape Policy. Learn more at portmoody.ca.

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Appendix G - Bear-Resistant Design Guidelines for Solid Waste, Organics, and Recycling Enclosures



The following guidelines are intended to assist applicants in incorporating bear-resistant design guidelines for enclosures and containers for all new multiple family residential, commercial or industrial developments within the City of Port Moody.

Enclosures for Solid Waste, Organics and Recycling should:

1. Allow for the placement of all containers for solid waste, organics and recycling, and for the removal and emptying of those containers.
2. Have a foundation that is at least a 300–600 mm concrete base.
3. Be five-sided, with four sturdy walls and a roof.
4. Have a sturdy exterior (e.g. made of split face block or hardy plank nailed to 19.05 mm or ¾" plywood etc.), capable of withstanding the force applied by a bear.
5. Have sturdy reinforced doors that close tightly and are capable of being locked.
6. Not have any gaps that exceed a maximum width of 6.35 mm (1/4").
7. Have seams that are covered by metal flashing.
8. Have latches that are designed to be bear-resistant (e.g. claws of an adult bear unable to activate the latch trigger mechanism).
9. Have latches and hinges that are firmly affixed to the enclosure, so that they cannot be pried open by an adult bear using its claws. As a frame of reference, latches and hinges that can be easily dismantled using a crowbar are not sufficient.

A garage or other building that meets the above-mentioned criteria can be considered a bear-resistant enclosure.

Containers for Solid Waste, Organics and Recycling should:

1. Have lids and doors that are self-closing, close tightly, and are able to be secured with a latching device.
2. Have latches that are designed to be bear-resistant (e.g. claws of an adult bear unable to activate the latch trigger mechanism).
3. Have hinges and latches that are firmly affixed to the container, so that they cannot be pried open by an adult bear using its claws.
4. Not have any gaps that exceed a maximum width of 6.35 mm (1/4").
5. Have surfaces (loading and emptying doors) that do not overlap, as overlapping surfaces provide bears a place to grab. Doors should recess into the container body.
6. Be capable of being securely anchored to the ground to prevent tipping by a bear.
7. Have a durable surface to prevent bears from chewing, battering or crushing the container.

For information on specific containers that have been tested and recommended for use in BC, visit wildsafebc.com/bear-resistant-bins

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7 tips to keep people and bears safe

The most effective action you can take to prevent conflicts between people and bears is to manage garbage and other attractants properly. Here are 7 tips to get you started:



1. Never feed or approach bears. Don't encourage a bear to come close to people – it's not safe for you or the bear. And remember, it's against the law to feed a bear or any other dangerous wildlife. If a bear is on your property, make loud noises to scare it away.



2. Secure food, garbage, and recycling. Food odours attract bears. And once they've been rewarded with food, liquids, or garbage, bears will keep coming back. Secure your food and freezers, as well as garbage, green waste, and recycling carts, inside a bear-proof enclosure. Bears can break into cars and sheds. On your waste collection day, set out your carts for pick-up no earlier than 5:30am.



3. Remove bird feeders. Bears love bird seed and suet. Put feeders out only in winter, when bears are less active.



4. Feed pets indoors. Pet food attracts bears as well as rodents. Keep it indoors.



5. Clean and store grills. The grease and fat from outdoor cooking is irresistible to bears. Clean grills and drip pans immediately after using and keep where bears can't see or smell them.



6. Garden with care. Remove ripe and fallen fruit immediately and keep it indoors. When choosing new plants or trees, avoid types that are known to attract bears. Consult our preferred plant list, available at portmoody.ca.



7. Talk to your neighbours. Let your neighbours know if you see a bear. Share this tip sheet with them so they can avoid attracting bears onto their property.



**Manage wildlife attractants
to avoid a \$500 fine**

Important information. Please have this translated.

مهمی اطلاعات. لطفاً از کسی بخواهید که این مطلب را برایتان ترجمه کند.

중요한 내용입니다.
영어를 아는 분에게 번역을 부탁드립니다.

