



Produced August 30, 2019 by Mountain View BearSmart Society

BEAR ACTIVITY: August 2 to 29, 2019 in Mountain View County

Mountain View BearSmart provides a weekly summary of bear activity in Mountain View County during March/April to October/November (the months that bears are active outside their winter dens). This summary is based upon a compilation of bear information provided by government agencies and unconfirmed sightings reported by the public each week. It is not intended to be used as a real time, complete record of where bears are in the county.

BEARS CAN BE ENCOUNTERED ANYWHERE, ANYTIME!

Black Bear Sighting Aug 25, 2019 In the evening on August 25, a black bear cub was seen in a pasture in Dog Pound area, off the Acme Road - the mother black bear may also have been present - a bee hive was knocked over. (info from local land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 20, 2019 Early in the afternoon on Aug 19, a grizzly bear and her cub ran across the road in the Bentz Lake area, west of Sundre. (info from passing motorist)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 19, 2019 On August 17 and 18, a grizzly bear was sighted raiding bee hives, SE of Bergen. (info from local land owner)

Bear Sighting Aug 16, 2019 On August 13 & 15, a small ginger coloured bear was seen in a subdivision near the Red Deer River, west of Sundre. (info from local land owner)

Bear Sighting Aug 15, 2019 Early on the morning of August 15, a bear was seen crossing the road, east of Bergen Road. (info from passing motorist)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 14, 2019 Just after midnight on the morning of August 14, a grizzly bear was photographed by a trail camera, east of Bergen - it may have had cubs. (info from local land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 12, 2019 Two yearling grizzlies were seen SE of Cremona in the Dogpound area. (info from passing motorist)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 12, 2019 On August 11, 2 young grizzly bears (species confirmed from photo) were on a property, east of Cremona. (info from local land owner) The bears were sighted in the area again around 9 pm.

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 12, 2019 On August 11, 2 young grizzly bears were seen along a road (species confirmed from photo), south and east of Cremona in the Dogpound area. (info from local land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 10, 2019 In the evening on Aug 9, 2 yearling grizzly bears were seen moving through a hay field in the Dogpound area. (info from local land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 10, 2019 On the morning of August 9, a grizzly bear was sighted in the Bentz Lake area, west of Sundre. (info from local land owner)

Black Bear Sighting Aug 05, 2019 At noon on August 5, a black bear cub was seen in a back yard, west of Water Valley Golf Course. (info from local land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 08, 2019 On the morning of August 4, a grizzly bear was sighted on a road killed deer in the Bentz Lake area, west of Sundre. (info from passing motorist)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 04, 2019 In the evening on August 3, two yearling sized grizzly bears were seen in a field, SE of Madden in Rockyview County. (info from the public)

Black Bear Sighting Aug 08, 2019 On the morning of August 2, a black bear was sighted on a road killed deer in the Bentz Lake area, west of Sundre. (info from passing motorist)

Mountain View County is situated between the wilderness of the national parks and provincial forest reserves to the west and the extensively cultivated agricultural lands to the east. Mountain View County residents share their land with numerous species of wildlife and human-wildlife conflicts will arise, particularly with bears and cougars. The prime focus for wildlife is the search for food. Bears, cougars and other wildlife use the valley bottoms and river corridors to move, feed, and sustain their populations. Since the same habitat is also coveted by humans, this creates a potential for conflict. You can do your part to ensure humans and wildlife can coexist - with a few changes around your home, you can minimize the possibility of conflict with wildlife.

Be Bear Smart

- Remove or secure the attractants in your yard such as garbage, pet food, bird feeders, and compost piles.
- Do not plant trees, shrubs or plants that produce fruit or berries. If you already have such plants, pick fruit and berries as soon as they ripen so as to not draw the bear into your yard.
- On agricultural lands, be aware that livestock carcasses, green feed crops, and grain storage can attract bears.

Be Cougar Smart

- Be aware that feeding or otherwise attracting deer into your yard could draw in cougars.
- Be aware of your surroundings especially at dawn and dusk and near the edges of bushy and forested areas.
- Cougars may perceive small children and pets as prey.

