



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

<http://www.edcgov.us/EMD/>

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June 11, 2018

Subject: Amended Bear-Proof Garbage Can Enclosure Requirements Ordinance

Dear Lake Tahoe Vacation Home Rental Owner:

To enhance public health and safety by eliminating conditions which attract bears and other wildlife to inhabited areas in the Tahoe Basin, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors approved the "Bear-Proof Garbage Can Requirements Ordinance" on May 8, 2018, which amended Chapter 8.76 of the El Dorado County Ordinance Code. The amended Ordinance will become effective 30 days after the approval date. The amended Ordinance includes provisions specific to vacation home rentals (VHR) and requires the installation and proper use of bear-proof garbage can enclosures (also known as bear boxes) for all new and existing VHR units.

Significant changes to the Ordinance relevant to VHR units include:

- Existing VHR units are required to install approved bear-proof garbage can enclosures by October 15, 2018.
- New VHR units will be required to install bear-proof garbage can enclosures prior to issuance of a vacation home rental permit by the Treasurer-Tax Collector's office.
- VHR unit bear-proof garbage can enclosure capacity requirements have been established such that:
 1. VHR units less than 2,500 square feet must install a bear-proof can enclosure capable of holding a minimum of two (2) thirty-two (32) gallon garbage cans;
 2. VHR units 2,500 to 3,500 square feet must install one or more bear-proof garbage can enclosure(s) capable of holding a minimum of three (3) thirty-two (32) gallon garbage cans, and;
 3. VHR units greater than 3,500 square feet must install bear-proof garbage can enclosures capable of holding a minimum of four (4) thirty-two (32) gallon garbage cans.
- All loose or bagged garbage must be placed into a metal or plastic thirty-two (32) gallon container inside the bear-proof garbage can enclosure.

- VHR's of four (4) or less units must install bear-proof garbage can enclosures as described above. VHR's of (5) or more units may use bear-proof garbage can enclosures or commercial container(s), as approved by South Tahoe Refuse, the franchise waste hauler.
- VHR owners shall ensure that persons renting their home comply with the requirements of the Bear-Proof Garbage Can Requirements Ordinance. VHR owners may be subject to administrative fines for the failure of persons renting their home to properly utilize the bear-proof garbage can enclosure.

Please be advised that the South Lake Tahoe Basin Waste Management Authority (a Joint Powers Authority) has established an interest-free loan program, available on a first-come, first-serve basis, to assist developed property owners with deferring costs associated with the purchase and installation of bear-proof garbage can enclosures. For more information on loan availability and how to apply, please contact South Tahoe Refuse at (530) 542-8320.

The entire Ordinance and list of approved bear box vendors can be found at the Environmental Management Department website:
https://www.edcgov.us/Government/emd/solidwaste/pages/bear_resistant_garbage_can_requirements.aspx or call the Environmental Management Department at (530) 573-3450.

Respectfully,



Barbara D. Houghton, PG, CHG, REHS
Environmental Management Program Manager
Community Development Services

cc: S. Novasel, Board of Supervisors, District 5
D. Ashton, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Avila, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
C. Raffety, Treasurer-Tax Collector