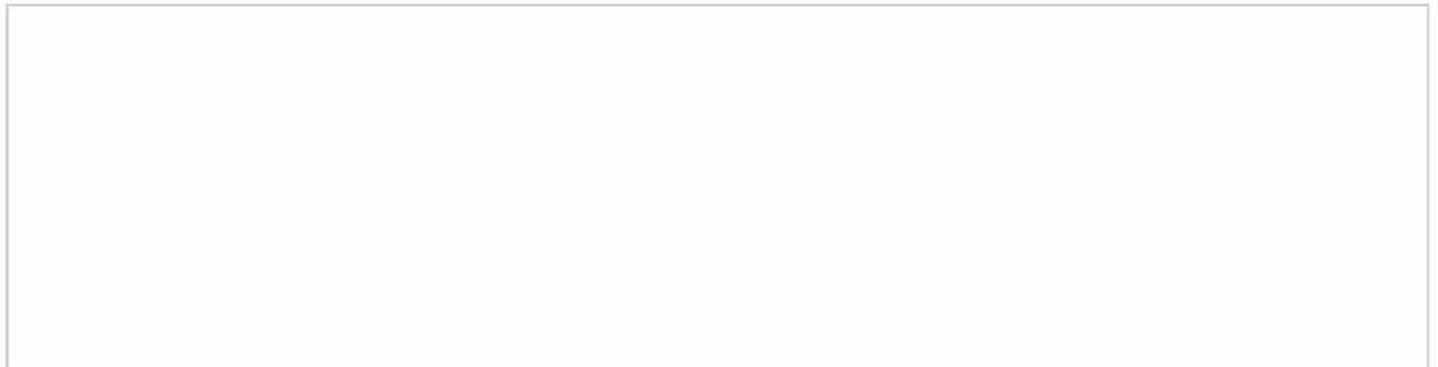

From: Lisa V [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:41 PM
To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>
Subject: Wildlife Attractant Bylaw comment

Hello Mayor and Council,

I'm always late with submissions, apologies for not noticing it was on a holiday Monday.

I think your endeavours are admirable with respect to the wildlife attractant bylaw and reducing the temptation for wildlife to be acclimated to human activities (garbage, composting, etc.). I do have a problem with putting seemingly arbitrary dates on "bear season" which then restricts when any birds can be supported through feed or nectar (as per Article 3.5.2).



Looking to the District of Squamish which I would argue has significantly worse bear levels than the Town of Gibsons: they are a BearSmart community, have almost the word for word bylaw regarding birds (I admire a good Copy-Paste routine), but not the date restrictions. Is our bear season exactly the same as Canmore's as referenced in the staff report? Do bears never appear before April 1st nor after November 30th here? If bears don't rumble out of their dens until April 21st, that's 3 weeks the birds could have had continued feeding. What is the research/background/justification for April 1 – November 1 as "starve the birds in Gibsons"? Do we value bears more than birds? [We still need to talk about this peacock situation in Lower G]. If residents are being responsible (I get that there is a trust issue involved), and are having the correct kind of feeders/mounted correctly (info similar to Squamish as attached would be helpful), and/or live in a place that has never had bear activity, could they not continue to feed the birds year round if they wish? At the very least, or most, the Staff Report referencing the September-November timeframe of bear bulking-up as a restriction at least seems more reasonable than half the year to deny the birds some food and nectar. It's also less time for the Bylaw officer to need to enforce the awkward investigation of feeders in yards and gardens should there be a problem bear reported.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Lisa Vitols
Franklin Road
Gibsons, BC

Feed birds, not BEARS

Bird feeding can benefit birds and also provides great bird watching opportunities from your own backyard. The obvious time to feed birds is in winter when natural food supplies are scarce; however, additional species visit feeders during the spring and fall migrations, and also during summer while nesting.

To keep birds coming back to your feeders in any season provide them with the following three essential elements:

- ✓ Variety of quality seed.
- ✓ Fresh water for drinking and bathing.
- ✓ Ample cover, preferably provided by native plants. Native plants also provide potential nesting sites and a source of natural food.

Keep in mind bird feeders also present potential risks, such as window collisions, predation, and exposure to disease (like the spread of salmonella).

There's also no denying that bears are attracted to bird seed, as well as garbage, compost, fruit trees, berry bushes, barbecues, pet food and refrigerators/freezers stored outdoors. Nonetheless, bird feeders are a definite attractant in the plentiful "bear buffet" of our neighbourhoods. As a nature loving resident of bear country, we appreciate that you want to lessen your impact on the environment. Thanks for handling your garbage and outdoor food sources in a bear-friendly manner.

Ideally, you should avoid using any type of birdfeeder during bear season. As an alternative to hummingbird feeders, try planting red or pink native flowers which are known to appeal to hummingbirds. Bird baths are another great way to attract birds to your yard, without attracting bears.

Nevertheless, we do understand that you may want to attract birds to your yard with feeders, but don't want to condition bears to seek out bird seed in residential areas. The good news is - by making bird feeders inaccessible to bears and using the proper seed, bird lovers, like you, can attract birds without creating conflict with bears.

It is possible to make bird feeders inaccessible to bears. The basic principle of bear-proofing bird feeders is to hang the feeder beyond a black bear's reach. Sometimes the solution is to hang the feeder outside an upper story window, but please be aware that bears can scale rough sided walls. Remember to store bird seed securely indoors at all times.

Lawrence Ruskin, a bear smart resident, devised a very effective method for bear-proofing bird feeders that is being widely used in Lions Bay, B.C. The feeder is suspended from a wire spanning the distance between buildings and/or sturdy trees. The feeder is refilled using a stick with a hook or any long-reaching device.

HUMMINGBEAR Feeder



It's important to fill bird feeders with quality seed appropriate to local birds. Cheap wild bird mixes contain seed that many birds kick onto the ground. The fallen seed then attracts unwanted rodents and bears. Millet is useful to winter birds, but local summer birds prefer other varieties and a lot of millet ends up on the ground during bear season.

Here are some simple and easy instructions on how to bear-proof your bird feeder:

- Try using a tube type feeder with a large tray; a D.Y.A. or Droll Yankee feeder can be bought at any quality bird feed store. This type of feeder is the work horse of the feeder world and is easy to clean when you submerge it in a water/bleach solution. It is also the easiest to bear-proof. Get a 12" round plastic tray and screw it into the feeder bottom and a pigeon cage to keep out the wood pigeons, slow down the jays and allow the evening grosbeaks access to the feeder. The tray will keep most of your bird seed from being tossed onto the ground. Buy the best bird food available – the cheap stuff is such low quality that most of it gets wasted. Again, millet creates the most problems, as birds kick it to the ground and it then attracts rodents and bears.
- Keeping bears out of trees and off your deck is easy with the use of metal flashing. Use aluminum or stainless, so it won't rust. We recommend sheets that are a minimum of 1 m wide. You can usually purchase metal flashing from your local scrap yard and save some money. Wrap the flashing around the tree, from which you want to hang the bird feeder, such that you allow for expansion of the trunk girth as it grows. Bears will not be able to climb trees that are wrapped with smooth metal flashing as they simply can not get a grip on it. You can also use the metal flashing to deter bears from a second floor deck – simply wrap metal flashing on the support posts or any area which the bear would use to access the deck.
- You can also hang feeders from down rigger wire suspended from trees or your deck. We recommend that you purchase Scotty down rigger wire 150 lb test (#1002), 100 sleeves (#A4CPK), and one pack of small thimbles to strengthen the loops (this is a marine type thimble and is used to protect the wire from wear). For hooks, we suggest you use stainless swivels (#PTF - 127 - 1/0). These supplies will be sufficient to do three households, so you might choose to split the cost with a couple of neighbours. The advantage of thin down rigger wire is that bears cannot put enough pressure on the wire to break it without hurting their paws (and don't worry, they won't choose to hurt themselves just so they can hang from the wire). You can get this wire at any professional fisherman's supply store. To cut the wire, use the old type of tin snips [no spring]. To crimp the sleeves a pair of pliers with a side cutter will do.
- The height at which you hanging bird feeders is critical. Since most bears can't reach much beyond about 3 m, hang feeders at least 3.5 - 4 m from the ground. During winter, the feeder needs to be 3.5 – 4m above the height of the snow, just in case. A support line can be strung between a house and a tree, or house to house, or tree to



tree.

- Attaching it to the house: put a heavy-duty hook into a pre-drilled hole in the bargeboard or fascia under the eave of the house. Make sure to drill into the end of a rafter for added strength. Tip: rub hard soap into the threads so the hook will go in easily and all the way. This is the weak spot in the system, so be sure to do a good job.
- Attaching it to a tree: climb the selected tree from which you want to hang the wire or hire a tree service to do it for you. Insert the wire into a section of hose (long enough to go around the tree) so that it will not cut into the tree. Wrap the line (covered in hose) around the tree and double crimp it.
- The line around the tree should be level with the hook on your house. You can use a hand level to do this. Put a spike in the back of the tree to hold the line up - leave it sticking out so the bear can't roll the line down the tree.
- Run the line to the hook remembering to leave some slack so it doesn't get pulled down in high winds. Double crimp the line and use a thimble to keep it in place. Now that you have the support line, the rest is easy. Make a loop around the thimble and around the support wire and double crimp it. Put on the snap swivels and hang the feeder from that or simply hang it from the squirrel-proof dome.
- You can also hang your feeder from a tree branch. Make a loop in the wire, double crimp it, hang a weight (like a fishing weight) on the loop and throw it over the end of the branch (perhaps using a long stick). Put the cut end of the wire through the loop after you remove the weight and pull until you have lassoed the branch. Run the wire back to the tree and wrap it around the tree trunk. This creates a support line on which to slide feeders back and forth. A word of caution: bears can figure this system out and will try to break the branch to get at the bird feeder, so pick a sturdy branch or put metal flashing around the tree trunk.
- To ensure your system remains bear-proof, it's important to re-string and replace corroded parts every five years. The weakest points are the connections, especially at the tree end.
- Use a stick or long implement to retrieve and place your feeders out on the line.
- Go ahead and enjoy the birds in your yard while keeping bears wild and making your neighBEARhood safe for residents.



Based in part on information compiled by Norma Rodgers and Lawrence Ruskin, Lions Bay Bear Awareness, as well as information presented by Audubon.

For more information, contact the Get Bear Smart Society:

p: 604-905-4209 e: info@bearsmart.com or visit us online at www.bearsmart.com.



Wildlife Attractant Bylaws

louis teo [REDACTED]

Sun 5/30/2021 4:06 PM

To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Dear Council Members,

The proposed idea of requiring people to secure their garbage bins in a more bear-proof manner wins my ardent support. However, this other idea of requiring home owners to install animal-proof (specifically against bear intrusions) deterrents/equipment etc, is taking things too far. Lest the Council gets beguiled into believing this over-the-top idea of penalizing home owners for failing to abide by this by-law, I would like to highlight the below facts/arguments;

- 1) It is not the fault of home owners who desire to live in a small town or in a semi-rural setting to want to live off the land by planting fruit trees and other foods like vegetables.
- 2) Lots of retirees move to the Coast to pursue exactly this kind of lifestyle to enjoy their hobbies in agriculture.
- 3) Such activities keep them happy, active, healthy, mentally and physically strong & alert.
- 4) Installing fencing of any kind or height fail miserably in deterring bears. I am one of the many who have made many attempts to increase fencing heights to keep out bears to no avail. Also, by-laws restricting fencing heights don't make it any easier in deterring the bears. Many residents on the Coast are retirees with limited financial resources who can ill afford elaborate defenses against bear intrusions.
- 5) Through no fault of theirs, many home owners by happenstance, own fruit trees when buying homes here. And by-laws do not allow them to chop them down to steer clear of this frivolous idea being proposed, i.e penalizing home owners that fail to abide by the proposed by-law.

Let us not allow these over-zealous nature-loving activists hijack the topic with their ridiculous agenda otherwise far-fetched ideas like installing high fencing along all roads to prevent road kills will start to be touted to the Council and will start to sound like a good idea. Such ideas are beginning to make it look like it is wrong for humans to be living here.

Lets not go overboard on this. Just be reasonable with any idea being tabled. That is all I (and possibly on behalf of many other Coasters) ask. Thank you.

Your's sincerely,

Louis Teo

Re: Wildlife Attractant Bylaws

Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Mon 5/31/2021 1:55 PM

To: louis teo [REDACTED]

Hello Louis,

Don't worry about it - I will attach this clarification email to the one you sent previously!

Thank you,

Lisa

Lisa Howard

Administrative Assistant II

Town of Gibsons

604-886-2274

From: louis teo [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2021 1:46 PM

To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Subject: Re: Wildlife Attractant Bylaws

Dear Lisa,

Thank you for your prompt response. I had written the email in a hurry after realizing that the deadline had already passed and so did not proof read it before hitting the "send" button. This morning, I re-read my email and realized that I had not made myself very clear concerning the second proposed by-law. My opposition to this by-law is about penalizing home owners for failing to put up elaborate equipment/fencing around their fruit trees to deter bears. Thank you.

Your's sincerely,

Louis Teo

From: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Sent: May 31, 2021 9:22 AM

To: louis teo

Subject: Re: Wildlife Attractant Bylaws

Good morning,

Thank you for your email.

This correspondence has been forwarded to Mayor & Council, as well as appropriate staff for their information. All correspondence addressed to Mayor & Council become public documents once received by the Town.