Always be aware of your surroundings, make enough noise that wildlife will hear you coming and move away - give all wildlife plenty of space to move away from you. Hike in groups when possible, carry bear spray and know how to use it. Always use caution by paying attention to signs of bear activity such as scats, tracks, and digging. Know how to reduce the likelihood of an encounter and be prepared should an encounter take place.

For information on deterrents (bear spray, noisemakers, etc) and how to use them (including videos):

<https://www.alberta.ca/deterrants-bear-spray-and-noisemakers.aspx>

If you want to report a bear or other wildlife sighting in your area for us to post on our website and in our weekly activity report, email it to: sightings@mountainviewbearsmart.com

As a courtesy, please consider calling your closest neighbours to advise them of the sighting.

If the bear or other wildlife is a public safety concern, call a Fish & Wildlife office near you. In Sundre, the number is 403-638-3805, in Olds 403-556-4256, or call toll-free at 310-0000 for the nearest office. After hours, call the 24-hour toll-free Report A Poacher line at 1-800-642-3800. If the situation is a public safety emergency, call 9-1-1.

For more information on Alberta BearSmart and about bears, cougars, wolves, coyotes, etc, please check out these Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) websites at:

<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-bearsmart.aspx>

<https://www.alberta.ca/living-with-wildlife.aspx>

Other BearSmart communities in Alberta that provide information or sightings:

1. Canmore, Bow Valley, Kananaskis, MD of Bighorn: <https://www.biosphereinstitute.org/wildsmart>
2. Crowsnest Pass: <http://crowsnestconservation.ca/our-work/crowsnest-conservation-bearsmart-program/> or <http://www.cnpbearsmart.com/>
3. MDs of Pincher Ck, Willow Ck, Ranchland, & Cardston County: <http://www.watertonbiosphere.com/>

For information on safety advisories (including bears) in all Alberta Provincial Parks:
<https://www.albertaparks.ca/albertaparksca/advisories-public-safety/advisories/>

For the weekly bear report from Banff, Yoho & Kootenay National Parks:
<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/mtn-ours-bears/miseajour-update/miseajour-update-byk>
(this site also has links to the weekly bear reports for Jasper and Mount Revelstoke/Glacier National Parks)

2019 BEAR ACTIVITY in Mountain View County

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 02, 2019 Early in the morning on August 1, 2 grizzly bears were seen in a field behind a house, south of Highway 580 in the Jackson area. (info from local land owner)

Black Bear Sighting Aug 01, 2019 On the evening of August 1, a black bear was sighted crossing a road, south of Water Valley (info from passing motorist)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Jul 31, 2019 On the morning of July 31, a grizzly bear with a 2 year old cub (unconfirmed species) was seen east of Dogpound in the Jackson area. (info from Fish & Wildlife)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Aug 02, 2019 On the morning of July 29, a grizzly bear was seen standing up in the ditch of a road, west of Elkton. It may have had a cub. (info from passing motorist)

Black Bear Sighting Jul 29, 2019 On the morning of July 29, a black bear was seen south of the junction of Highway 22 & Bergen Road. (info from passing motorist)

Black Bear Sighting Jul 31, 2019 In the evening on July 28, a black bear was photographed by a trail camera, east of Bergen. (info from local land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Jul 29, 2019 At 1 am on July 28, a grizzly sow with 2 cubs charged and struck a vehicle travelling on the Big Prairie Road, west of Cremona. (info from CTV News)

Black Bear Sighting Jul 27, 2019 In the afternoon on July 27, a black bear with a cub was seen drinking from a pond south of the junction of Highway 2 and Bergen Road. (info from passing motorist)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Jul 27, 2019 On the morning of July 26, a grizzly bear was seen in a hay field near the junction of Highway 22 and Bergen Road. (info from local land owner)

Black Bear Sighting Jul 29, 2019 On July 23, a black bear was photographed by a trail camera, in the Pioneer Lodge area near the Red Deer River. (info from local land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Jul 20, 2019 In the early morning on July 19, a grizzly bear was photographed by a trail camera, east of Bergen. (info from local land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting Jul 20, 2019 On the afternoon of July 18, 2 young grizzly bears were seen along the road, south of Bergen. (info from local land owner)

(Sightings prior to July 18th are still available on the website)

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info@mountainviewbearsmart.com