



## The Woodlands Homeowners Association Newsletter

[www.woodlandsmccall.org](http://www.woodlandsmccall.org)



### Bears, FAQ's, and July meeting minutes

Dear Woodlands Homeowners:

Bears have been sighted in the neighborhood. Homeowners are required to use bear proof containers for garbage per City Code. The bear proof container must be filled only to the point that the container can be and is securely closed and properly latched. Overflowing and unlatched containers are not bear proof.

The McCall office of Idaho Department of Fish and Game personnel are the knowledgeable and experienced people here in McCall on this topic and they have provided a flyer to us about Bear Safe Frequently Asked Questions and asked that we email it to you. The entire FAQ about Problem Bears is [HERE](#).

Fish and Game says:

*"Living in or visiting a mountain town comes with responsibilities towards the wildlife that live here. Ensuring that bears do not have access to human food sources will help avoid creating "problem bears," which reduces the potential for harm to bears and humans. Even if you have never had a bear problem in the past, once a bear discovers food even one time, it forms a memory that is hard to erase. Be diligent about keeping food sources secure, so that no bear ever forms that memory at your home.*

#### So how can I avoid having bear problems in the first place?

*This is by far the best solution – if the bad habit never starts, then there's no need to break the habit, and never a need to consider killing a bear that becomes aggressive or habituated. Here are several relatively easy things to remember:*

- Do not put birdfeeders out between April and October.
- Use bear resistant trash containers, and ensure they are properly latched.
- If you do not have a bear resistant trash container, keep trash in an enclosed shed or garage until the morning of pickup.
- Keep pet food inside.
- Clean barbecue grills after use, and store them in an enclosed shed or garage.
- Avoid having refrigerators, freezers, or coolers outside.
- Talk to your neighbors, and ensure they're doing the same thing. "

Furthermore, the McCall City Code requires us all to use bear proof containers:

#### 5.8.050: REQUIRED BEARPROOF CONTAINERS:

Within the city limits of the city of McCall each owner, lessor/lessee, or manager of commercial or residential real property who subscribes to solid waste collection services from the approved waste management contractor must either purchase from any source, or lease a bearproof solid waste container from the approved waste management contractor. Any nonsubscriber of solid waste collection services shall provide for the proper storage and disposal of all solid waste, garbage, or refuse on their

#### CONTACTS

President  
Shauna Enders  
[shauna@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:shauna@woodlandsmccall.org)

VP  
Don Sanda  
[don@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:don@woodlandsmccall.org)

Secretary  
Margie Elliott  
[margie@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:margie@woodlandsmccall.org)  
208.634.1471

Treasurer  
Walt Czarniecki  
[walt@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:walt@woodlandsmccall.org)  
208.362.9263

#### Directors

Patti Soucek  
[patti@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:patti@woodlandsmccall.org)  
208.315.1177

George McFedries  
[george@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:george@woodlandsmccall.org)  
714.788.1222

Jared Schuster  
[jared@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:jared@woodlandsmccall.org)  
208.755.5890

Brian Bush  
[brian@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:brian@woodlandsmccall.org)

Michael Everett  
[michael@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:michael@woodlandsmccall.org)  
208.451.5076

Marcia Witte  
[marcia@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:marcia@woodlandsmccall.org)

Shelly DeMoss  
[shelly@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:shelly@woodlandsmccall.org)

#### Architectural Committee

Todd McKenna  
[todd@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:todd@woodlandsmccall.org)  
208.634.1345

#### Firewise Committee

Al King  
[al@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:al@woodlandsmccall.org)  
208.866.3662

Jacki Rubin  
[jacki@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:jacki@woodlandsmccall.org)  
208.630.8884

premises. It is unlawful for any owner, lessor/lessee, or manager to place solid waste, garbage, or refuse in a container which is not an approved and properly secured and latched bearproof container, unless such solid waste is placed in a secure and enclosed structure, or otherwise personally attended. This section shall not be construed to require more than one container per mailing address. Owners or managers of multi-family or multi-tenant properties may lease a bearproof solid waste container under this section, and provide the same for all tenants, which will satisfy the requirements of this section for a given property and occupants thereof. Any container leased for a property pursuant to this section must be of sufficient size to reasonably accommodate all solid waste created by the activities upon such property during any given one week period. (Ord. 915, 6-13-2013, eff. 7-1-2013)

#### 5.8.080: PENALTIES:

Any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind, including any owner, occupant, lessee or tenant of a premises, violating this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined in an amount not exceeding three hundred dollars (\$300.00) or shall be imprisoned in the county jail for a period not exceeding six (6) months, or be both so fined and imprisoned pursuant to the general penalty provisions of title I, chapter 3 of this code. Each day such violation is committed, or permitted to continue, may constitute a separate offense and may be punishable as such. Any person convicted of a first offense of violating section 5.8.050 of this chapter shall be entitled to an abatement of these penalties if such person purchases an approved bearproof cart or subscribes to solid waste collection services from the approved solid waste management contractor not later than fifteen (15) days after entry of guilty plea or finding of guilt by court or jury, or before sentencing, whichever shall occur first. (Ord. 917, 6-13-2013, eff. 7-1-2013)

Thank you to those neighbors who have moved to comply with the CC&R's regarding RV's, Campers, ATV's boats, kayaks etc. Those stored on site need to be at the side or in back of the residence AND screened from sight of any traffic along subdivision roads. Refer to the CC&R's for suggested screening or consult with Todd McKenna of the Architectural Committee. Full minutes from the July Board meeting are on our website's News page [HERE](#):

Please read all of this information carefully (especially the [F&G FAQ info](#)) and take appropriate action to help us all to avoid problem bears in our neighborhood.

The Woodlands Board of Directors

#### Reservations for the Common Area

Margie Elliott

[margie@woodlandsmccall.org](mailto:margie@woodlandsmccall.org)

208.634.1471

See prior newsletters and other key homeowner information on the homeowners' website:

[www.woodlandsmccall.org](http://www.woodlandsmccall.org)

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Woodlands Homeowners Association  
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McCall, Idaho 83638  
US

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