



Be Unattractive

Tips for reducing bear visits to your backyard:

-  Remove plants that bears like to eat in areas where we don't want to find them i.e. next to doorways, windows or entrances, near children's play sets, beside paths and high use areas
-  Harvest vegetable gardens and fruit from trees/ bushes when ripe; do not allow fruit to accumulate on the ground
-  Do not apply bone meal or fish fertilizer to your garden
-  Avoid seeding with clover and keep your grass cut and free of dandelions – a favourite bear food
-  Keep your compost free of odours. Do not place fish, meat, bones, egg shells or dairy in your compost. Add lime to reduce odours and speed decomposition; turn it frequently. Refer to the www.squamish.ca Bear Aware page for additional composting information






-  Choose plant species that attract birds, bees and butterflies without attracting bears. Install a bird bath or a nesting box

-  Keep bird feeders inaccessible to bears; consider removing feeders from March to November



Use native plant species that don't attract bears

There are many native plant species that don't attract bears and that are a great addition to any yard. Native plant species:

-  Enhance biological diversity but also:
-  Provide refuge and habitat for wildlife
-  Compensate for land lost to urban sprawl and land conversion
-  Sequester carbon to offset CO2 emissions
-  Along streams, plants can filter runoff, aid in flood control and provide wildlife corridors

For more information:
www.squamish.ca
www.bearaware.bc.ca
www.bearsmart.com
or call 604.815.5066

photos courtesy of B. Speidel, M. Allen,
B. Haywood-Farmer & A. Bauer

RAPP
**Report All Poachers
and Polluters**

Conservation Officer 24 Hour Hotline
1-877-952-RAPP (7277)
cell: #7277



rapp.bc.ca

Conservation
Officer Service

Bear aware

Wildlife Friendly Landscaping



in Bear Country



wildlife friendly landscaping in bear country

Improving and creating wildlife habitat in our yards has a positive ecological value. Squamish is bear country so improving wildlife habitat can also mean attracting bears.

While bears are a part of our natural environment, we don't want to invite them into our yards with landscaping that

provides them with food. Backyard fruit-bearing trees and shrubs are an easy source of calories for a bear. Once bears learn where the food is, they are likely to return. Bears that become conditioned to accessing food in residential neighbourhoods are at a greater risk of getting into conflict.

Squamish is a Bear Smart certified community and we are making our yards less attractive to bears by ensuring that: all garbage is locked away; that birdseed is inaccessible; that pets aren't fed outdoors; that outdoor fridges and freezers are locked, that compost isn't accessible and that BBQ's are cleaned.



Plants that are OKAY

These plants **ARE RECOMMENDED** as alternatives as they are not known to attract bears.

Davidson's penstemon	Penstemon davidsonii
Douglas maple	Acer glabrum
Falsebox	Pachystima myrsinites
Foam flower	Tiarella trifoliata
Goats beard	Aruncus sylvester/dioicus
Hardhack	Spirea douglasii
Large leafed lupine	Lupinus polyphyllus
Mock orange	Philadelphus lewisii
Pacific ninebark	Physocarpus capitatus
Red columbine	Aquilegia formosa
Snowbrush	Ceanothus velutinous
Sweet gale	Myrica gale

NOTE: These are just a few examples; there are many other options.

Mountain-ash berries ripen when most other berries have been depleted at lower elevations.

The large clumps of mountain-ash berries provide for quick and easy feeding.



Plants that are NOT OKAY

These plants are **NOT RECOMMENDED** due to their attractiveness to bears:

Alaskan Blueberry	Vaccinium alaskaense
Baldhip Rose	Rosa gymnocarpa
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale
Dull Oregon-Grape	Mahonia nervosa
Himalayan Blackberry	Rubus discolor
Horsetail	Equisetum arvense
Kinnickinnick	Arctostaphylos uva-ursi
Oval-Leaf Blueberry	Vaccinium ovalifolium
Pacific Crab Apple	Malus Fusca
Red Clover	Trifolium pratense
Red Elderberry	Sambucus racemosa
Red Huckleberry	Vaccinium parvifolium
Red Raspberry	Rubus Idaeus
Red-Osier Dogwood	Cornus stolonifera
Salal	Gaultheria shallon
Salmonberry	Rubus spectabilis
Saskatoon/Service Berry	Amelanchier alnifolia
Sedge	Carex spp.
Sitka Mountain-Ash	Sorbus sitchensis
Skunk Cabbage	Lysichiton americanum
Stink Currant	Ribes bracteosum
Thimbleberry	Rubus parviflorus
White Clover	Trifolium repens
Wild Rose	Rosa pisocarpa
Wild Strawberry	Fragaria Virginiana

NOTE: This list is not exhaustive. There may be other plants that bears will use opportunistically. Please refer to the www.squamish.ca Bear Aware page for additional information.

Keep your grass cut and free of dandelions – a favourite food for bears.

