



RRPOA Newsletter (#50)
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The Rocky Ridge Properties' Owners Association Newsletter is published periodically to keep owners informed of happenings around the property and actions of the Board of Directors. Questions may be directed to William "Yates" Bauder, Property Manager, at rrpoa@sbcglobal.net or 530-583-1736. Newsletters are archived on the RRPOA website at <http://www.rr-tahoe.com>. [If you click on the "Owners" page, you will see a tab to the left for "Newsletters".]

BEAR ALERT

Rocky Ridge has experienced significant bear break-ins over the course of the last few days. **Three units have been broken into this week.** While each Fall season seems to be accompanied by heightened bear activity, this week's intensity of break-ins is unprecedented.

In each of the recent break-ins, the bears have entered the units through the front doors (though in the past bears also have tested windows and sliding doors). Once a bear is inside a unit, the capacity for damage and waste is enormous.

Experts suggest the following steps may be helpful for reducing the risk of bear damage:

- Make sure your unit is securely closed and locked when you leave it for any significant period of time. **Check all doors and windows, and close window coverings.**
- Do not leave pet food or ice chests beneath or on exterior decks or patios.
- Consider emptying food from your unit when it is vacant.
- Motion detector lights may be helpful. Some websites also suggest bear visits can be deterred by leaving a bowl of original scent Pine Sol on the outside of entry ways.
- Close, latch and lock all dumpsters as per the instructions on the dumpster, **everytime!** When you fail to properly latch a dumpster, you are letting down not only yourself, but also your neighbors.
- **Clean your cars too.** Cars should be locked with windows up and with nothing fragrant left inside the car - food, gum, candy, toothpaste, pet food, old wrappers and suntan lotion all should be removed.
- Don't underestimate the resourcefulness of a Tahoe bear! Bears reportedly have the best sense of smell of any animal on earth. In comparison, while a dog (depending upon breed) has a sense of smell from 300 to 1,000 times that of a human, a bear's sense of smell is 7 to 100 times stronger than that of a dog!
- In addition to possessing a keen sense of smell, bears are surprisingly intelligent (remember Yogi's claim to be "smarter than the average bear!"). Tahoe bears have learned how to unlock car doors (and now, apparently, townhouse front doors).

Owners may want to post this alert in a prominent location in their units to assure that guests and visitors are aware of the bear problem, the risks of significant damage, and commonsense steps to reduce those risks.