Have a great day,

Lisa Howard

Administrative Assistant II

Town of Gibsons

604-886-2274

support for Wildlife Attractant Bylaw

Kelly Ready [REDACTED]

Sun 5/23/2021 3:34 PM

To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Hello Mayor and Council,

I write you today as a part-time Sunshine Coast resident and wildlife lover with many years work in animal rights and wildlife protection in the Lower Mainland and on the Sunshine Coast. I helped found the Sunshine Coast Bear Alliance, and have met with Mayor Beamish on wildlife protection issues.

In the past few months we've seen several cougars killed in Anmore due to human activity, and coyotes killed in Stanley Park due to human feeding. As stated on the Town's website, 22 bears were euthanized on the Coast between April 2019 and Jan 2020, as bears became habituated to food attractants. Within the last 30 days a black bear appeared covered in garbage, was tranquilized, tagged and released back into the wild, only to return to town and be destroyed. In short, the public's garbage is getting animals killed.

Species do not discern between attractants, and any food can get them killed. As such I support prohibiting the feeding of all wildlife, including deer, squirrels and raccoons. I also support prohibiting outdoor fridges, freezers, and storage containing attractants. Many animals have an extremely acute sense of smell so will attempt entry to access food.

It is the moral obligation of town council to set the precedent for coexistence with resident wildlife, and I am happy to see Council taking the lead to establish bylaws and fines. The public's opinion is important to consider, but we must remember that most of the public is uninformed of the facts, and unwilling to change their habits. Many see wildlife as a nuisance to be kept in the woods or viewed when it suits them - not to coexist with. However, the stakeholders - the COS, bylaw officers, FLNRO biologists, animal rights volunteers - know that attractants irresponsibly left about by humans ultimately result in the unnecessary killing of animals we must adjust our behaviours to coexist with.

Wildlife don't follow boundaries between Gibsons, Sechelt, and the many regions within the SCRD, so it is my hope that this bylaw acts as a model and catalyst for the region and Sechelt.

Regards,

Kelly Ready
[REDACTED]

Tracy Forster

From: Michelle Iclef [REDACTED]
Sent: May 17, 2021 2:33 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife attractant bylaw

I am in favour of the banning of feeding dangerous wildlife, but see no need for regulating bird feeders beyond the pre-existing bylaw.

Bears will tear down bird feeders that are improperly used and that is the end of that bird feeder. I don't think that ignorant residents have been installing new feeders repeatedly. Those of us who have used bird feeders for any length of time have learned that lesson and use them in a manner that saves bears AND bird feeding appliances.

But, if there *truly* is a consensus that the use of bird-feeders must be micro managed *beyond the already existing bylaw*, I prefer the **Sept - Nov bird feeder ban** designation over the more draconian Apr - Nov time span, but with the provision that **"nectar" be removed from the bird feeding list**. Resident Anna's hummingbirds are in need of sustenance as early as October and banning nectar would endanger their survival.

Consideration should be given to residents who have installed bear inaccessible bird feeders on pulley systems on tall poles, or who take their feeders in at night. Most bird lovers go to great lengths to help migrating birds and still help keep bears alive. Anyone else putting a bird-feeder out will soon have no bird feeder...problem solved.

Michelle Iclef
[REDACTED] Burns Rd
[REDACTED]

BC has an overcrowding of black bears

Val Labrecque [REDACTED]

Fri 5/21/2021 10:53 AM

To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Hi Mayor and Council,

I did research online about black bears in BC. Here's the very useful Coles Notes. I won't even charge you a consult study fee! Wink!

There are 160,000 black bears in BC.
Is that lots? Well...

That's 0.17 bear per 1 square km. (BC is 944,735 square km.)
Is that crowded? Well...

Male black bears occupy a territory of (wide range of findings here) 26 – 500 km.
Female black bears occupy a territory of (26 – 300) km.

Female black bears don't like to share their territory with other female black bears but will allow male bears.

Soooo, this is my thought. Black bears are overcrowded in BC and overcrowded in their territories and therefore that's why they are being pushed out and come into towns and cities, because there are too many bears needing to find unoccupied bear territory. It's not because they don't have food in the land/forest. It's because other bears kick them out. Including moms kicking out their two year old cubs to find their own territory. Bears eat almost everything. They are not starved for food. That's not why they are coming into town. They are coming into town because they are overpopulated.

With rules and discouragement around killing wildlife, the main black bear predator (human) has not been keeping up with controlling population. That's why more than ever towns and cities are seeing an influx of bears roaming into town. Bears populate like mice and there are simply just too many of them. No matter what we do to store/put away food/attractants, bears will come and overcrowd our community and the risk of human/bear danger encounter will just increase.

Discouraging planting less fruit trees or cutting them down is just silly to me. I like eating fruit!

No use going ridiculous about our bylaws around bears. We have the basics in place and unless we manage the black bear population, nothing we do will stop bears from coming around, being curious and rummaging through properties.

I've heard Smithers, BC has had to kill 50 bears in the last year and that has hardly put a dent in the local bear population. (My brother lives up there. Bears eat his crop. Yes, bears also eat oats and will decimate a farmer's crop. So do we tell farmers to quit planting grain in BC?!)

Here's an interesting read from Ontario, that BC can learn from:
<http://www.ontarioblackbears.com/index.html>

Thanks for your time,

Val

Valerie Labrecque

[REDACTED]
Gibsons, BC, Canada

Bear Attractant Bylaw

phylhorth@gmail.com <[REDACTED]>

Tue 5/25/2021 5:26 AM

To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

We DO NOT agree with Section 3.5.2 of the proposed bear attractant bylaw. Small birds/hummingbirds bring joy to so many retirees, now that we have the time for the simple things in life. It is important to keep feeders very clean and bring them in at bedtime until morning.

Please reconsider this one section, the rest looks ok.

Best regards,

Phyl & Fred Horth

Wildlife Attractant Bylaw

alan sirulnikoff [REDACTED]

Sun 5/23/2021 10:56 AM

To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Greetings,

I am in support of the measures under consideration and would support the longer period - April 1st - November 30 - that prohibit bird feeders.

Without the various measures and with the increasing human population, more bears are likely to lose their lives.

Sincerely,

Alan Sirulnikoff

[REDACTED] Poplar Lane
Gibsons, V0N1V8

Tracy Forster

From: Nancy Hughes [REDACTED]
Sent: May 13, 2021 7:01 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife Attractants Bylaw

Good Evening -

I would like to express my preference to restrict bird feeders only during the period that Bears use to “bulk up”.

Having a hummingbird feeder outside my window brings continued joy watching these intrepid birds.

I no longer have a bird feeder due to rats in lower Gibsons, I’d hate to now have major restrictions on hummingbird feeders.

Many thanks for looking out for our wildlife.

Cheers, Nancy

Tracy Forster

From: Carine Atma [REDACTED]
Sent: May 13, 2021 9:41 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife Attractant Bylaw
Attachments: LowerMainland.ver6.hires.pdf

Hi,

I have a couple of concerns about the proposed wildlife attractions bylaw.

1 The term "*WILDLIFE ATTRACTANT*" is open to interpretation, especially the term *edible*. The Sunshine Coast Bear Alliance Society states that lawns should be kept mowed and weeded as bears can eat clover. However, it is important to let grass grow tall and encourage wildflowers including clovers and dandelions to support pollinators. Any weed-killing poison would endanger this population of insects, which are already under threat and have lost habitat due to rapid residential development, mowing and the use of herbicides and insecticides in many gardens. I'm attaching a pdf about pollinators for your information. (Unmowed lawns also don't need watering at all and save a lot of water.) I have never encountered a bear eating wildflowers in my garden, nor found traces of this. As the bylaw itself is not clear what constitutes a "bear attractant," I ask you to add unmowed lawns and weeds as exempt from this definition.

2. The term 3.5.1 is very vague (*any fruit or nuts from a tree, bush or shrub on a parcel is maintained and stored in such a manner so as not to attract wildlife*). I propose to change this into a more specific wording such as that used in the Bear Alliance document: *Any fruit and/or nuts that have fallen from a tree or bush are removed from the ground and properly disposed of within two days.*

On the "*options for consideration*" I'm in favour of:

Prohibiting bird feeders only from September 1 – November 30, when bears are actively seeking to "bulk up" before winter.

I am concerned about wildlife encroaching on residential areas and believe that this is due to a lack of protection of mature forests and the intensive logging that continues on the Sunshine Coast. I wished that the town of Gibsons and the SCR D would be more proactive in protecting the last natural woods, both to ensure habitat for wildlife and minimize conflict with humans as well as to keep this irreplaceable treasure for future generations to enjoy. From an economic perspective it does not make sense to sell these forests for lumber when tourism generates long term income for multiple businesses on the Sunshine Coast. (International tourists travel here because their countries realized too late that you can not replace a diverse ecosystem once it is gone.) Moreover many studies have shown that natural forests reduce stress and support mental health. Rather than a "wildlife attractant bylaw" I would like to see a habitat protection bylaw on the Sunshine Coast. We owe it to the next generations.

Thank you for taking my feedback into consideration,

Carine De Kock
owner and resident of [REDACTED] South Fletcher Road, Gibsons



SELECTING PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS



A REGIONAL GUIDE FOR FARMERS, LAND MANAGERS, AND GARDENERS IN THE



LOWER MAINLAND

INCLUDING THE
GREATER VANCOUVER AREA,
ABBOTSFORD, CHILLIWACK,
POWELL RIVER, HARRISON LAKE,
AND PARTS OF
SIMILKAMEEN VALLEY



**POLLINATOR
PARTNERSHIP**
CANADA

and
NAPPC

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This is one of several guides for different regions of North America. We welcome your feedback to assist us in making the future guides useful. Please contact us at feedback@pollinator.org

Cover bee photo by Julie Baker

SELECTING PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS

A REGIONAL GUIDE FOR FARMERS, LAND MANAGERS, AND GARDENERS

IN THE
ECOLOGICAL REGION OF THE

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A NAPPC AND POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP™ PUBLICATION

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WHY SUPPORT POLLINATORS?

IN THEIR 1996 BOOK, *THE FORGOTTEN POLLINATORS*, Buchmann and Nabhan estimated that animal pollinators are needed for the reproduction of 90% of flowering plants and one third of human food crops. Each of us depends on these industrious pollinators in a practical way to provide us with the wide range of foods we eat. In addition, pollinators are part of the intricate web that supports the biological diversity in natural ecosystems that helps sustain our quality of life.

Abundant and healthy populations of pollinators can improve fruit set and quality, and increase fruit size. In farming situations this increases production per hectare. In the wild, biodiversity increases and wildlife food sources increase.

Pumpkins, broccoli, squash, and cabbage are some of the crops raised in the Lower Mainland that rely on honey bees and native bees for pollination. Domestic honey bees pollinate more than \$1 billion worth of crops in Canada each year.

Unfortunately, the numbers of both native pollinators and domesticated bee populations are declining. They are threatened by habitat loss, disease, and the excessive and inappropriate use of pesticides. The loss of commercial bees during the winter has highlighted how severe the issues of proper hive management are to reduce stresses caused by disease, pesticide use, insufficient nutrition, and transportation practices. Currently, the pollination services that the commercial beekeeping industry provides are receiving much needed research and conservation resources. The efforts to understand the threats to commercial bees should help us understand other pollinators and their roles in the environment as well.

It is imperative that we take immediate steps to help pollinator populations thrive. The beauty of the situation is that by supporting pollinators' need for habitat, we support our own needs for food and support diversity in the natural world.

Thank you for taking time to consult this guide. By adding plants to your landscape that provide food and shelter for pollinators throughout their active seasons and by adopting pollinator friendly landscape practices, you can make a difference to both the pollinators and the people that rely on them.

Laurie Davies Adams
Executive Director
Pollinator Partnership

**“ FLOWERING PLANTS
ACROSS WILD,
FARMED AND EVEN
URBAN LANDSCAPES
ACTUALLY FEED THE
TERRESTRIAL WORLD,
AND POLLINATORS
ARE THE GREAT
CONNECTORS WHO
ENABLE THIS GIANT
FOOD SYSTEM TO
WORK FOR ALL WHO
EAT... INCLUDING US. ”**

– ROGER LANG, CHAIRMAN,
POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP



THIS REGIONAL GUIDE IS just one in a series of plant selection tools designed to provide information on how individuals can influence pollinator populations through choices they make when they farm a plot of ground, manage large tracts of public land, or plant a garden. Each of us can have a positive impact by providing the essential habitat requirements for pollinators including food, water, shelter, and enough space to raise their young.

Pollinators travel through the landscape without regard to property ownership or provincial boundaries. We've chosen to use the ecoregional classification system to identify the geographic focus of this guide and to underscore the connections between climate and vegetation types that affect the diversity of pollinators in the environment.

The Canadian ecoregions are based on the National Ecological Framework Report. The National Ecological Framework for Canada is a system created as a management tool and is used to predict responses to land management practices throughout large areas. This guide addresses pollinator-friendly land management practices in what is known as the Lower Mainland.

The Lower Mainland ecoregion is part of the larger Pacific Maritime Ecozone, which spans 195,000 km² along the Canadian Pacific Coast. The Lower Mainland ecoregion is contained entirely in British Columbia and is approximately 5,000 km² from the foothills of the Cascade Mountains to the Fraser River.

