

Wingfield Reserve is proud to be a Bear Wise Community!

What is a Bear Wise community? A few years ago, Wingfield Reserve neighborhood joined our neighbors in the Wingfield North neighborhood adopting Bear Wise rules. The Wingfield Reserve HOA bought bear proof trashcans for each residence, and paid 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. Seminole County, along with other counties, have been trying to help residents find solutions to an increasing amount of human/wildlife interactions, and it is instrumental that we continue to be vigilant. One important way is to use Bear proof garbage cans and keeping garbage in our garages. We want to encourage wild animals to continue to find their natural food sources and not rely on our garbage, or by intentionally feeding them.

Living against the Wekiva Preserve is an amazing thing! We are able to see an abundance of wildlife in our neighborhood and many other neighborhoods. 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, bird feeders etc.).

Since implementing the Bear proof trashcans in our neighborhood, we have had decreased conflicts with 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. Thank you so much for doing your part!

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

FWC Website: [The Florida Black Bear](#)

Bear Smart Website: [Bear Smart Information](#)