Village Update

SPECIAL EDITION

March 30, 2023



Waste Collection Time Slots Remain the Same: Here's everything you need to know

Our bears are awake! We have now had reports of two bears in the village. Thanks you to those who reported the sightings via our website (**www.lionsbaybearsmart.ca**). Please keep 'em coming. These reports are confidential and are not shared.

Please check your property to make sure attractants, such as food waste, garbage, bird feeders, pet food and food deliveries are out of reach of all wildlife (this includes raccoons, rats, crows, etc). Empty garbage cans should also be stored out of reach.

The waste collection time slots remain the same at this time but may change depending on bear activity. Please put your waste out as close to 7:30 am, 9:00 am or 10:00 am as possible. The bylaw was recently amended to make these time slots enforceable. Clean recyclables should be placed curbside in the Friday morning time slots or as close as possible to those times or, if you have to head out, as you leave home.

Drop-off at the Works Yard on Saturdays (8am – 11pm) for garbage and food waste only has begun again.

If you're unable to comply with these measures, please email lionsbaybearsmart@gmail.com so the Bear Smart team can try to find a solution.

The 2023 Waste Collection Schedule can be found here

Report attractants not being managed: bylaw@lionsbay.ca or lionsbaybearsmart@gmail.com.



If the trucks are late, or don't pick up, please call Waste Control Services at 604-986-9777.

How to handle food waste/garbage/recycling/attractants

1. Don't store garbage, food waste or recycling bins outside, in a carport or in a shed whether they're full or empty. It's that simple. They must be stored in a bear-proof location.
2. Keep food waste in a bag in the freezer and only put it out at the designated time on pickup day (see schedule above), preferably in a bear-resistant bin. If you can't freeze all of it, freeze meat, fish, bones, leftover pet food and similar.
3. Keep bins clean. Don't put food scraps directly into the food waste bin: use compostable bags to line the bin. Paper bags available from supermarkets; small compostable bags available from the office.
4. Do not put food waste in with your garbage.
5. Rinse/wash recyclable containers and jars so there is no odorous residue.
6. Clean your green waste, glass, and garbage bins (also consider where you dump the wash water).
7. Burn off your BBQ and remove the grease traps after every use. Make sure they are kept clean or in a secure location.
8. Remove bird feeders or keep them suspended at least 10ft from the ground and any access points.
9. Pets should be fed indoors and all pet food and bowls stored inside.
10. Protect beehives and fruit trees with electric fencing.
11. Pick and remove ripe and fallen fruit promptly.
12. Keep your home and garage doors/windows closed if you are not in the immediate area.

There's a bear on my property

Bears are peaceful, intelligent animals that generally want to avoid conflict. If a bear is

accessing attractants or a curious bear is investigating something on your property it shouldn't be, teach the bears this is not acceptable and that they need to move along.

1. From a safe place, such as an open window or your deck, tell the bear to move on using a firm assertive tone.
2. Stand tall, make eye contact, and be persistent. Assert your dominance and let the bear know they are in a no-go zone.
3. If the bear is still not getting the message, use noise, water, or use a quick hiss of bear spray to convey the message. Keep in mind that bears living near humans are often accustomed to loud noises and may not be encouraged to leave by noise alone.
4. When the bear begins to move along, stop using water/noise. This helps reinforce that moving along is good behavior. You can even say "Good bear" in a calm voice as the bear leaves.

Please continue to report bear sightings on www.lionsbaybearsmart.ca.
Thank you for working with us to keep our bears alive!

Village of Lions Bay I lionsbay.ca

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