



# Modify your trashcan to resist bears



Secure your trashcan from bears using this easily to install design. To test your existing trashcan before modification, turn it on its side and stand on it; if the can collapses or the lid bends easily, it will not keep a bear out regardless of these modifications. In addition, before retrofitting your can, contact your waste service provider to ensure they will service a modified (retrofitted) can. **This design may not stop bears from accessing your garbage and trashcans should be kept secure until the morning of pickup.** For a more permanent solution, ask your waste service provider for a commercially manufactured bear-resistant trashcan. For more information, go to [MyFWC.com/Bear](http://MyFWC.com/Bear).

## Hasp Design

### Materials and Tools Needed:

- (1) Heavy-duty Trashcan
- (16)  $\frac{3}{8}$ " Washers
- (16) #10-24 x  $\frac{3}{8}$ " Machine Screws
- (2) Steel Fixed Eye Hasps (hinged or flat)\*
- (2) Small-sized Carabineers (turn-lock style preferred)
- (16) #10-24 x  $\frac{3}{8}$ " Nuts
- (1) Torque Wrench
- (1) Power Drill
- (1)  $\frac{3}{8}$ " Drill Bit

(\*If wood screws come in the hasp package, replace them with machine screws.)



1. Pre-drill  $\frac{3}{8}$ " holes for the hasp hinge in the two top, front corners (A) of the body of can.

NOTE: some models of cans may be better adapted to apply the hasps to the two top, side corners (B).

2. Screw the hinge onto the base of the can with machine screws through the pre-drilled holes. On the back of each machine screw place a washer then a nut. Tighten all nuts so the hinge does not move.



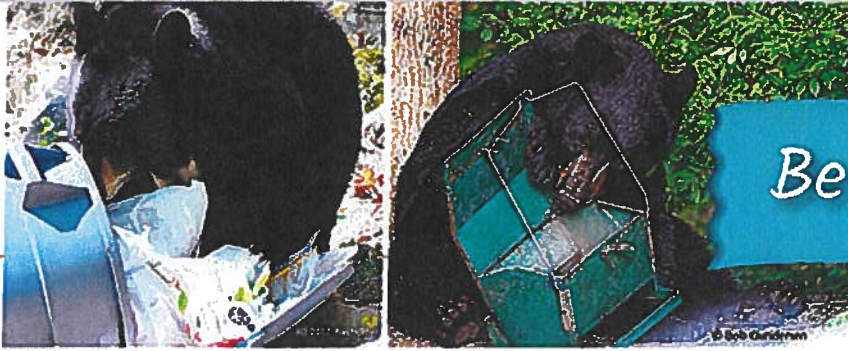
3. Lay the hinge over the lid to mark the best position for the eye of the hasp. Make sure the hinge can be locked and unlocked easily. Pre-drill  $\frac{3}{8}$ " holes in the marked spots on the lid of the can for the hasp eye.

4. Attach the eye of the hasp onto the lid with machine screws through the pre-drilled holes. On the back of each machine screw place a washer then tighten on a nut so the hasp eye does not move.

5. Repeat steps 1-4 on the other front corner of the can.

6. Fold the hinges over the can lip and use clips or carabineers through the hasp eye to secure trashcan contents.

NOTE: Tie a string or cord through the carabineers and the hasps to prevent the carabineers from getting lost when not in use.



Be BearWise  
AT HOME

## Six At-Home BearWise Basics



### Never Feed or Approach Bears

Intentionally feeding bears or allowing them to find anything that smells or tastes like food teaches bears to approach homes and people looking for more. Bears will defend themselves if a person gets too close, so don't risk your safety and theirs!



### Secure Food, Garbage and Recycling

Food and food odors attract bears, so don't reward them with easily available food, liquids or garbage.



### Remove Bird Feeders When Bears Are Active

Birdseed and grains have lots of calories, so they're very attractive to bears. Removing feeders is the best way to avoid creating conflicts with bears.



### Never Leave Pet Food Outdoors

Feed pets indoors when possible. If you must feed pets outside, feed in single portions and remove food and bowls after feeding. Store pet food where bears can't see or smell it.



### Clean & Store Grills

Clean grills after each use and make sure that all grease, fat and food particles are removed. Store clean grills and smokers in a secure area that keeps bears out.



### Alert Neighbors to Bear Activity

See bears in the area or evidence of bear activity? Tell your neighbors and share information on how to avoid bear conflicts. Bears have adapted to living near people; now it's up to us to adapt to living near bears.

Black bear is a species; common colors include black, brown and cinnamon.



Learn More:

**BearWise.org**

Helping People Live Responsibly with Black Bears





Be BearWise  
OUTDOORS

## Six Outdoor BearWise Basics



### Stay Alert & Stay Together

Pay attention to your surroundings and stay together. Walk, hike, jog, or cycle with others when possible. Keep kids within sight and close by. Leave earbuds at home and make noise periodically so bears can avoid you.



### Leave No Trash or Food Scraps

Double bag your food when hiking and pack out all food and trash. Don't burn food scraps or trash in your fire ring or grill. *Leaving scraps, wrappers, or even "harmless" items like apple cores teaches bears to associate trails and campsites with food.*



### Keep Dogs Leashed

Letting dogs chase or bark at bears is asking for trouble; don't force a bear to defend itself. Keep your dogs leashed at all times or leave them at home.



### Camp Safely

Set up camp away from dense cover and natural food sources. Cook as far from your tent as possible. **Do not store food, trash, clothes worn when cooking, or toiletries in your tent.** Store in approved bear-resistant containers OR out of sight in locked vehicle OR suspended at least 10 feet above the ground and 10 feet from any part of the tree. *Local regulations vary.*



### Know What To Do If You See a Black Bear

**If you see a bear before it notices you**, don't approach. Stand still, enjoy, then quietly move away. **If a bear sees you**, back away slowly. Never run; running may trigger a chase response. **If a bear approaches**, hold your ground, wave your arms and yell "Hey Bear" until it leaves. Stay with your group. **If it keeps approaching**, use bear spray. **If a black bear makes contact with you**, do NOT play dead; fight back aggressively.



### Carry Bear Spray & Know How To Use It

Bear spray is proven to be the easiest and most effective way to deter a bear that threatens you. It doesn't work like bug repellent, so **never** spray your tent, campsite or belongings.

Black bear is a species; common colors include black, brown and cinnamon.

Learn More:

**BearWise.org**

Helping People Live Responsibly with Black Bears

BearWise® CREATED BY BEAR BIOLOGISTS, SUPPORTED BY STATE WILDLIFE AGENCIES



© 2022