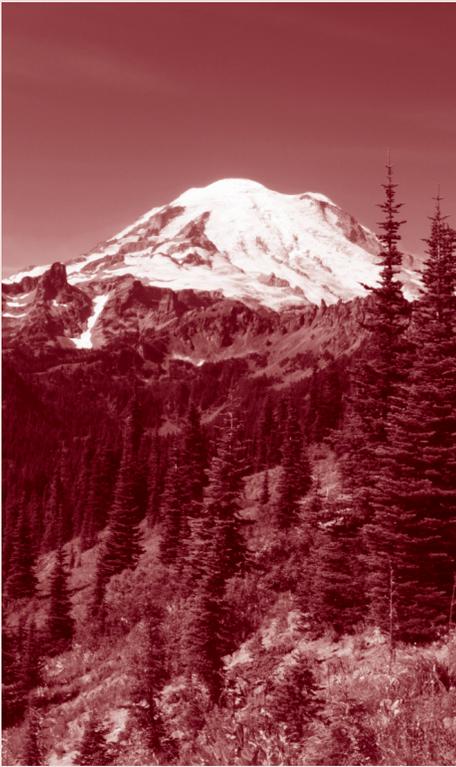
The summer mean temperature is 15°C and the winter mean temperature is 3.5°C. This ecoregion's precipitation peaks in

winter months and reanges from 850mm to 2000mm annually.

The Lower Mainland is characterized primarily by forests including Western red cedar and Western Hemlock.

Long before there were homes and farms in this area, natural vegetation provided essential feeding opportunities for wildlife, including pollinators. In choosing plants, aim to create habitat for pollinators that allow adequate food, shelter, and water sources. Most pollinators have very small home ranges. You can make a difference by understanding the vegetation patterns on the farm, forest, or neighbour's yard adjacent to yours and by making planting choices that support the pollinators' need for food and shelter as they move through the landscape.

UNDERSTANDING THE LOWER MAINLAND



- ✿ This region is designated **number 196** Lower Mainland. To see a map of the other ecoregions go to:
<http://www.ecozones.ca/english/region/196.html>
- ✿ Not sure about which bioregion you live or work in? Go to www.pollinator.org and click on **Ecoregion Locator** for help.
- ✿ 5,067 km² within British Columbia.
- ✿ Elevations ranging from sea level to 310 metres.
- ✿ Summer mean temperature of 15°C and winter mean temperature of 3.5°C
- ✿ Average year-round precipitation between 850 to 2,000mm.
- ✿ Diverse soil types including glacial till, silty alluvium and marine sediments.

CHARACTERISTICS

- ✿ Dominated by dense coniferous forests including Douglas fir, Western red hemlock and dogwood.
- ✿ Deciduous trees including oak and large leaf maple.
- ✿ Understories are characterized by moss, Oregon grape and salal.
- ✿ Wetter areas are comprised of Douglas fir, Western red cedar and Western hemlock.
- ✿ Wildlife include marine birds, black tail deer, racoon, sea otters and coyote.



The Lower Mainland includes:
The Greater Vancouver Area
Abbotsford
Chilliwack
Powell River
Harrison Lake
and parts of
Similkameen Valley

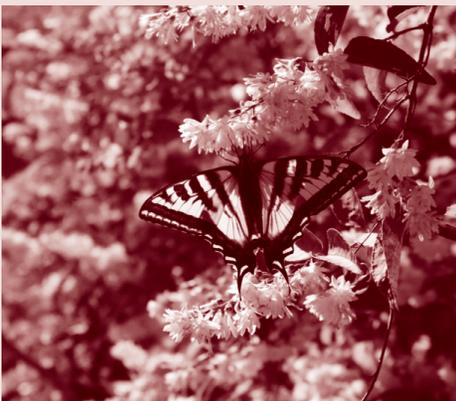


MEET THE POLLINATORS



Flower flies, also known as hoverflies, mimic the appearance of bees or wasps and feed on nectar and pollen like bees, but are classified as flies.

Western Tiger Swallowtail



WHO ARE THE POLLINATORS?

BEES

Bees are well documented pollinators in the natural and agricultural systems of the Lower Mainland. A wide range of crops including pumpkins, squash, broccoli, and cabbage are just a few plants that benefit from bee pollinators.

Most of us are familiar with the colonies of honey bees that have been the workhorses of agricultural pollination for years in Canada. They were imported from Europe almost 400 years ago.

There are over 800 species of native ground and twig nesting bees in Canada. Most bee species live a solitary life while a minority of species are social and form colonies. Native bees currently pollinate many crops and can be encouraged to do more to support agricultural endeavours if their needs for nesting habitat are met and if suitable sources of nectar, pollen, and water are provided. Bees have tongues of varying lengths that help determine which flowers they can obtain nectar and pollen from.

The bumble bee (*Bombus* spp.) forms small colonies, usually underground. They are generalists, feeding on a wide range of plant material from April to October and are important pollinators of tomatoes. The sweat bee (family Halictidae) nests

underground. Various species are solitary while others form loose colonies.

Solitary bees include carpenter bees (*Xylocopa* spp.), which nest in wood; digger, (*Apidae*), which nest underground; leafcutting bees (*Megachile* spp.), which prefer dead trees or branches for their nest sites; and mason bees (*Osmia* spp.), which utilize cavities that they find in stems and dead wood. Sunflower bees (*Diadasia* spp.) are also solitary ground nesters.

BUTTERFLIES

Gardeners have been attracting butterflies to their gardens for some time. These insects tend to be eye-catching, as are the flowers that attract them. Position flowering plants where they have full sun and are protected from the wind. Also, you will need to provide open areas (e.g., bare earth, large stones) where butterflies may bask, and moist soil from which they may get needed minerals. By providing a safe place to eat and nest, gardeners can also support the pollination role that butterflies play in the landscape. It might mean accepting slight damage to the plants, known as host plants, that provide food for the larval stage of the butterfly.

A diverse group of butterflies are present in garden areas and woodland edges that provide bright flowers, water sources, and specific host plants. Numerous trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants support



butterfly populations.

Butterflies are in the Order Lepidoptera. Some of the types in the Lower Mainland are Brush-footed, Swallowtail, Copper, Skipper, and Hairstreak butterflies. They usually look for flowers that provide a good landing platform.

Wet mud areas provide butterflies with both the moisture and minerals they need to stay healthy. Butterflies eat rotten fruit and even dung, so don't clean up all the messes in your garden!

MOTHS

Moths are most easily distinguished from butterflies by their antennae. Butterfly antennae are simple with a swelling at the end. Moth antennae differ from simple to featherlike, but never have a swelling at the tip. In addition, butterflies typically are active during the day; moths at night. Butterfly bodies are not very hairy, while moth bodies are quite hairy and more stout.

Moths, generally less colourful than butterflies, also play a role in pollination. They are attracted to flowers that are strongly sweet smelling, open in late afternoon or night, and are typically white or pale coloured.

BEETLES

More than 9000 species of beetles are found in Canada and many of them can be found on flower heads. Gardeners have yet to intentionally

draw beetles to their gardens, possibly because beetle watching isn't as inspiring as butterfly or bird watching. Yet beetles do play a role in pollination. Some have a bad reputation because they can leave a mess behind, damaging plant parts that they eat. Beetles are not as efficient as some pollinators. They wander between different species, often dropping pollen as they go.

Beetle pollinated plants tend to be large, strong scented flowers with their sexual organs exposed. They are known to pollinate magnolia, stiff goldenrod, paw paws, and yellow pond lilies.

FLIES

It may be hard to imagine why one would want to attract flies to the garden. However, like beetles, the number of fly species and the fact that flies are generalist pollinators (visit many species of plants), should encourage us all to leave those flies alone and let them do their job as pollinators.

Recent research indicates that flies primarily pollinate small flowers that bloom under shade and in seasonally moist habitats. The National Research Council's *Status of Pollinators in North America* study states that flies are economically important as pollinators for a range of annual and bulbous ornamental flowers.

Plants pollinated by the fly include the American pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*), skunk cabbage

(*Symplocarpus foetidus*), goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.), and members of the carrot family like Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*).

BIRDS

Hummingbirds are the primary birds which play a role in pollination in North America. Their long beaks and tongues draw nectar from tubular flowers. Pollen is carried on both the beaks and feathers of different hummingbirds. The regions closer to the tropics, with warmer climates, boast the largest number of hummingbird species and the greatest number of native plants to support the bird's need for food. White-winged doves (*Zenaidura asiatica*) are also pollinators of the saguaro cactus (*Carnegiea gigantea*) in the south central United States.

Bright coloured tubular flowers attract hummingbirds to gardens. Hummingbirds can see the colour red; bees cannot. Many tropical flowers, grown as annuals in the Lower Mainland, along with native woodland edge plants, attract hummingbirds.

BATS

Though bats in the Lower Mainland are not pollinators, bats play an important role in pollination in the southwest where they feed on agave and cactus. The long-nosed bats' head shape and long tongue allows it to delve into flower blossoms and extract both pollen and nectar.



PLANT TRAITS

WHICH FLOWERS DO THE POLLINATORS PREFER?

NOT ALL POLLINATORS ARE found in each North American province, and some are more important in different parts of Canada. Use this page as a resource to understand the plants and pollinators where you live.

Plants can be grouped together based on the similar characteristics of their flowers. These floral characteristics can be useful to predict the type of pollination method or animal that is most effective for that group of plants. This association between floral characteristics and pollination method is called a pollination syndrome.

The interactions of animal pollinators and plants have influenced the evolution of both groups of organisms. A mutualistic relationship between the pollinator and the plant species helps the pollinator find necessary pollen and nectar sources and helps the plant reproduce by ensuring that pollen is carried from one flower to another.

Plant Trait	Bats	Bees	Beetles
Colour	Dull white, green or purple	Bright white, yellow, blue, or UV	Dull white or green
Nectar guides	Absent	Present	Absent
Odour	Strong musty; emitted at night	Fresh, mild, pleasant	None to strongly fruity or fetid
Nectar	Abundant; somewhat hidden	Usually present	Sometimes present; not hidden
Pollen	Ample	Limited; often sticky and scented	Ample
Flower Shape	Regular; bowl shaped – closed during day	Shallow; have landing platform; tubular	Large bowl-like, Magnolia

This chart and more information on pollinator syndromes can be found at:



AND THE POLLINATORS THEY ATTRACT

Pollinator

Birds	Butterflies	Flies	Moths	Wind
Scarlet, orange, red or white	Bright, including red and purple	Pale and dull to dark brown or purple; flecked with translucent patches	Pale and dull red, purple, pink or white	Dull green, brown, or colourless; petals absent or reduced
Absent	Present	Absent	Absent	Absent
None	Faint but fresh	Putrid	Strong sweet; emitted at night	None
Ample; deeply hidden	Ample; deeply hidden	Usually absent	Ample; deeply hidden	None
Modest	Limited	Modest in amount	Limited	Abundant; small, smooth, and not sticky
Large funnel like; cups, strong perch support	Narrow tube with spur; wide landing pad	Shallow; funnel like or complex and trap-like	Regular; tubular without a lip	Regular; small and stigmas exerted

<http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/syndromes.shtml>



DEVELOPING LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS THAT PROVIDE POLLINATOR HABITAT

WHETHER YOU ARE A FARMER of many hectares, land manager of a large tract of land, or a gardener with a small lot, you can increase the number of pollinators in your area by making conscious choices to include plants that provide essential habitat for bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, hummingbirds and other pollinators.

FOOD:

Flowers provide nectar (high in sugar and necessary amino acids) and pollen (high in protein) to pollinators.

Fermenting fallen fruits also provide food for bees, beetles and butterflies.

Specific plants, known as host plants, are eaten by the larvae of pollinators such as butterflies.

- Plant in groups to increase pollination efficiency. If a pollinator can visit the same type of flower over and over, it doesn't have to relearn how to enter the flower and can transfer pollen to the same species, instead of squandering the pollen on unreceptive flowers.
- Plant with bloom season in mind, providing food from early spring to late fall. (see Bloom Periods pp.16-20)
- Plant a diversity of plants to support a variety of pollinators. Flowers of different color, fragrance, and season of bloom on plants of different heights will attract different pollinator species and provide pollen and nectar throughout the seasons.
- Many herbs and annuals, although not native, are very good for

pollinators. Mint, oregano, garlic, chives, parsley and lavender are just a few herbs that can be planted. Old fashioned zinnias, cosmos, and single sunflowers support bees and butterflies.

- Recognize weeds that might be a good source of food. For example, dandelions provide nectar in the early spring before other flowers open. Milkweeds are a host for the Monarch butterfly.
- Learn and utilize Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to address pest concerns. Minimize or eliminate the use of pesticides.

SHELTER:

Pollinators need protection from severe weather and from predators as well as sites for nesting and roosting.

- Incorporate different canopy layers in the landscape by planting trees, shrubs, and different-sized perennial plants.
- Leave dead snags for nesting sites of bees, and other dead plants and leaf litter for shelter.
- Build bee boxes to encourage solitary, non-aggressive bees to nest on your property.
- Ground nesting bees are also attracted to lawns and short grass areas, especially if there is a south facing slope.
- Leave some areas of soil uncovered to provide ground nesting insects easy access to underground tunnels.
- Avoid applying thick layers of mulch that are hard to dig through.
- Group plantings so that pollinators

can move safely through the landscape protected from predators.

- Include plants that are needed by butterflies during their larval development.

WATER:

A clean, reliable source of water is essential to pollinators.

- Natural and human-made water features such as running water, pools, ponds, and small containers of water provide drinking and bathing opportunities for pollinators.
- Ensure the water sources have a shallow or sloping side so the pollinators can easily approach the water without drowning.

Your current landscape probably includes many of these elements.

Observe wildlife activity in your farm fields, woodlands, and gardens to determine what actions you can take to encourage other pollinators to feed and nest. Evaluate the placement of individual plants and water sources and use your knowledge of specific pollinator needs to guide your choice and placement of additional plants and other habitat elements. Minor changes by many individuals can positively impact the pollinator populations in your area. Watch for - and enjoy - the changes in your landscape!

