

Hello Neighbors:

Anyone seen a Black bear lately? If you haven't, then you must have been away! Sunshine Valley is bear country and I'm very excited to have the opportunity to help make our neighborhoods **BEAR AWARE**. Bear Aware is a community education program designed to **“reduce bear/human conflict through education, innovation, and cooperation”**.

BC communities have a long history of bear/human conflicts and much has been learned. Last year over 1000 bears were killed in BC due to public safety concerns that arise when bears become 'habituated' to humans and 'conditioned' to human food sources. It has been well established that with a little extra care and attention to 'bear attractants' (garbage, compost, bird feeders, pet foods, fruit trees, berry bushes, etc.) we can avoid many common 'bear problems'.

As Program Delivery Specialist for Bear Aware, my job will be to see to it that Sunshine Valley understands how to reduce bear attractants and make our community as bear-safe as possible. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your questions and concerns...or even your bear stories!

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