

## Bear-Resistant Containers

For a list of all approved bear-resistant containers and electric fence equipment, visit the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) website at [www.igbconline.org](http://www.igbconline.org).

A bear-resistant container developed commercially must be approved by the IGBC. Containers developed for personal use may be inspected for approval by the local district ranger or their designated representatives.



## Know Your Bears!

Grizzly bears have a distinctive shoulder hump, a dished face profile, and short, rounded ears. Black bears have no prominent shoulder hump, tall, pointed ears, and a straight face profile. Black bear tracks show shorter claws and toes more separated than grizzly's, which have toes closer together and much longer claws.



## Flathead National Forest Contact Information

Contact any ranger district office for more information about storing your attractants on the Flathead National Forest, the special food storage order ([go.usa.gov/xHCYU](http://go.usa.gov/xHCYU)) or bear-resistant products.

**Supervisor's Office/  
Tally Lake Ranger District**  
650 Wolfpack Way  
Kalispell, Montana 59901  
(406) 758-5204

**Swan Lake Ranger District**  
200 Ranger Station Road  
Bigfork, MT 59911  
(406) 837-7500

**Hungry Horse-Glacier View Ranger District**  
PO Box 190340  
10 Hungry Horse Drive  
Hungry Horse, MT 59919  
(406) 387-3800

**Spotted Bear Ranger District**  
PO Box 190340  
Hungry Horse, MT 59919  
(406) 758-5376 (May 15 to Nov 15)  
(406) 387-3800 (Nov 16 to May 14)

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Forest Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Northern Region  
Flathead National Forest

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## Flathead National Forest Visitor's Guide to Storing Food & Attractants in Bear Country



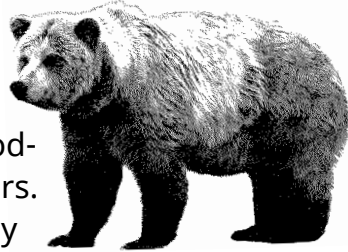
Photo courtesy of Steven Gnam

# Flathead National Forest Food Storage Order

The following is a summary of information enforced under 36 CFR 261.50 (a)(b)  
See the special orders at <https://go.usa.gov/xHCYu> for details

## Why is Proper Food Storage Important?

To co-exist safely with bears, there are actions we can take to prevent human-bear conflicts and food-conditioned bears. Failure to comply with the food storage order may result in injury or property damage or a citation and can have a serious negative impact on bears.

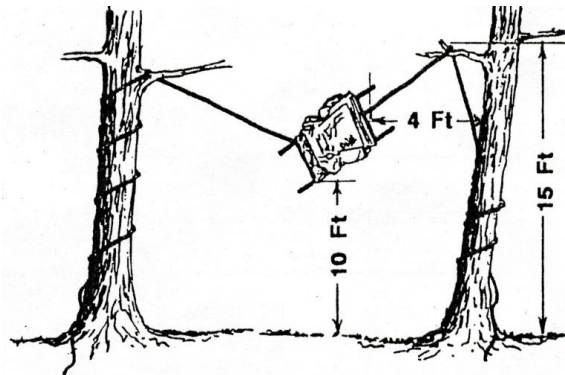
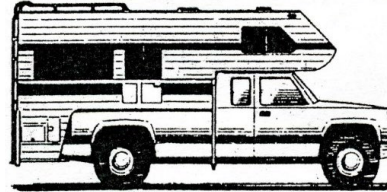


## What Attractants Do I Need To Keep Away From Bears?

- All human food, including canned goods and beverages. Burn all scraps off the grill if leaving it unattended.
- All toiletries, including tooth-paste, lip balm, sunscreen, and deodorant.
- All garbage.
- Wildlife carcasses, birds, fish, or other animal parts.
- All pet and livestock food (except baled or cubed hay without additives).

## How Should I Store My Attractants?

- Secured in a hard-sided camper or trailer or in a vehicle with all windows rolled up all the way.
- Secured in a hard-sided dwelling or storage building.
- Suspended at least 10 feet up (from the bottom of the suspended item) and 4 feet out from any upright support, i.e., tree or pole.



- Stored in an IGBC approved bear-resistant container. Bear-resistant coolers are available on the market, but they must be locked or bolted closed while unattended.

- Stored within an IGBC approved and operating electric fence.
- During daytime hours all attractants must be stored unless they are attended. During nighttime hours, all attractants must be stored in a bear-resistant manner unless they are in immediate control, such as being prepared for eating or storage.

## What About Hunters?

- At night, all wildlife carcasses within ½-mile of any sleeping area must be stored in a bear-resistant manner.
- Remove game meat as soon as possible and move all remains well away from trails.

## What About Livestock?

The responsible party shall report the death of any livestock and its location to a Forest Service official within 24 hours of discovery. In some very remote areas, it may not be possible to meet the 24-hour requirement. In these special cases, the responsible party shall report to a Forest Service official the discovery of any dead livestock within 48 hours.