- **CAUTION LAND MANAGERS:** Remember that pesticides are largely toxic to pollinators. Extreme caution is warranted if you choose to use any pesticide. Strategically apply pesticides only for problematic target species.



FARMS

Broccoli, cabbage, pumpkins, and squash are a few of the food crops in the Lower Mainland that will benefit from strong native bee populations that boost pollination efficiency. Incorporate different plants throughout the farm that provide food for native populations when targeted crops are not in flower.

Farmers have many opportunities to incorporate pollinator-friendly land management practices on their land which will benefit the farmer in achieving his or her production goals:

- Minimize the use of pesticides to reduce the impact on native pollinators. Spray when bees aren't active (just before dawn) and choose targeted ingredients.
- Be conscientious of the fact that

different bees forage at different times of day. *Peponapis pruinosa*, the squash bee, is active from dawn until noon. In the case of squash production, the best time to spray is in the evening rather than the early morning.

- Carefully consider the use of herbicides. Perhaps the targeted weeds can provide needed food for pollinators.
- Minimize tillage to protect ground nesting pollinators.
- Consider creating designated permanently untilled areas for ground nesting bees along internal farm laneways.
- Ensure water sources are scattered throughout the landscape.
- Choose a variety of native plants to act as windbreaks, riparian buffers, and field borders throughout the farm.

- Plant unused areas of the farm with temporary cover crops that can provide food or with a variety of trees, shrubs, and flowers that provide both food and shelter for pollinators.
- Check with your regional conservation authority office to see what technical and financial support might be available to assist you in your effort to provide nectar, pollen, and larval food sources for pollinators on your farm.



Illustrations by Carolyn Vibbert



Public lands are maintained for specific reasons ranging from high impact recreation to conservation. In the Lower Mainland, forests have been cut to allow for roads, buildings, open lawn areas, boat ramps, and vistas. Less disturbed natural areas can be augmented with plantings of native plant species. Existing plantings around buildings and parking areas should be evaluated to determine if pollinator-friendly plants can be substituted or added to attract and support pollinators. Public land managers have a unique opportunity to use their plantings as an education tool to help others understand the importance of pollinators in the environment through signs, brochures, and public programs.

In an effort to increase populations of pollinators the land manager can:

- Inventory and become knowledgeable of local pollinators.
- Provide connectivity between vegetation areas by creating corridors of perennials, shrubs, and trees that provide pollinators shelter and food as they move through the landscape.
- Maintain a minimum of lawn areas that support recreational needs.
- Restrict the use of pesticides and herbicides.
- Provide water sources in large open areas.
- Maintain natural meadows and openings that provide habitats for sun-loving wildflowers and grasses.
- Remove invasive species and encroaching shrubs and trees.



Gardeners have a wide array of plants to use in their gardens. Native plants, plants introduced from years of plant exploration from around the world, and plants developed by professional and amateur breeders can be found in garden centres, in catalogs, and on web-sites. Use your knowledge of pollinator needs to guide your choices.

- Choose a variety of plants that will provide nectar and pollen throughout the growing season.
- Resist the urge to have a totally manicured lawn and garden. Leave bare ground for ground nesting bees. Leave areas of dead wood and leaf litter for other insects.
- Strive to eliminate the use of all pesticides.
- Find local resources to help you in your efforts. Contact your regional conservation authority agent or garden club. Visit your regional botanic gardens and arboreta.

The scale of your plantings will vary but it is important to remember that you are trying to provide connectivity to the landscape adjacent to your property. Don't just look within your property boundaries. If your neighbour's property provides an essential element, such as water, which can be utilized by pollinators visiting your land, you may be able to devote more space to habitat elements that are missing nearby. It is best to use native plants which have evolved to support the needs of specific native pollinators. Some pollinators, however, are generalists and visit many different plants, both native and non-native. Be sure that any non-native plants you choose to use are not invasive. Remember that specialized cultivars sometimes aren't used by pollinators. Flowers that have been drastically altered, such as cultivars with double petals or completely different colour than the wild species, often prevent pollinators from finding and feeding on the flowers. In addition, some cultivars don't contain the same nectar and pollen resources that attract pollinators to the wild types.

- **CAUTION:** Take time to evaluate the source of your plant material. You want to ensure you get plants that are healthy and correctly identified. Your local garden club can help you make informed decisions when searching for plants.



PLANTS THAT ATTRACT POLLINATORS IN THE LOWER MAINLAND



The following chart lists plants that attract pollinators. It is not exhaustive, but provides guidance on where to start. Annuals, herbs, weeds, and cover crops provide food and shelter for pollinators, too.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Flower Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil	Pollinators	Also a host
Trees and Shrubs								
<i>Acer</i> spp.	maples	12-20m+	red, greenish, yellow	March - April	sun to partial shade	dry to wet	bees	X
<i>Actaea rubra</i>	red baneberry	1m	white	April - June	sun to shade	moist	bees, flies	
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Saskatoon serviceberry	1-5m	white	April - July	sun to partial shade	moist to dry	bees, flies	X
<i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	Pacific madrone	6-30m	white	April - May	sun to partial shade	dry	beetles, flies, bees	
<i>Arctostaphylos columbiana</i>	Hairy manzanita	0.1-3m	white	April - July	sun to partial shade	dry, well drained	beetles, flies, bees	
<i>Arctostaphylos rubra</i>	red fruit bearberry	less than 1m	white	May - June	sun to partial shade	wet	beetles, flies, bees	
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	kinnikinnick	less than 1m	pink	April - June	sun to shade	dry to moist	bees, beetles	
<i>Ceanothus sanguineus</i>	redstem ceanothus	1-3m	white	May - July	sun to shade	dry to moist	bees, flies, moths, butterflies	
<i>Ceanothus velutinus</i>	snowbrush ceanothus	1-1.5m	white	April - August	sun to shade	dry to well drained	bees, flies, moths, butterflies	
<i>Cornus nuttallii</i>	Pacific dogwood	4-12m	white	April - June	shade	moist to well drained	bees, beetles, flies, butterflies	X
<i>Cornus unalaschkensis</i>	western cordilleran bunchberry	less than 1 m	white	June - August	partial shade	moist to well drained	bees, flies, beetles	X
<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	oceanspray	1-2m	white	June - August	sun to partial shade	moist	bees, butterflies, flies	X
<i>Loiseleuria procumbens</i>	alpine azalea	1m	pink	June - August	partial shade	moist	bees	
<i>Lonicera ciliosa</i>	orange honeysuckle	climbing	orange	May - July	sun, partial shade to shade	well drained	bees, hummingbirds	
<i>Lonicera dioica</i>	limber honeysuckle	1-3m	yellow, orange	May - June	sun, partial shade to shade	dry to moist	bees, hummingbirds	
<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	twinberry honeysuckle	1-3m	yellow to red	April - August	sun, partial shade to shade	moist	bees, hummingbirds	
<i>Lonicera utahensis</i>	Utah honeysuckle	1-2m	white, yellow	May - June	shade	well drained	bees, moths	
<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	hollyleaved barberry	1-2m	yellow	March - May	partial shade to shade	dry	bees	
<i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	Cascade barberry	less than 1m	yellow	March - June	sun to shade	dry to moist	bees	
<i>Mahonia repens</i>	creeping barberry	less than 1m	yellow	April - June	partial shade	dry to moist	bees	



Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Flower Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil	Pollinators	Also a host
<i>Malus fusca</i>	Pacific crabapple	6-10m	white to pink	April - June	sun	moist to wet	bees, flies, moths	X
<i>Menziesia ferruginea</i>	rusty menziesia	0.5-1.5m	pink to red	May - August	shade	well drained	bees	
<i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	Pacific ninebark	1-2.5m	white	May - June	sun to partial shade	moist to wet	bees, flies	
<i>Prunus emarginata</i>	bitter cherry	1-15m	white	April - June	sun to partial shade	well drained	bees	X
<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	pin cherry	10-15m	white	April - May	sun	dry, well drained	bees	X
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	chokecherry	6-10m	white	May - July	sun to shade	dry to moist	bees, butterflies, moths	X
<i>Rhododendron albiflorum</i>	Cascade azalea	1-2m	white	June - August	sun, partial shade to shade	dry, well drained, moist to wet	bees, flies	
<i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>	Pacific rhododendron	1.5-7.5m	pink to purple	May - July	partial shade to shade	dry to moist	bees	
<i>Ribes</i> spp.	currants and gooseberrys	various	green to white to pink	March - June	sun to shade	dry, well drained, moist	bees, hummingbirds	X
<i>Ribes acerifolium</i>	mapleleaf currant	1m	pink	June - July	sun to partial shade	well drained to moist	bees	
<i>Ribes bracteosum</i>	stink currant	1-3m	white-yellow	May - June	partial shade to shade	moist to wet	bees	
<i>Ribes cereum</i>	wax currant	1-1.5m	white to pink	April - July	sun to partial shade	dry to moist	bees	
<i>Ribes divaricatum</i>	spreading gooseberry	3m	white to red	April - May	sun, partial shade to shade	well drained	bees	
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	redflower currant	1-3m	red	April - June	sun, partial shade to shade	dry to moist	bees, hummingbirds, butterflies	X
<i>Rosa acicularis</i>	prickly rose	1+m	pink	June - July	sun to partial shade	dry to wet	bees, flies, beetles	
<i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	dwarf rose	2m	pink	May - August	sun, partial shade to shade	dry to moist	bees	
<i>Rosa nutkana</i>	Nootka rose	1-3m	pink	May - July	sun, partial shade to shade	dry to moist	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	Woods' rose	up to 1.5m	pink	May - July	sun, partial shade to shade	dry to moist	bees	
<i>Rubus chamaemorus</i>	cloudberry	less than 1m	white	May - June	sun	dry	bees, beetles, butterflies	
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	wild red raspberry	1.5-2.5m	white	June - July	sun, partial shade to shade	dry to moist	bees, beetles, butterflies	
<i>Rubus leucodermis</i>	whitebark raspberry	0.5-2 m	white	April - July	sun, partial shade to shade	dry	bees, beetles, butterflies	
<i>Rubus pedatus</i>	strawberryleaf raspberry	less than 1m	white	June	partial shade to shade	well drained	bees, beetles, butterflies	
<i>Rubus ursinus</i>	western blackberry	0.5-1.5m	white	April - August	sun, partial shade to shade	moist	bees	

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

PLANTS THAT ATTRACT POLLINATORS IN THE LOWER MAINLAND

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Flower Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil	Pollinators	Also a host
<i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	salmonberry	1-3m	pink	March - June	sun, partial shade to shade	moist	bees, butterflies	
<i>Salix lucida</i>	shining willow	3.5-6m	white to yellow	March - May	sun, partial shade to shade	moist to wet	bees	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> ssp. <i>caerulea</i>	blue elderberry	2-8m	white	May - July	sun to partial shade	moist	bees, beetles, moths, butterflies, flies	
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	red elderberry	2.5-6m	white	March - June	sun, partial shade to shade	moist to wet	bees, beetles, moths, butterflies, flies	
<i>Spiraea douglasii</i>	rose spirea	1-3m	pink, purple	June - August	sun to partial shade	moist	bees, flies, butterflies	
<i>Spiraea splendens</i>	rose meadowsweet	1m	pink	June - August	sun to partial shade	moist	bees, flies, butterflies	
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	common snowberry	0.5-1.5m	white to pink	May - August	sun to partial shade	dry	bees	
<i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i>	western snowberry	1+m	white to pink	June - August	sun	dry to well drained	bees	
<i>Vaccinium caespitosum</i>	dwarf bilberry	less than 1m	white to pink	May - July	sun	well drained	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	highbush blueberry	2-3m	white to pink	May - June	sun, partial shade to shade	dry to wet	bees	
<i>Vaccinium membranaceum</i>	thinleaf huckleberry	up to 2m	white to pink	May - June	sun, partial shade to shade	dry, moist, wet	bees	
<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>	velvetleaf huckleberry	less than 1m	white to pink	May - June	sun, partial shade to shade	moist	bees	X
<i>Vaccinium ovalifolium</i>	oval-leaf blueberry	1m	white to pink	May - July	sun to shade	moist to wet	bees	
<i>Vaccinium parvifolium</i>	red huckleberry	up to 6m	white to pink to green	April - June	sun, partial shade to shade	moist	bees, butterflies	
<i>Vaccinium uliginosum</i>	bog blueberry	less than 1m	white to pink	May - June	sun, partial shade to shade	moist to wet	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Viburnum edule</i>	squashberry	0.5-2+m	white	May - June	sun to shade	moist	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Viburnum opulus</i> var. <i>americanum</i>	American cranberry bush	2-4m	white	May - July	partial shade	well drained to wet	bees, butterflies	X
Forbs								
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>	western yarrow	less than 1m	white to pink	April - October	sun to partial shade	dry	bees, flies, moths	X
<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	Cascade columbine	less than 1m	red	May - August	partial shade to shade	moist	hummingbirds, bees, moths	
<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	showy milkweed	1m	white to pink	June - August	sun	moist	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>	arrowleaf balsamroot	1m	yellow	May - July	sun	moist	bees, butterflies, flies	

