

What is a Bear Wise community? Recently, Wingfield Reserve neighborhood joined our neighbors in the Wingfield North neighborhood adopting Bear Wise rules. The Wingfield Reserve HOA bought bear proof trash cans for each residence, and is paying for the bear trash can service for two years. Our mission is to reduce bear encounters and continue to live side by side with all of our wildlife.

Living against the Wekiva Preserve is an amazing thing! We are able to see an abundance of wildlife in our neighborhood. As more and more homes are built and natural areas that were once reserved for our wildlife are taken away, we have had more instances of encountering wildlife up close. In an effort to live in harmony with our wildlife, it is important to help decrease the availability of human food sources (garbage, outdoor refrigerators, coolers).

Since implementing Bear proof trashcans in our neighborhood, we have had decreased sightings of bears. In addition, the vigilance of our neighbors adhering to policies that try to protect our wildlife is working. We will continue to promote the education and awareness that is necessary to ensure that we can live in harmony with all of our beautiful wildlife that surrounds us!

Details about being a Bear Wise community can be found at the following websites:

FWC – The Florida Black Bear
[Bear Wise The Florida Black Bear](#)
Bear Smart website:
[Bear Smart Society Welcome!](#)