

## **TIPS FOR DETERRING BEAR BREAK-INS**

### **1. Food**

- a. Make sure you never leave any food in open containers on the patio or inside the unit.
- b. If your unit will be unoccupied for awhile, remove all food, bottles, cereal boxes, etc., and empty the refrigerator.
- c. At the very least, move from your cabinets to your refrigerator all food which tends to attract bears (e.g., sugar, maple syrup, chocolate syrup, cereal, candy and other sweets).
- d. Clean and cover your barbecue grills after each use.

### **2. Garbage**

- a. Carry out your garbage to a trash dumpster every night.
- b. Make sure trash dumpsters are closed and securely chained. *This is critical.*

### **3. Security**

- a. Lock your front door deadbolt when you leave your unit, and at night when you are occupying it
- b. Leave your exterior porch lights on all night.
- c. Buy an air horn (marine supply store, Wal Mart) and keep handy just in case a bear enters while unit is occupied
- d. Don't forget to shut off water to your unit when you are leaving it for more than a day's time.
- e. If your unit will be unoccupied for a while, ask Yates what else he can do (such as "plywooding" your front door)

### **4. Other ideas we have heard that have had mixed success:**

- a. Leave a pan of Pine Sol on the porch to help mask food scents
- b. Swigard's Hardware carries a bear sentinel device for about \$120 that is essentially a motion detector that sets off the sounds of a barking dog
- c. Radio tuned to an all night talk show placed near the door

**TO REPORT BEAR BREAK-INS, CALL PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF AT  
EITHER 911 OR (530) 583-4244**