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Flower Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil	Pollinators	Also a host
<i>Delphinium bicolor</i>	little larkspur	less than 1m	blue to purple	May - July	sun	dry	bees	
<i>Delphinium glaucum</i>	Sierra larkspur	1-2m	purple	July - August	partial shade	moist to wet	bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds	
<i>Delphinium nuttallianum</i>	twolobe larkspur	less than 1m	blue to purple	March - July	sun	dry to well drained	bees, moths, hummingbirds	
<i>Epilobium anagallidifolium</i>	pimpernel willowherb	less than 1m	pink	June - September	sun	well drained	bees, moth	
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i> ssp. <i>Angustifolium</i>	fireweed	1-1.5m	pink	June - September	sun	moist	bees, butterflies, moths	
<i>Chamerion latifolium</i>	dwarf fireweed	less than 1m	pink to purple	June - August	sun	moist	bees, moth	
<i>Erigeron annuus</i>	eastern daisy fleabane	1m	white	June - October	sun	dry to well drained	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Erigeron compositus</i>	cutleaf daisy	less than 1m	white to pink	May - August	partial shade	well drained	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Erigeron divergens</i>	spreading fleabane	less than 1m	white to pink	April - October	partial shade	moist	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Erigeron philadelphicus</i>	Philadelphia fleabane	less than 1m	white to pink	April - June	partial shade	well drained to moist	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Erigeron strigosus</i>	prairie fleabane	less than 1m	white to pink	April - May	sun	well drained	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	sulphur-flower buckwheat	less than 1m	yellow to red	June - August	sun to partial shade	dry	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Eriophyllum lanatum</i>	common woolly sunflower	less than 1m	yellow	May - August	sun	dry	bees, butterflies, flies	
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	flat-top goldentop	1m	yellow	July - September	sun	moist	bees, beetles	
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	Virginia strawberry	less than 1m	white	May - August	sun to partial shade	dry	bees, flies, butterflies	X
<i>Geranium erianthum</i>	woolly geranium	1m	white-purple	May - July	partial shade	moist	bees, flies, butterflies	X
<i>Geranium viscosissimum</i>	sticky purple geranium	less than 1m	purple	May - July	sun, partial shade to shade	moist	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>	Maximilian sunflower	1-3m	yellow	August - September	sun	dry to moist	bees, flies, butterflies	X
<i>Lobelia kalmii</i>	Ontario lobelia	less than 1m	white to blue	July - August	sun	well drained to moist	bees	
<i>Lupinus bicolor</i>	miniature lupine	less than 1m	purple	April - June	sun	well drained	bees	
<i>Lupinus sericeus</i>	silky lupine	less than 1m	white, purple	June - August	sun to partial shade	dry to moist	bees, hummingbirds	
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	less than 2m	pink-purple	May - August	sun to partial shade	dry to moist	bees, butterflies, humming birds	
<i>Nothochelone nemorosa</i>	woodland beardtongue	1m	pink to purple	June - August	partial shade	dry	bees	

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

PLANTS THAT ATTRACT POLLINATORS IN THE LOWER MAINLAND

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Flower Colour	Flower Season	Sun	Soil	Pollinators	Also a host
<i>Penstemon confertus</i>	yellow penstemon	less than 1m	white to yellow	July	sun	dry	bees	
<i>Penstemon davidsonii</i>	Davidson's penstemon	less than 1m	pink to purple	July-August	sun	well drained	bees, hummingbirds	
<i>Penstemon serrulatus</i>	serrulate penstemon	less than 1m	blue to purple	June - August	partial shade	moist to wet	bees	
<i>Phacelia hastata</i>	silverleaf phacelia	less than 1m	white to purple	May - July	partial shade	dry to well drained	bees	
<i>Phacelia sericea</i>	silky phacelia	less than 1m	white to purple	June - July	partial shade	well drained	bees	
<i>Polemonium viscosum</i>	sticky polemonium	less than 1m	purple	July - August	sun	well drained	bees	
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	blackeyed Susan	less than 1m	yellow	June - September	sun to partial shade	dry to moist	bees, butterflies	X
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	1-2m	yellow	September - October	sun to partial shade	dry to moist	bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies	
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	1m	yellow	July - September	sun	dry to well drained	bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies	
<i>Symphotrichum ascendens</i>	western aster	less than 1m	purple	July - September	sun	moist	bees	
<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>	smooth blue aster	1m	purple	August - September	sun to partial shade	well drained to moist	bees	
<i>Symphotrichum lanceolatum</i>	white panicle aster	1m	white	August - September	sun to partial shade	well drained	bees, flies	
<i>Trifolium wormskioldii</i>	cows clover	1m+	white to purple	May - August	sun to partial shade	well drained	bees	
<i>Verbena bracteata</i>	bigbract verbena	less than 1m	pink to purple	May - September	sun	dry to well drained	bees	
Vines								
<i>Lonicera hispidula</i>	pink honeysuckle	1-2m	pink, yellowish pink	June - August	partial shade to shade	dry to moist	hummingbirds	
Shelter Plants								
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	sideoats grama	up to 1m	yellow, orange, red	June - September	sun to partial shade	dry to moist		
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada wildrye	up to 1m	yellow, green, brown	March - June	sun	moist		
<i>Eragrostis pectinacea</i>	tufted lovegrass	up to 1m	yellow, brown	April - August	sun	well drained		
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	less than 1m	yellow, green, brown	June - December	sun	dry		

HABITAT HINTS

FOR THE LOWER MAINLAND

BEE-POLLINATED GARDEN FLOWERS AND CROPS

	Bumble	Digger	Lg Carpenter	Sm Carpenter	Squash/ Gourd	Leafcutter	Mason	Sweat	Plasterer	Yellow-faced	Andrenid
FLOWERS											
Catalpa			x								
Catnip	x	x					x				
Clover		x									x
Columbine	x										
Cow parsley										x	
Goldenrod	x	x				x		x			
Impatiens	x										
Irises	x		x								
Lavender	x	x	x			x					
Milkwort								x			
Morning glory				x							
Penstemon	x	x					x				
Passion flowers			x								
Phacelia	x	x		x		x	x	x	x		x
Potentilla										x	
Rose	x		x				x	x		x	
Salvia	x	x	x			x	x				
Saxifrages								x		x	
Sorrel				x							
Sunflowers	x	x	x	x		x		x	x		x
Violet								x			x
Wild Mustard		x							x		
Willow catkins									x		x
CROPS											
Almond	x						x				x
Apple							x				
Blueberry	x	x									x
Cherry							x				x
Eggplant	x		x					x			
Gooseberry	x										x
Legumes	x	x				x		x			
Water melon	x							x			
Squash/ Pumpkins/ Gourds			x		x						
Tomatoes	x	x	x					x			
Thyme	x	x					x	x		x	



HABITAT AND NESTING REQUIREMENTS:

Honey Bees:

Honey bees are colonial cavity nesters. Occasionally in the spring and summer you might encounter a swarm of honey bees on the move to a new home. The majority of honey bees are managed by beekeepers in hives. In urban and garden settings it is common to see a single or a handful of honey bee hives – usually wooden boxes painted white or other light colours. Give honey bees space and don't approach their hive. Even beekeepers minimize the amount of time they spend working bees.

Honey bees have different feeding needs than native bees. Their colony can last multiple years and they feed on flowers from the beginning of spring bloom to the fall. Honey bees visit crops when they are in bloom and forage on a diversity of wildflowers as well. Honey bees also need plants that produce a large amount of nectar to make honey from. Clovers, lavenders, mints, and sages are great nectar source. Honey bees also like to feed off of the pollen of trees and shrubs such as maples, willows, and roses. Fields of goldenrod are an excellent pollen source.

Bumble Bees:

Abandoned mouse nests, other rodent burrows, upside down flower pots, under boards, and other human-made cavities. Colonies are founded by a queen in the spring. The number of workers in a colony can grow to 10,000 at the peak of summer bloom. Bumble bee colonies die out in the fall after producing new queens. New queens mate and then overwinter, hiding in cracks or small crevices. Bumble bees are usually active during the morning hours and forage at colder temperatures than honey bees, even flying in light rain.

Large carpenter bees:

Soft dead wood, poplar, cottonwood or willow trunks and limbs, structural timbers including redwood. Depending on the species, there may be one or two brood cycles per year. These bees can be active all day even in the hottest weather.

Digger bees:

Sandy soil, compacted soils, stream banksides. Anthophorid bees (now in the Apidae) are usually active in the morning hours, but can be seen at other times. Keep some parts of your garden exposed and avoid applying thick layers of mulch that are hard to dig through.

Small carpenter bees:

Pithy stems including roses and blackberry canes. These bees are more active in the morning but can be found at other times.

Squash and Gourd bees:

Sandy soil, may nest in gardens (where pumpkins, squash and gourds are grown) or pathways. These bees are early risers and can be found in pumpkin patches before dawn. Males often sleep in the wilted flowers.

Leafcutting bees:

Pre-existing circular tunnels of various diameters in dead but sound wood created by emerging beetles, some nest in the ground. Leave dead limbs and trees to support not just pollinators but other wildlife. Leafcutting bees can be seen foraging throughout the day even in hot weather.

Mason bees:

Pre-existing tunnels, various diameters in dead wood made by emerging beetles, or human-made nesting substrates, drilled wood boards, paper soda straws inserted into cans attached to buildings. Mason bees are generally more active in the morning hours.

Sweat bees:

Bare ground, compacted soil, sunny areas not covered by vegetation. Like most bees, sweat bees forage for pollen earlier in the morning and then for nectar later. Keep some parts of your garden exposed and avoid applying thick layers of mulch that are hard to dig through.

Plasterer or cellophane bees:

Bare ground, banks or cliffs. Colletid bees can be active in the morning or later in the day.

Yellow-faced bees:

In dead stems. These bees are more active during morning hours.

Andrenid bees:

Sunny, bare ground, sand soil, under leaf litter or in soil in banksides and cliffs. These generally spring-active bees are most commonly seen on flowers during the morning when pollen and nectar resources are abundant.



A BASIC CHECKLIST

BECOME FAMILIAR WITH POLLINATORS IN YOUR LANDSCAPE.

- ✿ Watch for activity throughout the day and the seasons.
- ✿ Keep a simple notebook of when and what comes to your garden. NOTE: It is not necessary to identify each species when you first get started. As an example, note if it is a bee that likes the yellow flower that blooms in the fall.
- ✿ Consult a local field guide or web site when you are ready to learn more details.
- ✿ Take photos of the bumble bees you see and submit them to the identification service offered at bumblebeewatch.org

ADD NATIVE PLANTS TO ATTRACT MORE NATIVE POLLINATORS.

- ✿ List the plants you currently have in your landscape.
- ✿ Determine when you need additional flowers to provide nectar and pollen throughout the growing season.
- ✿ Add plants that provide additional seasons of bloom, create variable heights for shelter, and attract the types of pollinators you want.
- ✿ Don't forget to include host plants that provide food and shelter for larval development.
- ✿ Contact your local native plant society or extension agent for more help.

USE POLLINATOR FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE PRACTICES TO SUPPORT THE POLLINATORS YOU ATTRACT.

- ✿ Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to address pest concerns.
- ✿ Tolerate a little mess – leave dead snags and leaf litter, keep areas bare for ground nesting insects, and leave some weeds that provide food for pollinators.
- ✿ Provide safe access to clean water.

Notice the changes that you have helped to create!

RESOURCES

Many books, websites, and people were consulted to gather information for this guide. Use this list as a starting point to learn more about pollinators and plants in your area.

ECOREGION PROFILE

Environment Canada Ecozones Program – Lower Mainland
<http://www.ecozones.ca/english/region/196.html>

Statistics Canada - Ecoregional Profile: Lower Mainland of British Columbia
www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/16-002-x/2009004/article/11031-eng.htm

POLLINATION/POLLINATORS

Pollinator Partnership www.pollinator.org

North American Pollinator Protection Campaign
www.nappc.org

Pollination Canada www.pollinationcanada.ca

Seeds of Diversity www.seeds.ca

Canadian Biodiversity Information Facility: Butterflies of Canada www.cbif.gc.ca/eng/species-bank/butterflies-of-canada/?id=1370403265518

North American Butterfly Association www.naba.org

Canadian Honey Council www.honeycouncil.ca

Buchmann, S.L. and G.P. Nabhan. 1997. *The Forgotten Pollinators* Island Press: Washington, DC.

Committee on the Status of Pollinators in North America. 2007. *Status of Pollinators in North America* The National Academies Press: Washington, DC.

NATIVE PLANTS

Native Plant Society of British Columbia
www.npsbc.ca/nativeplants.html

UBC Botanical Garden and Centre for Plant Research
www.botanicalgarden.ubc.ca



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FEEDBACK

We need your help to create better guides for other parts of North America. Please e-mail your input to feedback@pollinator.org

- ✿ How will you use this guide?
- ✿ Do you find the directions clear? If not, please tell us what is unclear.
- ✿ Is there any information you feel is missing from the guide?
- ✿ Any other comments?

**THANK YOU
FOR TAKING
THE TIME TO HELP!**

For a copy of this brochure, or for another region, visit www.pollinatorpartnership.ca

The Pollinator Partnership™/North American Pollinator Protection Campaign

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www.pollinatorpartnership.ca  www.nappc.org

Tracy Forster

From: Shirley Hoehne [REDACTED] >
Sent: May 14, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Cc: Alex Averback; Thomas Andrew Hoehne Cameron
Subject: Wildlife Attractant Bylaw (as read in Town of Gibsons newsletter)

"The new bylaw seeks to regulate attractants unrelated to refuse collection, such as bird feeders, **fruit** and nut **trees**, composting, barbecue equipment and tools, beehives, grease, refrigerators and freezers, chickens, home food delivery, and feeding wildlife. "

My 90yo mother's (Christel Hoehne) home at [REDACTED] O'Shea Road has two or three fruit trees which fruit has been eaten by bears in previous years. The bears and deer have come through the backyard "Georgia Mirage" evergreen hedge. Deer have also occupied her back yard regularly. I am currently working on having a 6' chain link fence installed at the backyard fence line.

In reading the proposed bylaw, I am wondering if the fruit trees will be required to be cut down.

