

### 5.1.3. Wild Animal Feeding (1/23/23)

#### A. Findings

The feeding of wildlife, as defined by WY 23-1-101 by humans creates one or more of the following risks:

1. Attracts ungulates to residential areas, which poses a significant threat to human and domestic animal safety and can increase the incidence of wildlife-vehicle collision;
2. Attracts large predators to residential areas, which poses a significant threat to human life or domestic animals;
3. Promotes unnaturally high concentrations of animals, which in turn:
  - a. Increases the potential for disease transmission,
  - b. Promotes overuse of certain habitats,
  - c. Disrupts natural animal migration;
4. Promotes unnatural wildlife behavior, such as the frequenting of residential areas and coming into harmful or threatening situations with humans, and resulting in habituated nuisance animals, and, in some cases, these animals must, be relocated or destroyed, and;
5. Detracts from the wild spirit of the animals.

## B. Purpose and Intent

The purpose of this section is to prevent and mitigate conflicts between humans and wildlife in Teton County by establishing wildlife feeding and bear-attractant standards for residential and nonresidential uses. The intent of this Section is to protect and promote the public health, safety and welfare of the public and wildlife by:

1. Reducing the attraction of ungulates to residential areas, and thereby lessening the significant threat to the safety of humans and domestic animals;
2. Reducing the attraction of large predators to residential areas, and thereby lessening the significant threat to the safety of humans and domestic animals;
3. Reducing unnaturally high concentrations of animals, thereby lessening the potential for disease transmission, the overuse of certain habitats, the disruption of natural animal migration, wildlife vehicle collisions, and the habituation of wild animals;
4. Discouraging unnatural wildlife behavior, thereby reducing the number of nuisance animals that have to be relocated or destroyed when they frequent residential areas or otherwise come into harmful or threatening contact with humans and domestic animals; and
5. Respecting the wild behaviors of the animals' nature.

## C. Prohibitions

1. **Supplemental Feeding Prohibited.** No person shall provide supplemental feed to wildlife, unless specifically authorized by an agency of either the State of Wyoming or the United States of America. Supplemental feed includes any human food, pet food, hay, forage product or supplement, grain, honey, seed or birdseed, salt or mineral licks, or other supplemental feed made available to wildlife.
2. **Wildlife Attractants prohibited.** No person shall allow for the unintentional attraction and feeding of wildlife by allowing access to attractants on their property, including pet food, garbage, seed or birdseed, or other attractant made available to wildlife.
3. **Ornamental (non harvested for food), Non-Native Fruit Bearing Trees (including crabapples and cherries) Shall Not be Planted.** Existing ornamental, non-native fruit bearing trees shall be managed to prohibit large mammals from obtaining food rewards, and therefore, shall be either properly fenced and/or maintained with complete harvesting as soon as fruit is available. All exclusionary fencing shall be properly maintained and comply with the requirements of Div. 5.1.2 for exclusionary fencing.
4. **Bird Feeders.** No person shall install or keep a bird feeder on their property, unless the bird feeder is inaccessible to any wildlife other than birds.

5. In the event any property and / or service area associated with the property shall be found to contain any wildlife attractant(s) not otherwise specified in the foregoing standards, the attractant(s) shall be removed or secured consistent with the foregoing standards within 15 days notice unless an alternate time frame is agreed to with the county code enforcement officer.

#### D. Exemptions

1. The normal feeding of livestock and/or the practice of raising crops and crop aftermath, including hay, alfalfa and grains, produced, harvested, stored or fed to domestic livestock in accordance with normal agricultural practices as defined in Section 6.1.3.B. There is a presumption that on land taxed as agricultural land, that the alleged feeding is exempt from this regulation; or
2. The cultivation of a lawn and/or garden, and/or the provision of birdfeeders in compliance with Sec. 5.1.3.C.4 in which the bird food is made unavailable to any wildlife except birds.

#### E. Bear-Resistant Standards

1. **Bear-Resistant Trash Container Required.** Beginning 7/1/2022, all trash shall be properly stored in a certified bear-resistant self-locking container or dumpster.
  - a. A self-locking bear-resistant container or dumpster is one that has passed the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) and has successfully passed the testing program at the time of purchase. A list of certified bear-resistant containers and dumpsters and the manufacturers that produce these products is available in the Teton County Planning and Building Services Department and at this website, <http://igbconline.org/bear-resistant-products/>.
  - b. If trash is transferred from the property to the trash transfer station or landfill directly by the property owner or property lessee, trash may be stored in another container as long as the container is stored in a bear-resistant building or enclosure at all times while on the property.
  - c. All trash receptacles at construction sites for trash that includes food, food wrappers, or other bear attractants shall be bear-resistant. Containers shall be kept closed and latched at all times. Non-bear-resistant dumpsters or trailer may be used to store construction trash that does not contain bear-attractants, as per LDR 6.4.2(B)(4).
  - d. A certified bear resistant self locking container or dumpster shall be kept in good working order and shall not be altered outside the original manufacturers specifications in place when the container received its certification.
2. **Bear-Resistant Building, Enclosure, and Fencing Requirements**
  - a. The following attractants shall be stored exclusively inside bear-resistant buildings, fencing, or enclosures.

5.1.4. Air Quality (7/19/16)

- i. Grease storage containers and stored foods for nonresidential food/drink preparation and service;
  - ii. All backyard chicken operations including chicken food storage;
  - iii. Apiaries;
  - iv. Food compost containers or piles;
  - v. Livestock and fish food;
  - vi. Commercial dumpster, if not in self locking certified bear resistant dumpster.
- b. A bear-resistant building or enclosure is one that consists of and/or contains:
- i. A framed building, fencing or enclosure with hard sides and a roof constructed of hard wood, non-reflective metal or other like product reasonably designed and manufactured to withstand an intrusion by a bear; or
  - ii. Chain-link fencing that is fully enclosed including the top being fully covered; or
  - iii. Functional and maintained electric fencing designed to exclude bears; or
  - iv. A combination of the above; and
  - v. Functional, maintained self-latching doors and gates, or doors and gates with locks.

**EXAMPLE:** Examples of bear-resistant enclosures include, but are not limited to, garages, metal sheds, houses, and electrified fencing designed to exclude bears or any other building designed and constructed to prevent access by bears.