URGENT SAFETY ALERT: BEAR ACTIVITY & GARBAGE SAFETY

Little Whale Cove HOA | Safety Notice | October 23, 2026

Confirmed Bear Sightings & Garbage Breaches

Please be advised that active black bears—including confirmed sightings of a mother bear with cubs—have been reported and recorded in multiple areas across our community. The bears have breached waste enclosures, damaging trash bin lids and scattering garbage in search of food.

Confirmed Sighting Locations

Location / Street	Activity Reported
Walking Wood	Active sighting / neighborhood transit
Tintinnabulary	Bear spotted near residential roadways
The Pines	Captured on video in residential areas
Gull Station	Confirmed mother bear with cubs
Morning Walk	Reported bear activity and trash foraging

During this time of year, wildlife actively bulk up for winter, and accessible food sources like open trash bins, pet food, and bird feeders are major attractants.

Immediate Safety Guidelines

Trash & Waste Disposal

- **Avoid Evening/Night Disposal:** Do not take trash or recycling to dumpster enclosures after dark or alone.
- **Do Not Send Children:** Ensure children do not drop off garbage bags unaccompanied.

- **Clean Recyclables:** Wash out all food containers and cans before recycling.
- **Food Residue Warning:** Do not place food-contaminated paper (such as pizza boxes) in open recycle bins.
- **Secure Lids & Bars:** Always ensure trash container lids are closed tight and safety bars are re-engaged.

Strict Prohibition on Feeding Wildlife

Per Little Whale Cove HOA Community Rules, **feeding any wildlife is strictly prohibited**.

- Remove or secure all outdoor bird feeders.
- Never feed pets outdoors or leave pet food/water dishes outside.
- Keep grills clean and free of grease buildup.

What to Do If You Encounter a Bear

- **Do NOT Scream or Shout High-Pitched Calls:** Sudden loud shrieks can trigger a defensive attack. Speak calmly and firmly.
- **Do NOT Run:** Running triggers a predator chase response. Stand your ground, keep eye contact, and do not make sudden movements.
- **Make Yourself Look Large:** Slowly raise and wave your arms above your head. Back away slowly while facing the bear.
- **Do NOT Climb a Tree:** Black bears are skilled tree climbers, especially mothers protecting cubs.
- **Leave an Escape Route:** Ensure the bear has a clear, unobstructed path to walk away.

Official Resources & Reporting

For detailed state guidance on living safely in wildlife areas, please review the resources provided by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife:

- ODFW Wildlife & Safety Guidelines
- Additional information on living with Oregon wildlife is available at the official ODFW Living with Wildlife Portal.

Emergency & Contact Directory

- **LWC Gatehouse:** Contact immediately to report any active sightings.
- **ODFW Newport Office:** 541-867-4741
- **Emergency (Immediate Threat):** Call 911