

# Be Beary Smart

## DURING YOUR VACATION IN THE GREATER SHAVER LAKE AREA

**We have been experiencing an increased amount of bear sightings in the Greater Shaver Lake area, particularly in neighborhoods, since the Creek Fire. These bears are being pushed out of their natural habitat and into more populated areas. Here is how to keep you and the bears safe from harm.**

### DON'T FEED THE BEARS!

We know they're adorable, but under no circumstances should you feed the bears. They are still wild animals. Be careful about inadvertently feeding them, too. Forgo the use birdfeeders and if a trash or dumpster is full, don't pile your trash outside; take it with you when you leave. Bears that know they can find an easy snack will continue to come back and become nuisance bears. Unfortunately at that point, the bear would have to be euthanized.

### BEAR ENCOUNTERS

If you encounter a bear at your vacation rental, we highly encourage you to try to scare it away. Discouraging these cute cubs from coming around is their best chance at survival. Make lots of noise, bang pots and pans from a safe distance. **Do not approach it.** Give the bear an escape route. If you encounter a bear in the wild, do not run. Back away slowly in the opposite direction and wait for the bear to leave.

### OTHER TIPS

Be proactive and carry bear spray. Do not preemptively spray bear spray around the property as a deterrent - once dried it actually attracts bears. Keep patios/decks free of scented products (sunscreen, mosquito repellent), food, pet food, trash. Keep exterior doors closed, even when you're there and clean and store grill after each use.

