

If You Encounter a Bear:

Michelle Smith, a biologist and bear educator for the State of New Jersey, Division of Fish and Wildlife, outlined these important tips for residents during the "Know the Bear Facts!" presentation on November 16th:



- **Remain Calm.**
- **Do not feed or approach the bear. Instead, view the bear from a distance.**
- **Make sure the bear has an escape route.**
- **Make yourself look big by waving your arms.**
- **Scare the bear away by making noise.**
- **Back away and move to a secure location if the bear does not leave.**
- **Do not run. Do not play dead.**
- **Report bear damage and nuisance incidents to the police or the DEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife at 1-877-927- 6337**



Steps you should take in order to ensure that bears do not become a nuisance animal in the neighborhood include keeping trash containers securely closed and avoid having bird feeders and other food items outside where bears can reach them. **Bears tend to roam into, and return to, neighborhoods where they have access to food.**

Read more:

<http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/bearfacts.htm>

Watch the 15-minute highlight video

http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/bearfacts_dvd.htm



"Know the Bear Facts!"