



Bear Awareness

Did you know that Camps Mockingbird, IASG, and Westover are in bear and cougar country? No need to worry—most self-respecting animals would stay away from a large group of campers. However, we don't want to encourage animals to get close or get used to us.



The following are a few reminders on how to stay safe.

1. Never cook, eat or store food in or near a tent (optimally tents should be 50 m away).
2. Keep food, toiletries, garbage away from the tenting area.
 - **Mockingbird:** Store in buildings.
 - **Westover:** Store in Rubbermaid containers or coolers inside boat shed or equipment shed.
 - **IASG:** Store in vehicles, Rubbermaid containers or coolers in Keego shed, or use Shooting Star bear hang.
3. Strain food particles from dish water and store with garbage.
 - **Mockingbird:** Strained waste water (slop) goes down LDP.
 - **Westover:** Strained waste water goes down latrine.
 - **IASG:** Strained waste water goes down LDP pipe.
4. Do not burn scrap food (take all garbage out).
5. Do not sleep in clothes worn while cooking.
6. Travel in groups of two or more.
7. Do not bring pets to camp.
8. Bring bear spray. (**Note:** Mockingbird has bear spray in the office from June 1 to September 30. Keep it with you during camp and return to the office when breaking camp.)

If you meet a bear:

- Stay calm—face the bear.
- Do not look bear in the eye—this is perceived as a threat.
- Back away quietly and slowly. Don't run.
- Don't climb a tree.
- Look big.