Helping People Live Responsibly with Black Bears

If You Encounter a Bear
Black bears are seldom aggressive and attacks are rare.

- If you see a bear before it notices you: stand still, don’t approach and enjoy the moment. Then move away quietly in the opposite direction.
- If you encounter a bear that’s aware of you: don’t run; running may trigger a chase response. Back away slowly in the opposite direction and wait for the bear to leave.

Visit BearWise.org/bear-safety-tips/ to learn what to do if a black bear approaches, charges or follows you.

Precautions for Dog Walkers, Cyclists and Joggers

- Keep dogs leashed. Letting dogs chase or bark at bears is asking for trouble; don’t force a bear to defend itself.
- Leave earbuds at home. Cyclists and joggers traveling quickly and quietly can easily surprise bears. Be aware of your surroundings and make noise periodically.

Learn More:
BearWise.org