重要信息。请找人为您翻译。

重要資訊，請找人翻譯。



**If you see a bear, call the B.C.
Conservation Officer Service (C.O.S.)
at 1.877.952.7277.**

Early and proactive intervention can help to adjust a bear's behaviour before it loses its fear of humans or becomes dependent on human-supplied food.

Learn more at portmoody.ca/bears

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Appendix I – Bear Essentials website homepage

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City Services ▾

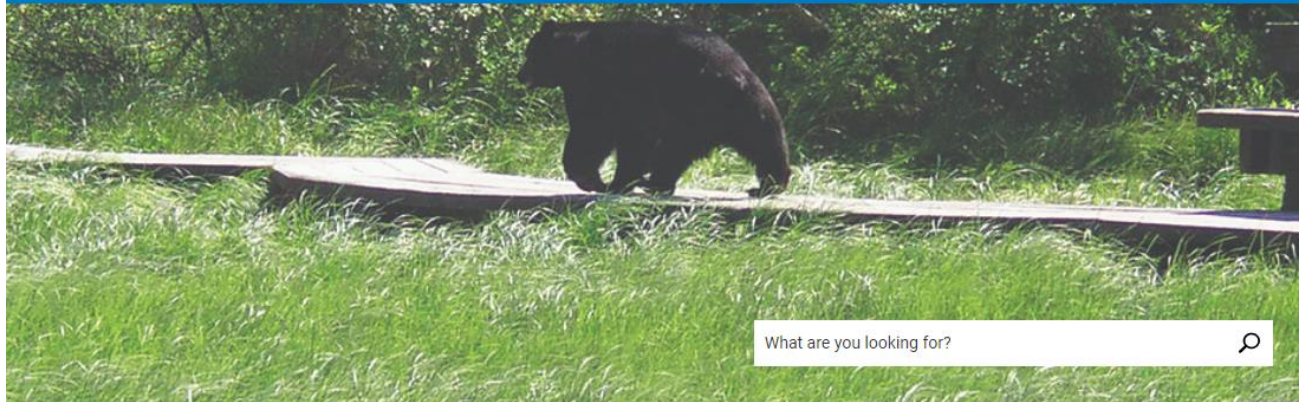
Home and Property ▾


Recreation, Parks and Environment ▾

Arts, Culture and Heritage ▾




Business and Development ▾

City Hall ▾



What are you looking for? 

Bear Essentials


A A A   


Preventing conflict with bears is a community-wide responsibility. The best way to keep both people and bears safe is to manage attractants. [Here are some tips to get you started.](#)


If you see a bear in your neighbourhood or park, report it to the [B.C. Conservation Officer Service](#) at 1-877-952-7277. This saves bears and people because it enables behaviour to be tracked, neighbourhoods to be educated, and unsecured attractants to be removed, before an animal becomes dependent on human-supplied sources of food.


For information on how to minimize adverse human-bear interactions, please [email](#) Environmental Services.

Avoid attracting bears

 Garbage and green waste carts


 Pet food

 Bird feeders

 Fruit trees and landscaping plants

Contact Us

Environment and Parks
100 Newport Drive
Port Moody, B.C.
V3H 5C3
phone: [604-469-4628](tel:604-469-4628)
[Email](#)
[Map this location](#)

 [Subscribe to this page](#)

