

HELP!



We need your help to save park bears from possible destruction.

The Problem: Bears have recently been allowed to obtain food from Lakeshore visitors in the backcountry and drive-in campsites. Though the bears have not (to date) shown aggressive behavior, people have relinquished their food to bears on several occasions.

The Result: A result of the human behavior of relinquishing food is *bears* have become attracted to *people*. They now connect people with food.

The Solution: *To protect the bears and yourself, it is very important for you to:*

1. Hang your food on the food storage poles provided in backcountry campgrounds. PLEASE hang only your food, toothpaste, snacks, medications, cosmetics, and other possible edibles on the food poles. Hang a food bag - not the entire pack (which may bend the pole making it unusable).
2. Keep an immaculately clean camp. Take food down from the pole only when you are actively engaged in preparing, eating, or cleaning up your meal. At all other times, store food, gum, toothpaste, snacks, etc., on the food pole. Never take food in your tent.
3. If you see other campers not obeying the mandatory food storage regulations, kindly mention to them that their - *and your* - safety depends on their compliance and cooperation.
4. In the drive-in campgrounds, keep your food in a hard-sided vehicle if you are not actively engaged in preparing, eating, or cleaning up your meal. Never store food in a screen tent. Keep a clean camp.
5. Report any bear/human interactions to park staff at **906.387.3700 or 906.494.2660**

How To Act: If a bear challenges you for your food, make noise, assume a “large” stance, get others to help you. If the bear shows aggressive behavior, e.g. growling, “chuffing” or physically challenging you - slowly back away from the animal, maintaining your stance and noise. But keep your food from the bear if possible!

The Fine: Park visitors found not complying with food storage regulations will be fined a minimum of \$50 per infraction, and may be **required to appear before the magistrate in court**.

If park visitors are unable to keep human food from bears, the bears may - with experience - become more aggressive, possibly resulting in physical injury to you the visitor. If this occurs, bears unfortunately will be killed - a sad result of human misbehavior.