Shirley Hoehne
[REDACTED]

Tracy Forster

From: info@gibsons.ca
Sent: May 13, 2021 6:03 PM
To: Gibsons General Mailbox
Subject: New Contact Form submission from Town of Gibsons Website

Name

Jess Logan

Email

[REDACTED]

Comments

I am in full support of the new bylaw proposed by the Sunshine Coast Bear Alliance. It's about time somebody stepped up to protect our heritage wildlife! Thank you for implementing.

J Logan

Tracy Forster

From: Gerald Shaffer [REDACTED]
Sent: May 8, 2021 3:19 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife attractants

i have been working on attractant reduction since barry was mayor.

these look like good and welcome changes. I would add that enclosures providing adequate protection from causing an odour such as using a neoprene seal and screw lock top be considered consistent with the bylaws and a recommended base line for any disposal or storage containers. reducing the odour of our fruits or meats being stored, or garbage or even fertilzier only makes sense.

Remove the odour and you have removed the attractant.

odour proof cans are available on the sunshine coast and have been in use for over 10 years from west coast wildlife life and gerald shaffer a former Bear Aware advisor for the coast. www.westcoastwildlife.ca



I am happy to provide more information on request.

Gerald Shaffer.

Tracy Forster

From: Bear Awareness & Safety Sunshine Coast [REDACTED]
Sent: May 3, 2021 6:06 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Cc: Bear Awareness & Safety Sunshine Coast
Subject: RE: Input for proposed "Wildlife Attractant Bylaw 1294, 2021"

Dear Mayor Beamish and Council,

I am in full support of the Town of Gibsons proposed "Wildlife Attractant Bylaw" No. 1294, 2021

Far too many bears are destroyed as a result of garbage, bird feeders, unsecured chicken coops, stocked outdoor fridges/freezers, unpicked fruit trees and berry bushes. In fact, 22 were destroyed here on the Sunshine Coast in 2019 (Feb-Nov); an excessive and dismal failure on all of our parts.

Human-sourced 'food rewards', or 'wildlife attractants', are the primary source of human-wildlife conflict. A bylaw that addresses these issues will serve to reduce this conflict. Many communities in British Columbia already have separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaws; these bylaws identify the root cause of the conflict and provide set boundaries on how to live safely and responsibly in bear country.

Most residents do their best to minimize human-bear conflict by eliminating or securing their potential bear attractants; However, these efforts only as good as the neighbouring property. In my experience, those who do not choose to safely co-exist in bear country will only respond to their pocketbook (Fines). Bears (and other wildlife) simply cannot change their behaviour – Humans can. I believe that allocation of enforceable action options to Bylaw Enforcement Officer(s), rather than just solely relying on the Conservation Officer Service under the Wildlife Act, will provide an opportunity for less confusion and more consistency in efforts to reduce conflict with wildlife.

I realize that there is some opposition, particularly regarding bird feeders. I do not want to upset urban or residential bird feeder supporters, but I do not believe that birds "need" or can't survive without bird feeders for part of the year from April-November. A bird feeder is a major attractant for bears and other wildlife. It can also attract predation from free-roaming cats and birds of prey. In my experience, not all people are aware of an accessible bird feeders' huge potential to attract bears; they can detect from over a kilometre away and birdfeed is a high caloric reward. Seed on the ground can also attract rodents, and those that hunt rodents such as coyotes.

A new bylaw that prohibits feeding wildlife and presents specific requirements for residents will be a positive and pro-active move towards lowering the occurrence of human-wildlife conflict in the Town of Gibsons (and surrounding areas). Our local bears' lives and our ability to safely (and ethically) co-exist depends on this action.

There is no simple solution, and it can be complicated when attempting to take all factors into consideration ~ especially when our active bear season is so long (some years, bears have been reported as early as February and some as late as January of the following year ~ non-natural food attractants are the cause).

The Town of Gibsons has requested public input for three questions, here are my thoughts:

1. Prohibiting the feeding of all wildlife, including deer, squirrels and raccoons (instead of simply prohibiting the feeding of bears, cougars, coyotes and wolves, as dictated the BC Wildlife Act) **YES. Eliminating or reducing bear attractants effectively works to reduce most of the other human-wildlife conflict issues. It was mentioned in the Staff Report that the “Wildlife Act only prohibits the feeding of dangerous wildlife”; However, feeding other wildlife (not labeled as ‘dangerous’), such as deer or ducks, can actually “Attract” dangerous wildlife ~ which is enforceable.**
2. Prohibiting bird feeders during bear season (April 1 – November 30) OR from September 1 – November 30, when bears are actively seeking to “bulk up” before winter **YES. Bears can easily detect bird feeders and can become conditioned to expect a continuous food reward at the bird feeder site. They will re-visit unless there is NO food reward (no bird feeder). Please stick to prohibiting from April 1st-November 30th. Bears may be in hyperphagia from end of August through end of December, but they ARE always foraging for food rewards, so I would expect human-bear conflict to be an issue throughout all of their active months.**
3. Prohibiting outdoor refrigerators, freezers, or storage containers which contain wildlife attractants. **YES. I had previous experience(s) with this issue in my employment as the Bear Aware and WildSafeBC Community Coordinator here on the Sunshine Coast. A bear’s olfactory region is over 200 times larger than a human’s; their excellent sense of smell can enable them to detect foodstuffs that are kept inside an outdoor fridge or freezer. Anything that a bear’s claw can easily fit into (like the grooves of a freezer top) can be pulled open with the bear’s physical strength. Without the Bylaw, all that could be suggested was to keep the fridge/freezer unit empty, or try installing several flush-mount lockable latches around the lid/door. NO outdoor fridges and/or freezers would be the best option in bear country.**

A few other comments for input and discussion:

- There should be lock-bars installed on all large commercial refuse containers
- Addition of a specified time period in which any damage to wildlife resistant enclosures are to be repaired. (i.e.: District of Squamish is 5 days)
- A definition of “roadway” and allowed distance from “roadway” (lane, alley?) to lessen the need for arbitrary enforcement decisions.
- In the Staff Report; the concept of “feeding ducks in the park” might not be enforceable “as the Wildlife Act only prohibits the feeding of dangerous wildlife”. However, this (feeding ducks in the park, and other related activities) could potentially “attract” dangerous wildlife, which is enforceable under **Sec. 88.1 (3) of the “Wildlife Act” [RSBC 1996]** which states: *“If a conservation officer believes on reasonable grounds that the existence or location of an attractant in, on or about any land or premises, other than in a private dwelling, poses a risk to the safety of any person because the attractant is attracting or could attract dangerous wildlife to the land or premises, the conservation officer may issue a dangerous wildlife protection order directing an owner, occupier or person in charge of that land or premises to contain, move or remove the attractant within a reasonable period of time specified in the order.”*

- Agreed, there are times when it could be difficult to enforce what exactly “inaccessible” looks like when it comes to placement of bird feeders ~ the best practices and easiest solution is to prohibit bird feeders. Preferably, bird feeders should be on a cable 3.5 - 4 metres above the ground and just over 3.1 metres from any trees, shrubs or rough wall/rails/decking (bears are expert climbers!).
- Section 3. General Regulations: A suggested addition would be “No Domestic Pet food is to be placed or stored unsecurely outdoors.” Feed pets inside.
- Public input regarding the potential for the implementation of certified “bear-resistant” residential refuse containers. Hoping that “wildlife resistant container” could eventually be upgraded to certified “bear-resistant” containers in future negotiations with collections contractor(s).

I commend the addition of a “Wildlife Attractant” Bylaw to any community and I offer support for Wildlife Attractant Bylaw 1294. A bear doesn’t recognize Area ‘boundaries’, it can travel from Gibsons to SCRD Area “F” or SCRD Area “E” on a daily route; as a result of your proactive measures, many communities will have a reduction of bear-human conflict. As the first municipality on the Sunshine Coast to propose a bylaw that addresses safe co-existence and good stewardship of our wildlife ~ I sincerely want to thank the Town of Gibsons for their consideration and action; the community and the wildlife that we share this space with will assuredly benefit from this effort to keep wildlife ‘wild’.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Drescher
Bear Awareness & Safety, Sunshine Coast

Tracy Forster

From: Pam Robertson [REDACTED]
Sent: April 26, 2021 12:26 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Bird Feeders

Hello Mayor and Council.

We understand the goals behind the proposed new bylaw but feel it goes too far with respect to bird feeders.

We get great enjoyment out of the birds at our feeders and the sheer volume suggests the birds are benefitting as well. We are opposed to banning bird feeders. We think it might be a good idea to require cats to be kept in doors or on a leash by the way as we don't like stray cats on our fence watching the birds as they feed.

If the evidence is strong that feeders are attracting bears then we support taking proactive action from September to November however home owners should have the options of taking their feeders in at night rather than facing an outright ban. We already take this action when we know the bears are active in our area.

We are comfortable with the other restrictions proposed.

Pam Robertson, Pete McDonald
[REDACTED]

Wildlife attractant bylaw

Michael MacLean [REDACTED]

Tue 4/27/2021 10:21 AM

To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Hello,

While I agree with taking precautions not to carelessly leave food and garbage laying around, I take issue with the fruit tree bylaw. I have several fruit trees on my property of varying heights and I do not feel like I should be forced to regulate the amount of fruit available should a bear come into my yard. Fruit can drop on a daily basis and nor do I feel like I should be forced to pick fruit on the tree before it is ready just to keep it away from an animal should it traipse onto my property- the fruit trees are mine and the fruit it bears is mine. I would agree that storage of picked, ripe fruit should remain out of reach, but over-maintenance of each tree is unfeasible.

Michael MacLean

Wildlife Attractant Bylaw

Val Labrecque [REDACTED]

Tue 4/27/2021 8:52 PM

To: Mayor and Council <MayorAndCouncil@gibsons.ca>

Hi Council and Mayor,

The way I see, and bluntly will say it...

I like bears but there's really not a safe option for bears and humans to live together in an urban setting. When bears come into town and start living in the area, they must be put down. I know! I like bears too. But when it comes to a high populated area, there's no amount of locking and bear proofing that will keep them away or from coming into town. The bears that stay up in the wilderness, will be fine. The ones that come into town will just make that their home and it's not safe for the community. There's no way of us getting rid of smell enough that will keep bears away. Citizens have garbage, compost, and fruit trees. We will always have that. Even if they are packed away and bear proof, bears near the area will smell them and come. Those bears that come and stick around will have to be put down. They are growing in population too. No city allows bears to roam through it. That's where we need to be at.

I grew up on a farm and this was the fact of life. When, once every 5 years a bear decided they wanted to live close to our home, my dad shot it! He wasn't going to have one of us be bear food. That's what happened to a town's family near High Prairie in Northern AB. The family was playing baseball in the backyard, and the ball went into the bush, the 9 year old girl went to get the baseball and was eaten by the bear. True story. Leaving her parents and brother and the community very sad.

Val

Valerie Labrecque

LiveOnTheSunshineCoast.ca

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tracy Forster

From: Christa Morrison [REDACTED]
Sent: April 30, 2021 9:14 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife attractant bylaw

Although I live in Area E, not the Town of Gibsons, I feel it is reasonable to respond to this as we are all affected by this(and the wildlife aren't really good at boundaries!)

I strongly support your move to control all wildlife attractants. It is n=in the best interests of the humans as well as the wildlife. One only needs to look at the coyote problems in Stanley Park to see the negative impacts when we feed wildlife- intentionally or unintentionally. It is not a huge sacrifice for people not to feed birds in the summer, nor is it to clean up after themselves. It should be common sense!

Thank you

Yours, Christa Morrison

[REDACTED] Harry Road, Gibsons

V0N 1V5



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Tracy Forster

From: Hershel Frimer [REDACTED]
Sent: April 28, 2021 11:46 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: bear attractant bylaw

Hello TOG representatives.

I support a bylaw seeking to limit attraction of wildlife with compost, waste, bird feeders, outdoor pet food, outdoor freezers etc.

However I do not support fines on those growing their own food or with fruit and nut trees. Perhaps if owners are negligent leaving large amounts of waste food to attract bears, I agree, but it is a fine line.

We have major food security issues on the coast and people have a right to grow their food. There may be human rights implications (and there should be) for handing out fines to people who grow their own food.

Bear attraction to town is only a small part of the bears story. Bear habitat is being destroyed by logging causing them to move on.

I have been monitoring bears feeding on fruit trees and bushes in my neighbourhood for years and not causing problems as they usually come at night. They will come around for wild foods regardless of what attractants are limited.

If the TOG is passionate about bear welfare I suggest looking at their habitat protection as well.

I have personally seen 2 bears die in car accidents on the coast. There are many dangers for bears but none greater than their habitat loss...

I support a reasonable bylaw that seeks to limit unnecessary attraction of animals. I do see fruit and nut trees as necessary.

Thank you for your consideration

Hershel Frimer B.Sc. DVM.

Tracy Forster

From: Shawn Cardinall [REDACTED]
Sent: April 29, 2021 9:36 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Draft Wildlife Attractant Bylaw

Dear Mayor and Council,

I write to ask you to support the urgent request by the Sunshine Coast Bear Alliance to enact a strong **Wildlife Attractant Bylaw**. I stand with the Town's Bylaw Officer in believing this is an important step forward for the Town in managing human / wildlife interactions.

The occasional presence of wildlife, traversing our neighbourhood and at times our back garden, is one of the joys of living near rural areas, though not without challenges. We have learned to fence our veggie garden, protect our garbage, choose our landscape plants more carefully, pick fruit early and often, compost with care, and ensure would-be "visitors" don't have access into our home, or any opportunities to interact with our pets. We have been distressed when bears have got into trouble in our neighbourhood and had to be destroyed, because invariably that is the result of human behaviours that could have been easily modified.

