

CAMPING IN BEAR COUNTRY

Black bears are common in the Lake Tahoe Basin. These curious, intelligent bears are usually docile in nature, but can become aggressive if habituated to humans through our food and food garbage. The following guidelines must be followed while visiting Camp Shelly:

- Store all food and related supplies, including ice chests, in your campsite's food storage locker. Bears recognize ice chests and cans, so they must be stored the same as food.
- Never leave camp unattended if food is not stored safely inside your storage locker.
- Store food day and night. Bears may enter the campground during the day, even if people are there.
- Be sure all food is safely stored before going to bed. Never leave food outside.
- Keep a clean camp. Be sure to have all your trash in the trash cans by 9:30 p.m., so the rangers can pick it up and dispose of it safely.
- If you have trash after the nightly garbage pick up, you may store it overnight inside your storage locker, then place it in your trash can in the morning. You may also place your garbage in one of the bear-proof trash receptacles located throughout the lower campground loop.
- Do not store any food or scented items, such as soap, hairspray, sunscreen, or toothpaste, in your tent or soft-sided tent trailer. Only non-food items like clothing and sleeping bags should be kept in your tent. Never store any type of cooking utensils in your tent, even clean ones. Food odors can remain on the utensils and can attract bears to your tent.

If you have any questions about food storage or wildlife please contact a ranger at Camp Shelly. With your cooperation we can maintain a clean, safe campground for all of our visitors, while insuring a long and truly natural life for the bears and all of the wildlife in this beautiful area.

