

## KNOW YOUR BEARS



### BLACK BEAR

- 200-400 lbs
- Pointed ears
- Straight profile
- No shoulder hump
- Various colors



### GRIZZLY BEAR

- 300-600 lbs
- Rounded ears
- Dishd face
- Large shoulder hump
- Brown/grizzled fur

**Important!**  
**Color is NOT reliable!** Look for shape, size, and shoulder hump to identify bears.

### Bear Activity Times

- ✓ Most active dawn & dusk
- ✓ Active all seasons except winter
- ✓ Cubs born in winter dens
- ✓ Mothers very protective

## EMERGENCY INFO

**EMERGENCY**  
**911**

**PARK DISPATCH**  
**(307) 739-3300**

**ST. JOHN'S MEDICAL**  
**(307) 733-3636**

**BEAR ATTACK FIRST AID**  
✓ **Control bleeding:** direct pressure  
✓ Keep victim warm and calm  
✓ Don't move if spinal injury  
✓ Get medical help IMMEDIATELY

**REPORT ALL ENCOUNTERS**  
Report even sightings to park rangers - it helps keep everyone safe!



## PREVENTION IS KEY

**SECURE YOUR FOOD**  
✓ Use bear-proof containers ALWAYS  
✓ Store ALL scented items  
✓ Never leave food in vehicle  
✓ Cook 100+ yards from camp

**WHILE HIKING**  
✓ Travel in groups of 3+ people  
✓ Make noise - talk loudly, clap  
✓ Carry EPA-approved bear spray  
✓ Stay on designated trails  
✓ Alert near streams & vegetation

### BEAR SPRAY FACTS



**Range: 25-30 ft**  
Keep within reach  
Check expiration

- Practice before trip • Aim downward

### NEVER APPROACH

- Bears with cubs
- Bears feeding
- Bears on carcasses

## LEARN MORE

**Online Resources**  
✓ [nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/bears.htm](https://nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/bears.htm)

### Park Resources

#### Visitor Centers:

- ✓ Craig Thomas Discovery Center
- ✓ Jenny Lake Visitor Center

#### Bear Spray (Purchase/Rent):

- ✓ All visitor centers & park concessions
- ✓ Local outdoor retailers



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
U.S. Department of the Interior



# GRAND TETON

NATIONAL PARK

## BEAR SAFETY

*Essential Guide*

*Stay Safe • Stay Wild • Stay Alert*

### CRITICAL

Bears are active in this area.  
Proper preparation saves lives.

## BEAR ENCOUNTER

- STAY CALM**  
Do not run! Bears can run 35+ mph.
- MAKE YOURSELF LARGE**  
Raise arms, jacket, or backpack overhead.
- BACK AWAY SLOWLY**  
Face the bear, avoid direct eye contact.
- SPEAK IN LOW, CALM VOICE**  
"Hey bear, I'm backing away..."

**USE BEAR SPRAY IF:**  
• Bear approaches within 25 feet  
• Bear shows aggressive behavior  
• Bear charges  
**Aim slightly downward:** spray creates a protective wall.

**IF ATTACKED**  
**Grizzly:** Play dead. Lie flat, protect neck.  
**Black Bear:** Fight back. Be aggressive.