Appendix J – City bylaws that enable the enforcement of Bear Smart practices

	City of Port Moody Bylaw	Section	Description
1	Animal Control Bylaw No. 2677	5.1	Except in areas specifically designated by a posted notice as being off-leash areas, every owner is responsible for ensuring that their dog is not, at any time, running at large within the municipality, whether or not the owner has entrusted the care and custody of the dog to any other person and, every owner is responsible for ensuring that the dog is secured by a collar and leash suitable to the dog's size and strength and such leash is under the control of the owner or their agent
2	Solid Waste Bylaw No. 3058	6.1	Every Owner and occupier of a Parcel or I. Cl. Premise that receives City Solid Waste services shall do, or cause to be done, the following:
		6.1a	Separate Solid Waste and place for collection into appropriate Collection Carts as designated;
		6.1c	Maintain all Collection Carts supplied to the Parcel in clean and sanitary conditions at all times;
		6.1h	Keep the Garbage and Green Waste Collection Carts supplied to the Parcel with the lid securely closed and locked, except to deposit waste or allow for collection and disposal, so as not to attract rats, vermin, and Wildlife;* <p>*Wildlife" includes bears, cougars, coyotes, and wolves.</p>
		6.2	Every Owner and occupier of a Parcel or I. Cl. Premise that receives City Solid Waste services shall do, or cause to be done, the following:
		6.2a	Keep collection carts or bulk containers supplied to the Parcel with the lid securely closed and locked, except to deposit waste or allow for collection and disposal;
		6.2b	Ensure that all locks are unlocked by no earlier than 5:30 am on collection days, and re-locked as soon after collection as possible, and by no later than 8:00 pm on collection days; and
		6.2c	Clean up spillage originating from collection carts or bulk containers
		6.3	Every Owner and Occupier must ensure that all backyard composters are maintained properly and in a manner as not to attract rats, vermin, and Wildlife.
		7.2	A Bylaw Enforcement Officer employed by the City may enter onto the property if wildlife (as defined in the Wildlife Act) poses a threat, and if necessary, with assistance from a Conservation Officer appointed under the Ministry of Environment (Wildlife Act) or a police officer.

	City of Port Moody Bylaw	Section	Description
2	Solid Waste Bylaw No. 3058	8.1	Unless an exception is provided by the General Manager, every Owner of a Parcel and Occupier of any premise on a Parcel that receives services under this Bylaw:
		8.1a	Shall keep on the Parcel at all times all Collection Carts supplied to the Parcel;
		8.1b	Shall, after 5:30 am and before 7:30 am on designated collection days, place the Collection Carts and Glass Bins supplied to the Parcel in accordance with the instructions of the General Manager and in a location at or near a roadway or laneway without obstructing pedestrian traffic or within the strata complex as designated by the General Manager; and
		8.1c	Shall remove all Collection Carts and Glass Bins from the street or lane immediately following collection, or by no later than 8:00 pm on collection days. All Garbage and Green Waste Collection Carts must be locked and stored with all other Collection Carts and Glass Bin at the side or rear yard of the front building as established under City of Port Moody Zoning Bylaw and as amended from time to time. Under no circumstances may a Collection Cart be stored at or in a front yard unless deemed necessary and authorized in writing by the General Manager
3	Untidy and Unsightly Premises Bylaw, No.1488	5.0	Adequate container
		5a	Every Occupier shall acquire and maintain in good order and repair a sufficient number of solid waste containers in which to store all rubbish generated on the property.
		5b	No Occupier may permit rubbish to overflow the solid waste containers on the property.
4	Vector Control Bylaw, No. 3043.	3.2	No owner or occupier of property within the City shall cause, allow, or permit:
		3.2b	any brush, trees, weeds or other growths;
		3.2c	any water, whether moving or standing; or
		3.2d	any other condition; on that property to provide food, shelter, or breeding conditions that could attract a vector.
5	Zoning Bylaw, No. 2937	5.34.a (ix)	Floor Area Ratio Calculations: for Detached Accessory Dwelling Units only, exclude Floor Area with no access from the interior of the building up to a maximum of 4.6m ² for the purpose of storing recycling and waste storage containers.

