

# Bear Smart Week

Port Hardy



## Last Week in March



SCAVENGER  
HUNT

CONTESTS

PRIZES

March 27-April 2

Street banner contest with multiple winners up to \$200.00 each, colouring contests, quizzes with tips and answers, a Facebook page launch, and more...!

For event details visit [porthardy.ca](http://porthardy.ca)

## What you do matters!

Remove your attractants to prevent human-wildlife conflicts.

For more  
information to be  
Bear Smart  
or volunteer,  
call 250-949-6665  
or visit [porthardy.ca](http://porthardy.ca)



SCAVENGER HUNT!

# Bear Smart Week Port Hardy

From March 27-April 2 find the yellow Bear Smart posters where the clues take you and record the number from each poster at each location. Take a picture of one of your favourite locations and upload it to complete the scavenger hunt.

If you want to submit your scavenger hunt entry in paper form, you can just drop it off at the Municipal Hall located at 7360 Columbia Street by **April 6, 2022**.

On April 7, 2022 all fully completed scavenger hunt entries will be placed in a random draw for a chance to win one of four of our Bear Smart packs which includes a Bear Smart sling bag and other goodies. We will post the photos submitted by the winners on our new Bear Smart Port Hardy Facebook Page. Good luck!

Please note, by submitting a photo you are agreeing that the District of Port Hardy may post it on the District's social media platform and may use it in future print and web-based literature to announce the contest winners.

Look for the posters around town by following the clues, then match the corresponding number from the top of the poster to answer the survey question. Scan the QR code to go straight to the hunt or visit [www.porthardy.ca](http://www.porthardy.ca).



## Colouring Contest!



### IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

**Stay calm-** If the bear sees you, talk in a low, calm voice and then regardless if it has seen you or not:

**Back up slowly**— Never turn your back on a bear or run. Running could trigger an attack.

**Do not stare**— The bear will see a direct stare as a challenge.

**Give it space**— Make sure it has a way to get away, and that you are not blocking access to a bear's cubs or its food.

### WHEN ON A TRAIL

**Make noise.** Don't surprise a bear. Call, sing, clap or talk loudly especially near streams and in areas of low visibility.

**Be Alert.** Watch for bears or their scat and tracks, any strange smells or disturbed vegetation. Be aware of wind direction and speed. Extra caution is warranted when the wind is facing you.

**Stay together.** Hike and bike in groups and don't let children wander. Larger groups (4 or more) are less likely to have a negative bear encounter.

Return any one or all of the enclosed colouring pages to the Municipal Hall located at **7360 Columbia Street by April 6**—*make sure to include your name and phone number, or email for your chance to win an awesome Bear Smart sling bag filled with goodies!!!*



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!**

**Bear Smart Port Hardy, an initiative directed by the Council of the District of Port Hardy, is seeking volunteers to help the committee provide education about being Bear Smart to the public.**

#### Our Mission:

##### What does Bear Smart Port Hardy do?

- We pass along information to help protect our community from Human Wildlife conflicts.
- We assist the Conservation Service in spreading the word of bear sightings in the area.
- Make recommendations to Council on initiatives that reduce conflicts.

##### How can you help?

- We have many volunteer opportunities available such as:
- Booths at community events.
  - Visiting schools.
  - Assisting the Conservation Service with door to door campaigns when bears are in the area.
  - Social media post creation.
  - Data entry and maintenance.
  - Preparing articles and content for website.

##### What we don't do:

- Act as bylaw enforcement
- Act as conservation officers
- Work for the Conservation Service



**Interested in becoming a volunteer or need more information?**  
Contact: District of Port Hardy  
Email: [general@porthardy.ca](mailto:general@porthardy.ca)  
Phone: 250-949-6665

**Watch your pets.** Keep your dog on a leash at all times. Dogs can provoke defensive bear behaviour.

**Use officially marked trails.** Travel during daylight hours. Bears are most active at dawn and dusk.

Carry bear spray and know how to use it.



# BEAR SMART STARTS WITH YOU!



## WHAT YOU DO REALLY MATTERS!



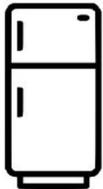
Here are some great tips to help you reduce human-wildlife conflicts:



- Do not store your garbage or recycling outside.
- Do not put out garbage/recycling until 7 am on pick up day.



- Harvest your fruit as soon as it ripens.
- Remove fallen fruit from the ground.



- Do not use outdoor fridges and freezers to store food.



- Do not use bird feeders.
- Instead use bird baths or plant red or pink native flowers to attract birds.



- Feed your pets inside and store their food inside.
- Ensure hen enclosures are electrified.



- Burn BBQ and clean immediately after each use.

**To report a bear encounter where public safety is at risk call the Conservation Officer Service at 1.877.952.RAPP (7277)**

When you report bear activity to the Conservation Officer Service, it provides the opportunity to work proactively together to fix the problem before it gets out of control. Reports may NOT result in the removal of the animal, in fact, if reported soon enough, Conservation Officers, municipal workers and community volunteers can often change human behavior before it results in the removal of the animal.

**It takes the entire community to make change!**



[www.porthardy.ca](http://www.porthardy.ca)  
250.949.6665

**March 27 - April 2 is Bear Smart Week!**

Get ready for a week of family fun celebrating Bear Smart Week featuring a colouring contest, scavenger hunt, prizes and more! [porthardy.ca](http://porthardy.ca) or follow Bear Smart Port Hardy on Facebook.