



CARRY BEAR SPRAY AND KNOW HOW TO USE IT

When recreating in bear country, your best strategy to avoid an encounter is to **make lots of noise, stay in groups** and **be alert for signs of bears in the area**. Diggings, scat, visible tracks and overturned logs and rocks are all signs that bears are around.

In most cases, bears will do their best to avoid people. Most encounters happen because bears are surprised by people, or because they are defending their cubs or a kill.

In the rare case of an aggressive confrontation, bear spray is your best defense. Recent reports show bear spray to be more effective than a bullet in diverting or stopping a charging bear.

Wildlife Encounters

If you do encounter a predator, you may only have a few seconds to react. Remember the S.P.R.A.Y. acronym.

S – Stop

Stay CALM and DO NOT RUN. Assess the situation.

P – Prepare

Remove the bear spray from the holster with your dominant hand and grasp the base with your other hand. Observe the animal. If the animal does not appear interested in you, back away slowly, always facing the animal. If the animal approaches or follows – stop.

R – Remove the safety

With the bear spray in both hands, release the safety.

A – Build A Wall

If the predator charges you, build a wall of spray between you and the predator. Do this by pointing the bear spray to the ground a few meters in front of you, press on the trigger and bring the spray up in line with the predator's head.

Y – Yield

Take a step back to put distance between you and the cloud of spray and the predator.



Thirty Three Seconds of Safety: Bear Spray



Stop
Prepare
Remove
build A wall
Yield