A clearly worded bylaw combined with ongoing public education and appropriate enforcement will underscore the importance of respect for those creatures that share this beautiful landscape with us, and provide guidelines for how that can continue.

Yours most sincerely,

Shawn Cardinall

[REDACTED] Headlands Road, Gibsons

Tracy Forster

From: Barbara Paulus [REDACTED]
Sent: April 29, 2021 10:09 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Propsed by-law and birdfeeders

I feel the need to weigh in on your proposed bird feeder ban. In your zeal to protect bears you are completely neglecting the sorry plight of North American songbirds. Their rapid decline in numbers due to habitat devastation and indiscriminate kills by predatory domestic cats is leading to many on the endangered species list which is not the case for bears.

We maintain a small bird feeder only accessible by small birds. It hangs in our enclosed patio space and is brought indoors at night. In their respective seasons it hosts several varieties of finches, sparrows, Oregon juncos, towhees, and chickadees.

On the emotional side, in this second year of the horrible pandemic, the sheer joy of witnessing the return of migratory songbirds is much needed. Just today seeing the return of brilliant goldfinches lifts my spirits.

Please reconsider and use discretion.

Sincerely,
Barbara Paulus

Sent from my iPad

Tracy Forster

From: Denise Olson [REDACTED]
Sent: April 30, 2021 10:18 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife attractant bylaw

Dear All considering the Wildlife Attractant Bylaw,

The number of bears destroyed last year is appalling. This is happening because of human activity and with this bylaw we have a way of creating accountability for this destructive behavior.

PLEASE, consider passing this bylaw AS IS without softening any of the requirements. Half way measures will be as effective in attaining the desired results as a partial lockdown in a pandemic. We should learn from this.

With sincerity,
Denise Olson
Granthams.

William & Amanda Drope
[REDACTED] Gerussi Lane,
Gibsons BC V0N 1V7

Town of Gibsons,
474 S Fletcher Rd.,
Gibsons BC V0N 1V0

April 30, 2021

Dear Mayor and Council:

We are writing to express our deep concern over the latest proposal to severely restrict, or even worse, to ban the feeding of birds during bear season.

We have been feeding birds for more than 15 years on the Coast and only experienced one bear attack in all that time. When you have been feeding that long you see many, many generations of songbirds returning year after year. It provides hours of quiet enjoyment to us.

I do not believe that bird feeders are a significant factor contributing to the habituation of bears to human activity. Compost bins and garbage collection play a more important role.

Bird populations are in serious decline and household cats play a huge part in that decline. It makes zero sense to choose one species, in this case, bears over other forms of wildlife. Why is it that cats are completely unregulated? All other forms of domesticated beasts or fowl are subject to restrictions.

That being said, we do sympathize with the group that is working to raise awareness of the issues of cohabitating with local wildlife. There are many wildlife corridors that exist within the boundaries of the Town of Gibsons and a lot can be achieved by seeking the assistance of those residents who live beside those corridors.

We think that some form of deterrent, such as a bylaw and fine for those residents who perpetually ignore the fact that bears are getting into their garbage/compost bins would give bylaw officers and/or conservation officers some "teeth" when they confront said residents.

Sincerely,

William & Amanda Drope

Tracy Forster

From: Larry [REDACTED]
Sent: April 30, 2021 7:50 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife in Gibsons

Mayor and Council

Any who follow the science of habitat protection understand the depth of this problem. Attractants are the tip of an iceberg of neglect for wildlife habitat on the coast. If there is one thing that would directly assist wildlife to be wild is for these animals to receive our respect for their needs and for council to engage in the uncomfortable task of supporting and inviting a critical view by science to reestablish biodiverse habitat. Chipping away at the iceberg only leaves the bigger problem to well up over and over. Let's not kill off all the wildlife thinking this is the quick answer people may be waiting for...garbage issues are people issues.

Larry Smallwood
[REDACTED] Chaster Rd

Sent from my iPhone

Tracy Forster

From: Mary Daws Ferreira [REDACTED]
Sent: May 2, 2021 8:15 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife attractant bylaw

Hello Town of Gibsons,

I believe better communication and more specific information is needed to get more people on board with a wildlife attractant bylaw. I also feel it's important to listen to the constituents that want to have food security AND protect wildlife.

Your bylaw and wordage around the bylaw makes it seem as if those that wish to grow food, have composts, feed birds or have BBQ's will be penalized. This should not be the case. Providing more information to Gibsons residents on what the expectations are in regards to food trees, composts, BBQ's and bird feeders would likely increase support for a wildlife attractant bylaw.

I've been reviewing the Squamish bylaw and their informative Living With Wildlife sections on their website and I love how clearly laid out the recommendations/guidelines are for living with black bears:

-
- Always use both locks to secure residential garbage & organic totes at all times.
- Place totes curbside between 5 a.m. and 7 p.m. *only* on collection day and *never* the night before (as per the Wildlife Attractant Bylaw No. 2053).
- Rinse out all recycling material to eliminate food residue & reduce odours.
- Ensure chicken coops & beehives are surrounded by a well maintained electric fence.
- It's best not to use birdfeeders during bear season (March-December). If you do use feeders, ensure they are at least 10 feet off the ground and at least 10 feet away from trees or climbable structures. Ensure seeds are not accumulating on the ground underneath the feeder by using a catch tray.
- Pick fruit as it ripens and don't let it collect on the ground.
- Maintain an odourless compost by liming, turning frequently, cutting food into small pieces, layering greens with browns and never add meat, fish, fats or oils. Always cover food with lawn clippings and browns.
- Consider an indoor worm composter.
- Feed pets indoors and keep all bowls indoors.
- Keep barbecues clean and grease free by burning an extra 5 minutes after removing food and remove or clean barbecue tools.
- Move fridges and freezers indoors or lock them.

Talk to your neighbours about managing their attractants.

All of these steps sound very reasonable and more supportive of food security than the current approach by the Gibsons council.

I can't imagine that an outdoor freezer or fridge can be fully bear proofed but I also acknowledge that not all of us live in accommodations that can fit a deep freezer and having one can be very important for food security and lowering food

expenses for a lot of people. I appreciate that the district of Squamish does not ban these but encourages indoor use and makes it mandatory that outdoor units be locked. I think it would be fair for the Town of Gibsons to adopt the same policy. I also like the Squamish recommendations for bird feeders, composts and BBQ's. It's common sense stuff and likely what most people in the town are already doing. If it's outlined as clearly as it is on the Squamish website I'm sure it would receive more support in Gibsons.

I also fully support and wish the town of Gibsons would adopt Squamish's approach to bees and hens with registration and clear bylaws for their enclosure. We should be encouraging local food security AND supporting efforts to life in better harmony with our local wildlife and stop looking at those two things as being mutually exclusive.

Thanks for listening,

Mary Ferreira

Tracy Forster

From: Courtenay Crane [REDACTED]
Sent: April 24, 2021 10:32 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife Attractant Bylaw

Dear Council,

I am writing to comment on the proposed Wildlife attractant bylaw. While I am all for having a ban on outdoor freezers and feeding squirrels and raccoons, I think it is really irresponsible and short sighted to put a ban on bird feeders. Bird populations are declining at a rapid rate. Here is some reading material that might help put it into perspective how many birds have been killed.

<https://www.audubon.org/news/north-america-has-lost-more-1-4-birds-last-50-years-new-study-says>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/19/science/bird-populations-america-canada.html#:~:text=The%20number%20of%20birds%20in,half%2Dcentury%2C%20scientists%20find.>

Responsible bird feeders can have a huge impact on the health of birds, especially in winter and in nesting season. Feeders allow birds to spend more time building their nests and caring for their eggs and ensures that they don't starve to death in the winter.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/may/21/garden-feeders-are-supporting-rising-numbers-of-urban-birds>

Although there can be problems with bird feeders attracting unwanted animals- rats, squirrels, etc. if done responsibly it doesn't. I put out spicy pepper birdseed bells, and the other animals don't touch them, but the birds love them.

In short, I think it is a huge mistake to put a ban on bird feeders, but if you are set on doing it, then it should be accompanied by a ban on outdoor roaming cats and dogs. I've seen my neighbour's cat kill about 30 birds in the last year. The cat always has a dead bird in its mouth. As well, dogs off leash disturb many ground nesting bird species.

Why not have bear education courses offered instead? And teach people about co-existing with bears. Especially with so many people moving here and the coast growing so rapidly people who move here should really understand that this land is for the bears too.

Thank you,

Courtenay Crane
Resident of Gibsons

Tracy Forster

Subject: FW: Committee of the Whole Meeting remark request

From: Diane Henley [REDACTED]
Sent: April 19, 2021 6:49 PM
To: Rebecca Anderson <randerson@gibsons.ca>
Subject: Committee of the Whole Meeting remark request

Hello Ms. Anderson,

I was hoping to share a brief comment for the Committee of the Whole meeting, Tuesday, April 20th at 3pm, concerning the Separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw Draft.

I would like to respectfully share with Mayor and Council that:

If one of our bears is trapped by the Conservation Service, after becoming accustomed to non-natural food sources (garbage and other attractants), that bear is rarely, if ever, relocated.

Relocation is not seen as an effective management tool for bears.

Relocated bears often return to their place of origin or cease to thrive in new territory home to more dominant male bears.

The only option available is for the Conservation Service to shoot the bear.

Killing this bear does not solve the issue.

Another bear will take the deceased bear's place and if the attractant issue/s remain in place the untenable cycle of bears being killed due to improperly managed attractants continues.

This bylaw will provide specific measures by which recurring issues of mismanaged attractants can be addressed.

Thank you for considering the adoption of a Separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw.

Most appreciatively,
Diane Henley



**SUNSHINE COAST
BEAR ALLIANCE**
REPLACING FEAR *with* KNOWLEDGE

Tracy Forster

From: Crystal Boeur [REDACTED]
Sent: April 24, 2021 10:15 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: New/proposed wildlife attractant bylaw

Good morning Mayor and Council,

My husband and I came across an article in the newspaper sharing information about the new/proposed TOG wildlife attractant bylaw. We are in support of people being penalized for careless, and harmful, attraction of wildlife such as leaving garbage out; however, to include growing of fruits, vegetables and berries, having bee hives for producing honey, or raising other farm animals is ludicrous.

The sunshine coast already has food security issues. We do not produce near enough food to keep our food footprint small in the current climate emergency, nor do we grow enough food to fulfill local demand for food. In the case of a natural disaster or emergency if the ferry is cut off, the coast will run out of food in the stores in a matter of days.

This bylaw exacerbates these real issues by scaring people off from growing/raising their own food, and threatens to penalize people who already do. It is a human right to be food secure, and that involves the right to grow our own food. Furthermore, many fruit trees have been existing and feeding the community for decades, and provide countless natural benefits including keeping our pollinator populations healthy. To threaten people into removing legacy trees for fear of fines is irresponsible and ridiculous.

Get your priorities straight! If you do not want a human rights case on your hands (see below) I suggest this bylaw is amended to remove any mention of food production from applicability of this bylaw.

We hope this bylaw finds a happy middle ground in which the population can continue to produce food without threat of fines, and animals can be safe from harm. If the TOG was really concerned about the wildlife it would make sense to prioritize the preservation and enhancement of the remaining green space in the town which is rapidly diminishing due to development pressures.

Thank you for taking our views into consideration.
Town of Gibsons residents,

Crystal Boeur and Dr. Hershel Frimer

FYI - from Food Secure Canada

[https://foodsecurecanada.org/right-food-canada#:~:text=The%20right%20to%20food%20is,UN%20General%20Assembly%20in%201948.&text=a\)%20Availability%20relates%20to%20there,market%20to%20meet%20the%20needs.](https://foodsecurecanada.org/right-food-canada#:~:text=The%20right%20to%20food%20is,UN%20General%20Assembly%20in%201948.&text=a)%20Availability%20relates%20to%20there,market%20to%20meet%20the%20needs.)

The right to food requires the possibility either to feed oneself directly from productive land or other natural resources, or to purchase food, and includes several key elements: (a) availability; (b) accessibility; and (c) adequacy:

- a) Availability relates to there being sufficient food on the market to meet the needs.
- b) Accessibility requires both physical and economic access: physical accessibility means that food should be accessible to all people, including the physically vulnerable such as children, older persons or persons with disabilities; economic accessibility means that food must be affordable without compromising other basic needs such as education fees, medical care or housing.

c) Adequacy requires that food satisfy dietary needs (factoring a person's age, living conditions, health, etc), be safe for human consumption, free of adverse substances and culturally acceptable.

--

Crystal Boeur



Tracy Forster

From: Jean Robson [REDACTED]
Sent: April 20, 2021 11:12 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule

Please adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule.

Jean Robson
[REDACTED] Martin Road, Gibsons

Tracy Forster

From: info@gibsons.ca
Sent: April 24, 2021 8:30 PM
To: Gibsons General Mailbox
Subject: New Contact Form submission from Town of Gibsons Website

Name

Marion Toffan

Email

[REDACTED]

Comments

Dear Mayor and Council,

I read with alarm that you are conducting a survey and crafting a report that entails protocols regarding wildlife in Gibsons - did I read correctly that you are about to squash feeding the birds. I would draw your attention to an excellent twenty dollar book at London Drugs right now - I bought one myself - DK Pocket BIRDS of CANADA ... the concise guide to 435 species. It lists birds from the north country I have never heard mention of before. And I was appalled at how many birds are threatened. There are labels on each bird highlighted. I need you to buy the book - thumb through it and give your direction a big think.