Appendix K – City of Port Moody Solid Waste Bylaw 3058 education sticker

WILDLIFE ATTRACTANT

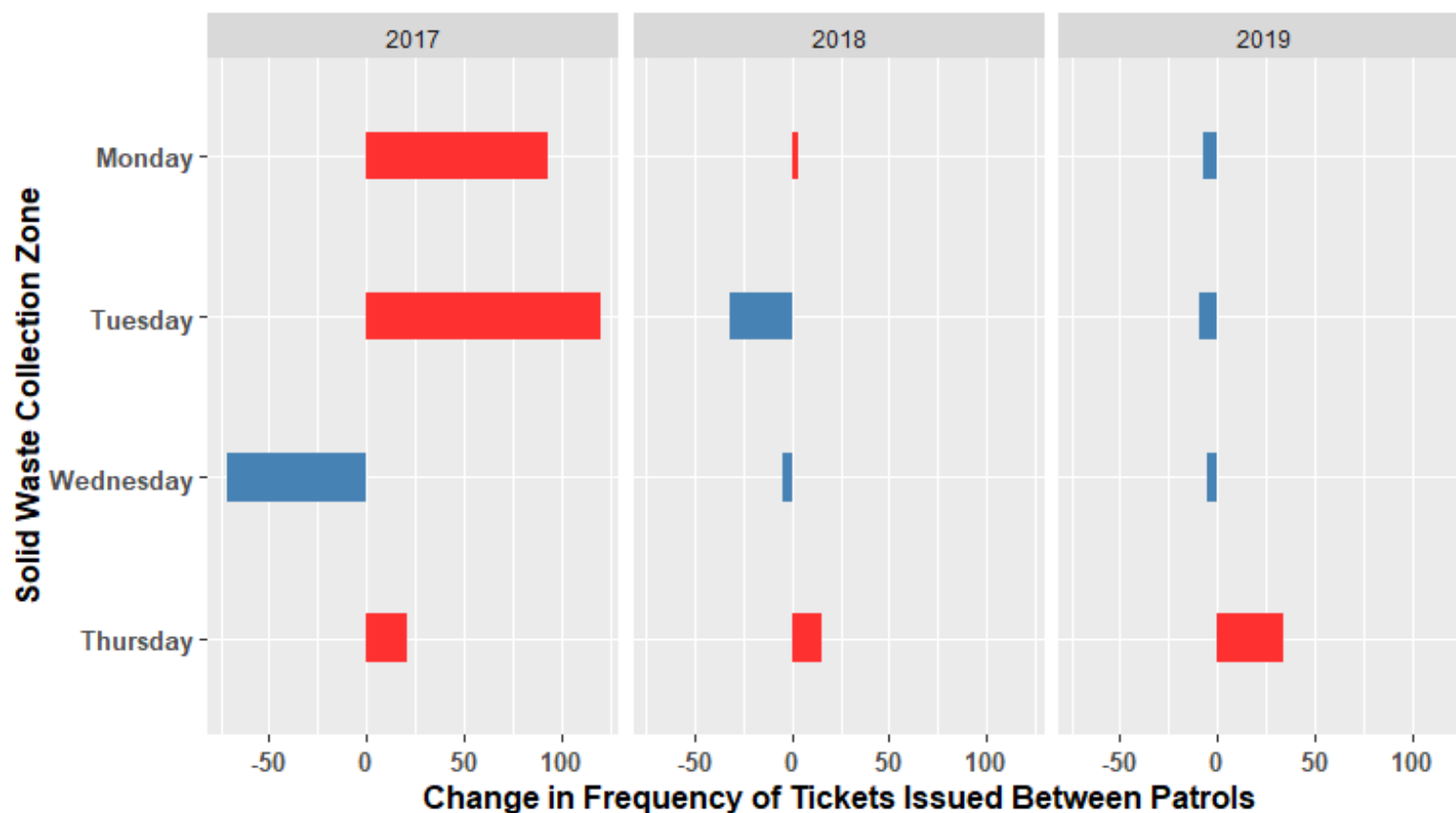


Managing access to garbage and other attractants is the most important action to take to keep people and bears safe in our community. **Store garbage, green waste, and recycling carts in a garage or secure enclosure.** Lock your carts on non-collection days. Place your carts at the curb between 5:30am and 7:30am on your collection day. **Failing to comply with the City's Solid Waste Bylaw is subject to a minimum \$500 fine.**

Find information on managing attractants at portmoody.ca/bears.

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Appendix L – Success of Solid Waste Bylaw enforcement efforts



Efficacy of seasonal City of Port Moody Bylaw Division enforcement patrols across Solid Waste Collection Zones (i.e. the day of week curbside residential solid waste is municipally collected in an area) to encourage the proper storage of bear-resistant residential solid waste carts in Port Moody, British Columbia from 2017-2019. The change indicates an increase (RED) or decrease (BLUE) in tickets given under the City's Solid Waste Bylaw 3058.