



TOWN OF MONTREAT

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GUIDELINES FOR BEAR-PROOF GARBAGE CONTAINERS *(Approved 2/13/2003)*

The following guidelines are intended for use in conjunction with the provisions of Montreat General Ordinance Chapter G, Article II “Solid Waste Disposal and Refuse Collection”:

1. Containers manufactured by vendors using metal construction are approved as bear-proof when firmly anchored to the ground or other permanent object.
2. Containers that are not constructed as described above may be granted conditional approval subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The construction of the container must be of a solid, sturdy material on all sides and hinged openings must have secure latches. Gaps in construction shall not exceed two inches.
 - b. Containers must be securely anchored to the ground or other permanent object in a manner that will prevent tipping.
 - c. If conditional approval is given and the container is broken into by bears, the owner is to be notified to remove the container. If replaced, the new container must be as described in Item 1.
3. The location of the container shall be of sufficient distance from traveled roadway to minimize traffic hazards.
4. The container shall be located within the property owner’s projected lines. If this is not possible due to terrain or other obstacles, the owner may obtain and provide to the Town a copy of written permission from another property owner to locate the container within that owner’s projected property lines.
5. Property owners with containers meeting the above requirements must apply for and receive written permission from the Town Administrator to locate the container on public rights-of-way. Since the containers are not considered structures, a Certificate of Zoning Compliance is not required. The use of public rights-of-way is proper since the containers provide a public benefit by controlling garbage and decreasing bear activity.
6. Property owners with containers not meeting the above requirements are to be notified to remove them from the public rights-of-way no later than December 31, 2003.