I have other gripes on the Clean Up Mother Nature crowd. I am galled by the new approach on the Coast to spray invasive species. Let me recommend The Neighbourhood Forager - A guide for the wild food gourmet by Robert K. Henderson publishers Chelsea Press Vermont. I would have you read pages 166 to 169 on a myriad of uses for the Knotweed - " Knotweed is high in Vitamin C and other nutrients that creatures coming out of hibernation crave. Like other Polygonums, it is a traditional remedy for gastrointestinal problems, especially diarrhea. Scientific studies suggest that chemicals in Knotweed may also be effective against stomach cancer.

I could wax on but no one would be willing to lend an ear. Let me add that when it comes to birds - for the few enthusiasts that may still be left wanting more birds - do pick up the new Sibley book What It's Like To Be A Bird.

And Talewind will bring it in for you. it is refreshing to say the least.

Goodnight and try and not be so eager to command every facet of Mother Nature.

Marion in Elphinstone.

Tracy Forster

From: Marilyn McVey [REDACTED]
Sent: April 25, 2021 10:00 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife attractant bylaw

I am very happy that you're drafting this bylaw. We lived for many years in Squamish, and found that a similar bylaw was very necessary in order for the community to stop killing so many bears.

If it's not too late, could you add something about making best effort to pick fruit promptly from trees?

Sincere thanks,
Marilyn McVey
Gibsons

Tracy Forster

From: Norma Webb [REDACTED]
Sent: April 24, 2021 9:16 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: WILDLIFE ATTRACTANTS BYLAW

Mayor and Council,

It is my belief that certain elements of this bylaw are going too far. The word 'draconian' springs to mind and a loss of basic home enjoyment.

Dictating to property owners that they cannot use bird feeders, grow fruit trees, keep bees, nurture chickens for eggs, composting, for god's sake, is an infringement of some basic human enjoyments. It is one of the reasons that people move to the Sunshine Coast from big urban areas. Enjoying wildlife, mini gardens and hobbies without the responsibility of running a farm.

If the reason behind this lunacy is to deter bears from neighbourhoods, think upon how we have taken their 'neighbourhoods' from them and replaced them with ours. We take everything from wildlife and treat them like intruders and yet it is us who is the problem.

Think again on this Council, it may be a Bylaw too far.

Norma Webb
Gibsons

Tracy Forster

From: Todd Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: April 22, 2021 8:46 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Bear bylaw

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Please adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule." Thank you.

Todd Clark

Carol Marlowe

[REDACTED] Charman rd

Gibsons, BC

Thank you for caring about our bears. 🐻❤️

Tracy Forster

From: Joan Barrington [REDACTED]
Sent: April 24, 2021 9:16 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife Attractants By-law

Hi,

I totally agree with most of the by-law. However, there is one section that concerns me: Section 2, Bird feeders. This concern has to do with just one species, that being Anna's Hummingbirds.

Unfortunately, Anna's Hummingbirds have become familiar with having access to human-made nectar (provided through special bird feeders), during the winter season. If this is not continued, I am concerned that there will be a large number of hummingbird deaths. And I don't think this is what you intend. Other birds don't need nectar, but hummingbirds need the nectar, just to be able to fly.

If you proceed with the bird feeder restriction, please excuse hummingbird feeders from this by-law. I can't imagine the devastation/harm such a prohibition would do to our local Anna's Hummingbirds.

Sincerely
Joan Barrington
[REDACTED] Bay Road
Gibsons.

Tracy Forster

From: Diane Henley [REDACTED]
Sent: April 17, 2021 11:33 AM
To: Gibsons General Mailbox
Subject: For Sue Boothe from Diane Henley - Separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw Comments
Attachments: Memo for Separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw Draft No. 1294 Townof Gibsons April 20, 2021.docx

Good Morning Sue,

I am attaching some comments, as requested, concerning the Separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw No. 1294, 2021, including a couple of Sylvia Dolson's thoughts as well.

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the work that you and Mr. Silas White dedicated to this bylaw. If you would like to share this memo with Silas that would be great if you could do so Sue. Apologies but I don't have contact information for Silas.

Sue, should I also send these comments directly to the Mayor and Council for their Committee of the Whole Meeting this coming April 20, 2021?

If you don't mind could you let me know that you received this correspondence? That would be most appreciated. I can be reached at either Email: [REDACTED]

Most appreciatively,
Diane Henley
[REDACTED]



**SUNSHINE COAST
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REPLACING FEAR *with* KNOWLEDGE

Memo

To: Sue Boothe Town of Gibsons Bylaw Officer
Silas White Consultant for Town of Gibsons

From: Diane Henley for the Sunshine Coast Bear Alliance Society

Date: April 17, 2021

Subject: Separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw Draft No.1294, 2021 Comments

On behalf of the Sunshine Coast Bear Alliance Society I would like to express our utmost appreciation to you both for your work on the Separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw No. 1294, 2021.

I would like to respectfully share the following comments for your consideration prior to the First Reading of the draft bylaw at the Committee of the Whole Meeting this coming Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

In Staff Report to the Committee of the Whole for April 20, 2021:

1. Re birdfeeders: the suggestion is made that if council wants to avoid prohibiting bird feeders for the whole bear season that language could be included to limit the restriction applied to birdfeeders to only the dates September 1 – November 30.
 - *We highly suggest that the original recommendation for the prohibition of bird feeders during the time frame April 1 - November 30th remain in the bylaw.*

Bird feeders, garbage and fruit trees are the three major attractants that lure bears into our neighbourhoods. We completely understand that many residents, including ourselves, enjoy seeing our native birds in our yards. However there are other methods that can be used to encourage birds to visit such as: planting flowers and flowering shrubs that are known to attract birds, sand baths, intermittent plate feeding and of course providing birdfeed in the winter months when our birds truly benefit from a supplied food source.

2. Thank you for your clause stating that, “No refrigerator, freezer, storage container.....shall be located outside,” as these are a common source of unwanted human-bear conflict.
3. Thank you for including the specifications for the wildlife proof enclosure for developers and property owners and for communication with the Resort Municipality of Whistler and District of Squamish in this regard. With the increase in multi-unit housing this is an important clause to include in the bylaw.
4. Thank you for mentioning the importance of a Media blitz to educate residents about the bylaw.

In Town of Gibsons Bylaw No.1294, 2021:

Definitions:

2.1 “DANGEROUS WILDLIFE” versus “WILDLIFE”:

I have just learned that the British Columbia Wildlife Act is planning on changing the definition of “DANGEROUS WILDLIFE,” to one class that will be referred to as: “LARGE CARNIVORES,” at the next revision of the act (Date unknown).

- *Would you consider having ‘bear’ appear under the heading of “WILDLIFE,” until the Provincial Wildlife Act wording is altered and then amending the wording in this bylaw to align with the change in the Wildlife Act?*

The definition, ‘DANGEROUS WILDLIFE,’ has been one of contention for some time. A number of bear/wildlife advocacy groups such as the Bear Smart Society and the Furbearers have continually vied for this change in wording so it is encouraging to learn that this will be realized in the future.

Scientific data repeatedly illustrates that black bear attacks are extremely rare. On average there is only one fatal black bear attack per year in North America.

In Section 3 General Regulations:

3.4 "A person must not feed wildlife; except for birds away from roadways or sidewalks."

- *Would it be prudent with regard to interpretation and legalities to have this clause read: "A person MUST NOT FEED WILDLIFE, except as noted in Section 3.5.2."*

3.5.2. The wording for this section is perfect. Thank you.

3.5.4 "Barbeque equipment and tools that remain out of doors must be clean and free of residual food or grease."

Could wording also address the issue of the grease trap itself which is the main attractant in this case.

- *"Barbeque equipment.....food or grease, and grease traps, must be emptied and cleaned of any greasy residue."*

In Schedule B – Commercial Refuse Container:

Would it be feasible for all commercial containers to simply have a 'bear bar,' style of receptacle? The 'bear bar' containers are easy to use and don't rely on people to always lock the container with a key but can easily be secured with the bar itself.

I know part of this equation depends on the garbage contractor themselves and what type of bin they supply.

One morning I saw garbage strewn about in front of the dumpster located behind the Gibsons Medical Clinic. The bin had the locking, two sided, metal lid. One side of the lid was completely bent up giving the bear easy access to the garbage. In speaking with the Manager of Operations for the IgA Plaza he said it was not the first time that had happened.

Appendix A:

Would you consider increasing the fines for the following?

3.1 Store/Deposit or Place Refuse as to be accessible to Wildlife.

3.2 Store/Deposit of Place Refuse except in a wildlife resistant container or enclosure.

3.5.5 Place fridge/freezer outside.

Reading this bylaw gives me much encouragement that our community is fostering a safe and respective co-existence for our bears, residents and visitors alike.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns at: Email: [REDACTED] or at:
Telephone [REDACTED]

Most appreciatively
Diane Henley



**SUNSHINE COAST
BEAR ALLIANCE**
REPLACING FEAR *with* KNOWLEDGE

Tracy Forster

From: Yvonne McLean [REDACTED]
Sent: April 16, 2021 1:59 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: wildlife attractant bylaw

Mayor Bill Beamish and Council:

I live at [REDACTED] Ocean Beach in Gibsons and I am in favour of adopting a separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw and fine schedule.

Thank you
Yvonne McLean

Tracy Forster

From: Lisa Costa [REDACTED]
Sent: April 16, 2021 12:56 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Please adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule

Please adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule. It is very important.

We live at [REDACTED] O'Shea Road.

Thank you for caring about our bears. 🐻❤️

Lisa Costa

Tracy Forster

From: B Cecill [REDACTED]
Sent: April 16, 2021 11:27 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: WILDLIFE BYLAW

please adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule.

thank you

E.Cecill
[REDACTED] Shaw Road

Tracy Forster

From: Alison Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: April 16, 2021 12:49 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Save Sunshine Coast Bears

Dear Gibsons Mayor and Council

I am not a Gibsons resident; I live up in Halfmoon Bay.

I gather you will soon be voting on whether to adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule. I hope you will vote in favour of this bylaw, so that there will be stronger fines and deterrents for those who leave out food and waste, which puts our wildlife - especially our bears - at risk of being killed by conservation offers.

Please vote in favour of this.

Thanks,
Alison Taylor
Halfmoon Bay resident

Tracy Forster

From: Bear Awareness & Safety Sunshine Coast [REDACTED]
Sent: April 15, 2021 8:52 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: RE: 'Wildlife Attractant Bylaw'

Honourable Mayor Beamish and Council (Town of Gibsons),

Bear Awareness & Safety, Sunshine Coast fully supports the adoption of a separate 'Wildlife Attractant Bylaw' for the Town of Gibsons.

This has been on the 'wishlist' of local Bear Aware, WildSafeBC, and other wildlife educational/advocacy agencies for many years.

Thank you for pursuing this, it is very much supported and appreciated.

Sincerely,
Kim Drescher
BASC

Tracy Forster

From: Daisy Oliver [REDACTED] >
Sent: April 15, 2021 8:38 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Bears

Adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaws and fine schedule.

Thank you

Daisy Oliver

[REDACTED] cascade crescent
Gibsons.

Sent from my iPad

Tracy Forster

From: Fanny Van doorne [REDACTED]
Sent: April 15, 2021 7:25 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife attractant bylaw

Adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule.

[REDACTED] Madison Place

Tracy Forster

From: Karen L Evans [REDACTED] >
Sent: April 15, 2021 6:53 PM
To: Mayor and Council

Hello I am writing to you today in support of adopting a separate. Wildlife Attractant Bylaw and fine schedule. Thank you Karen Evans.

Tracy Forster

From: Karin Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: April 15, 2021 6:28 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Separate wildlife attractant bylaw

I hereby politely ask you to adopt the proposed new separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule. It's important for the town of Gibson's to promote sensible wildlife guidance.
Regards,

Karin and Dave Taylor
[REDACTED] Abbs Road
Gibson's VON 1V0

Calling all Town of Gibsons members!

At the Tuesday, April 20th, 7pm, Town of Gibsons Regular Council meeting, staff will be presenting the council with recommendations for the adoption of a Separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw.

We are requesting your support for this initiative by asking you to send just a simple email to the: mayorandcouncil@gibsons.ca asking the council to, "adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule." Please include your Gibsons street address in your message. Thank you.

That's all you need to say - it will only take you a couple of minutes to do so - and you will have helped to make a difference in the lives of our coast bears.

If you like you can also attend the virtual meeting on Tuesday, April 20th at 7pm by going to: <https://gibsons.ca/government/mayor-and-council/meetings/online-meetings/> to register to attend.

Thank you for caring about our bears. 🐻❤️

Sent from my iPhone

Tracy Forster

From: Heidi Coleman [REDACTED]
Sent: April 15, 2021 6:07 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Wildlife attractants

Hello:

I absolutely agree with a separate wildlife attractant bylaw.

Heidi Coleman
[REDACTED] Fircrest Rd
Gibsons, BC

Sent from my iPhone

Tracy Forster

From: Steve Schweighofer [REDACTED]
Sent: April 15, 2021 5:58 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Separate Wildlife Bylaw

I respectfully request that you adopt a separate wildlife attractant bylaw and fine schedule. Thank you Steve Schweighofer

Sent from my iPhone

Tracy Forster

From: Anna Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: April 15, 2021 5:50 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Separate Wildlife Bylaw

Hello,

I am writing to you today in support of adopting a separate Wildlife Attractant Bylaw and fine schedule.

Thank you
Anna Miller

Sent from my iPhone