



Bear-Resistant Design Guidelines for Solid Waste, Organics and Recycling Enclosures & Containers

Planning Division

604.469.4540 • www.portmoody.ca

The following guidelines are intended to assist applicants in incorporating bear-resistant design guidelines for enclosures and containers for all new multiple family residential, commercial or industrial developments within the City of Port Moody.

Enclosures for Solid Waste, Organics and Recycling should:

1. Allow for the placement of all containers for solid waste, organics and recycling, and for the removal and emptying of those containers.
2. Have a foundation that is at least a 300–600 mm concrete base.
3. Be five-sided, with four sturdy walls and a roof.
4. Have a sturdy exterior (e.g. made of split face block or hardy plank nailed to 19.05 mm or ¾" plywood etc.), capable of withstanding the force applied by a bear.
5. Have sturdy reinforced doors that close tightly and are capable of being locked.
6. Not have any gaps that exceed a maximum width of 6.35 mm (1/4").
7. Have seams that are covered by metal flashing.
8. Have latches that are designed to be bear-resistant (e.g. claws of an adult bear unable to activate the latch trigger mechanism).
9. Have latches and hinges that are firmly affixed to the enclosure, so that they cannot be pried open by an adult bear using its claws. As a frame of reference, latches and hinges that can be easily dismantled using a crowbar are not sufficient.

A garage or other building that meets the above-mentioned criteria can be considered a bear-resistant enclosure.

Containers for Solid Waste, Organics and Recycling should:

1. Have lids and doors that are self-closing, close tightly, and are able to be secured with a latching device.
2. Have latches that are designed to be bear-resistant (e.g. claws of an adult bear unable to activate the latch trigger mechanism).
3. Have hinges and latches that are firmly affixed to the container, so that they cannot be pried open by an adult bear using its claws.
4. Not have any gaps that exceed a maximum width of 6.35 mm (1/4").
5. Have surfaces (loading and emptying doors) that do not overlap, as overlapping surfaces provide bears a place to grab. Doors should recess into the container body.
6. Be capable of being securely anchored to the ground to prevent tipping by a bear.
7. Have a durable surface to prevent bears from chewing, battering or crushing the container.

For information on specific containers that have been tested and recommended for use in BC, visit wildsafebc.com/bear-resistant-bins