

# Bears want your food!

Black bears call this forest home and normally live in fear of humans. Careless visitors have allowed bears to gain access to their food in recent years and the bears have developed some bad habits as a result. Help us save these bears from an unfortunate end. Please store all food, trash and toiletries appropriately (3 options listed below) or risk a **fine of up to \$5000**.



If you plan on **hanging your food** you'll need to do so **at least 10 feet up and 5 feet out** from any tree or limb that could support the weight of a bear. Anything less and a visiting bear will likely get your food. Do you have enough rope?

A few sites in the backcountry now have **permanent food lockers**. If you stay at these sites please use the lockers. Remember to bring a back-up storage system just in case the site is full when you arrive.

The Androscoggin Ranger Station is now conducting a pilot program where **you can borrow a bear-resistant food canister for free**. These canisters are designed for backpackers and are an easy way to store your food. For more information call or stop by the ranger station just north on Route 16. Thanks for your help!!!



U.S. Forest Service Androscoggin Ranger District  
White Mountain National Forest  
300 Glen Road (Rte 16) Gorham, NH 03581  
(603) 466-2713      TTY: (603) 466-2856



# Food Canisters Available



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