



Stash Your Food and Trash

Allowing wild animals access to human food and garbage is reckless and deadly.

Bears and other animals are attracted to anything edible or smelly.

- Store garbage in bear-proof containers
- Or store garbage in your garage until pick-up
- Keep food indoors or in airtight and odor-free containers
- Put away picnic leftovers; clean BBQ grills
- Keep pet food and bird feeders away
- Pick up fallen tree fruit
- Remove cosmetic fragrances and other attractants
- Install or request bear-proof trash containers

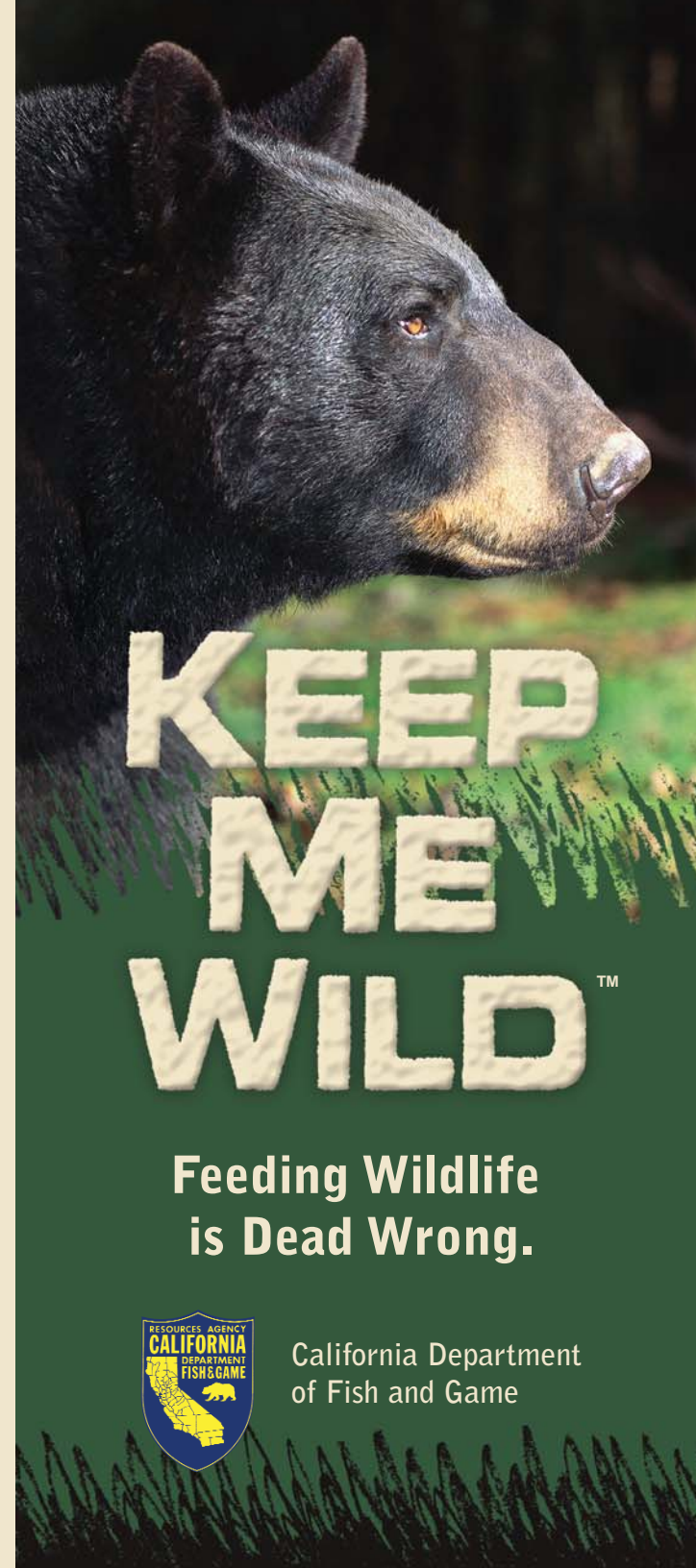
It is against the law to feed wild animals. Wild animals which are allowed to feed on human food and garbage lose their natural ways and end up in tragic conflicts which may result in death.

Please respect and protect wild animals. Keep them wild.

www.keepmewild.org



California Department of Fish and Game
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814



KEEP ME WILD™

**Feeding Wildlife
is Dead Wrong.**



California Department
of Fish and Game

Wild Animals Ruined, Even Killed by People's Carelessness!

Wild animals are in trouble, and the problem is people: our carelessness and irresponsibility with food and garbage.

Black bears, coyotes and other wild animals are increasing in California's wild habitats, alongside our own expanding communities.

Wild animals naturally fear humans, keep their distance and will not bother you, so long as they remain fully wild. But if they lose their wildness, their behavior changes.

If black bears are mistreated by people who give them access to human food and garbage, they rapidly become addicted. They lose caution and fear. They cause property damage. They might threaten human safety. They might be killed.

Please prevent such tragedies!



Black bears are by nature fearful of humans. But if people turn them into addicts of human food and garbage, the same bears can become aggressive.

Ruined black bears can be hazed away from human areas by violent threats and harassment, but it takes intense around-the-clock vigilance by specially trained officers. This solution is beyond the reach of most communities.

Tranquilizing and moving a bear who is addicted to human food back into a remote wilderness territory often means a fight to the death with another bear already there. Or the bear finds its way back to human habitats, gets into human conflicts, and might be killed.

Hazing and relocating bears are temporary measures, at best.

There is only one realistic long-lasting solution.

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Bear-Proof Containers

A variety of bear-proof food containers and garbage can enclosures are available. Visit www.keepmewild.org for more information.



What to do?

Ask your local Fish and Game warden, park ranger, law enforcement officer, garbage collection company, or town council. Or visit our web-site: www.keepmewild.org

Major Campaign Participants

California Department of Fish and Game
California State Parks
USDA Wildlife Services
U.S. Forest Service

New Laws

Feeding bears in California is illegal. Some communities have adopted or are creating new laws, making it illegal to "knowingly or willingly leave or store any garbage, food product, pet food or grain in a manner which would constitute an attractant to any wild animal." Penalties may include fines and a requirement to install bear-proof garbage containers.



Can you help?

Please call the California Department of Fish and Game (916) 653-6420.