

# WHAT TO DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR



## **In a Building or Near a Dumpster**

- Give the bear a clear escape route; do NOT corner it.
- Leave any doors open as you back away from the bear.
- Do not lock the bear in a room.

## **In Your Yard**

- From a safe distance, make loud noises by shouting or banging pots and pans together to scare the bear.
- After the bear leaves, remove potential attractants such as bird seed, garbage, pet food, and BBQ grill.

# Bear Conflicts are a Community Problem with a Community Solution

- Many conflicts with bears can be prevented by simply removing or securing common bear attractants.
- Removing those food sources will also reduce the number of other potential backyard visitors, such as skunks and raccoons.
- It's important to work with your neighbors to remove all attractants in the neighborhood.

**The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept.  
wants to know about bear incidents**

**Please report incidents at:**

**[vtfishandwildlife.gov](http://vtfishandwildlife.gov)**

**or 802-828-1000**

