



**Town of
Manchester**

BE AWARE!



Black bears are now common in Connecticut and sightings can occur anywhere. Follow these steps to stay safe:

Remove food attractants:

- Take down bird-feeders from **March – November**.
- Secure trash in bear-proof cans or inside garages.
- Don't leave pet food outdoors.

Keep it clean:

- Wash grills and garbage bins regularly.
- Avoid putting meat scraps or sweets in the compost.

Encounter safety:

- Make noise (yell or clap) if a bear is near.
- Never run. Back away slowly.
- If it approaches, stay tall, wave your arms, shout, and use bear spray if available.

Report sightings:

- See a bear around homes or public places? **Call DEEP at 860-424-3333 (24-hour) or the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011.**
- **For emergencies call 9-1-1**



Why it matters: Reducing easy access to food helps prevent bears from getting used to human areas.

Your Role: Your actions can make a difference. Cut off bears' access to food, and they'll naturally move on.