

OKALOOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



CRIME PREVENTION UNIT



Tip of the Week

If You See a Bear in Your Community

Tips From: FL Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Remove area attractants:

Any food source that attracts dogs, cats, or raccoons can also attract bears!!!

- Store trash in a secure area until the morning of pickup
- Bring pet food inside, store securely
- Protect gardens, compost & livestock with electric fencing
- Clean grills and store them in a secure area
- Remove bird and wildlife feeders if there is a bear in the area

If you have a close encounter with a bear:

- Stay calm
- Never approach the bear
- Do not run from the bear
- Do not offer the bear food
- Remain standing upright
- Back away slowly
- Watch the bear, but avoid eye contact
- Speak in a calm, assertive, assuring voice
- Make sure the bear has an escape route
- Leave-retreat to a safe building or car

Please note: Bears are wild animals and following this advice does not eliminate the risk of injury.

The FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is dedicated to reducing conflicts between people and bears in our communities. For more information, visit their website: www.MyFWC.com/bear or if you experience bear problems, please contact the Northwest Region FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Office: (850)265-3676.