Produced November 13, 2026 by Mountain View BearSmart Society

BEAR ACTIVITY: October 16 to November 12, 2026 in Mountain View County and Clearwater County, Alberta

Mountain View BearSmart provides a weekly summary of bear and cougar sightings from Mountain View County (MVC) and Clearwater County (CC) in Alberta during March/April to October/November (the months that bears are active outside their winter dens). This summary is based upon a compilation of information provided by government agencies and unconfirmed sightings reported by the public each week. It is intended to make the public aware of where bears, cougars, or other wildlife have been seen in the two counties. It is not intended to be used as a real time, complete record of where bears and other wildlife are located.

BEARS CAN BE ENCOUNTERED ANYWHERE, ANYTIME!

If the presence of a bear or other wildlife is a human safety concern or causing damage to property or livestock, call the 24 hour toll-free Report A Poacher line at 1-800-642-3800.
If the situation is a public safety emergency, call 9-1-1.

Cougar Sighting – MVC November 11, 2026 Before dawn on November 10, a cougar was photographed by a trail camera near a residence NW of the intersection of Highway 760 & Pioneer Lodge Road. (info from land owner)

Cougar Sighting – CC November 9, 2026 Before dawn on November 9, a cougar was photographed by a trail camera at a residence W of the junction of Everdell and Prairie Creek Roads. (info from land owner)

Cougar Sighting – MVC November 11, 2026 After midnight on October 28, a cougar was photographed by a trail camera near a residence NW of the intersection of Highway 760 & Pioneer Lodge Road. (info from land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – CC October 28, 2026 On October 25, a grizzly bear killed a donkey and threatened to attack a second donkey W of Crammond. Fish & Wildlife have set a trap. (info from land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – CC October 23, 2026 Late in the evening on October 21, a grizzly bear was photographed by a trail camera S of Strubel Lake. (info from land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – MVC October 22, 2026 Before dawn on October 20, a grizzly bear with 1 large cub was photographed by a trail camera in the Fallentimber Road area at the W edge of the county boundary. (info from land owner)

Alberta is bear country so no matter where you live or spend your leisure time in this province, even in some urban areas, you will be near bears or bear habitat. You need to **Be Bear Smart:** Know how to reduce the likelihood of an encounter and be prepared should an encounter take place; Hike in groups; Make enough noise that wildlife will hear you coming and move away; Carry bear spray and know how to use it; Give all wildlife plenty of space to move away from you; Always be aware of your surroundings - pay attention to signs of bear activity such as scats, tracks, and digging; Keep a clean campsite - do not leave food, drinks or garbage out unattended or overnight. Food, drinks, toiletries, toothpaste, pet food, and garbage should be put in odour proof containers and stored in your vehicle. Never abandon, burn, or bury food scraps. Pack out your garbage.

Mountain View County and Clearwater County are situated between the wilderness of the national parks and provincial forest reserves to the west and the extensively cultivated agricultural lands to the east. County residents share their land with numerous species of wildlife and human-wildlife conflicts will arise, particularly with bears and cougars. The prime focus for wildlife is the search for food. Bears, cougars and other wildlife use the valley bottoms and river corridors to move, feed, and sustain their populations. Since the same habitat is also coveted by humans, this creates a potential for conflict. You can do your part to ensure humans and wildlife can coexist - with a few changes around your home, you can minimize the possibility of conflict with wildlife. **Be Bear Smart at home:** Remove attractants in your yard such as garbage, bird feeders, pet food, and compost piles; Clean the BBQ; Do not plant trees, shrubs or plants that produce fruit or berries. If you already have such plants, pick fruit and berries as soon as they ripen so they do not draw the bear into your yard; On agricultural lands, be aware that livestock

carcasses, cereal and green feed crops, and grain storage can attract bears. Electric fence can keep bears out of these areas. **Be Cougar Smart at home:** Do not feed or otherwise attract deer into your yard as this could draw in cougars which prey on them; Be aware of your surroundings especially at dawn and dusk and near the edges of bushy and forested areas; Cougars may perceive small children and pets as prey.

For information on bear spray and other deterrents (noisemakers, bear bangers, etc):
https://www.alberta.ca/deterrants-bear-spray-and-noisemakers
and a video on how to use bear spray:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UR708efjTKU

If you want to report a bear, cougar or other wildlife sighting in your area for us to post on our website and in our weekly activity report, email it to: sightings@mountainviewbearsmart.com
(Your personal information and land location is kept confidential and not posted to the website)
As a courtesy, please let your closest neighbours know of the sighting by phone, text, Facebook, etc.

For more information on Alberta BearSmart and about bears, cougars, wolves, coyotes, etc, please check out these Government of Alberta websites at:
https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-bearsmart-program-overview
https://www.alberta.ca/living-with-wildlife

Other BearSmart communities in Alberta that provide information or sightings:
1. Canmore, Bow Valley, Kananaskis, MD of Bighorn: https://www.biosphereinstitute.org/wildsmart
2. Bragg Creek: www.braggcreekwild.ca/
3. MDs of Pincher Ck, Willow Ck, Ranchland, & Cardston County: https://www.watertonbiosphere.com
4. Crowsnest Pass: http://www.crowsnestconservation.ca/being-bearsmart.html

For information on safety advisories (including bears and cougars) in all Alberta Provincial Parks:
https://www.albertaparks.ca/albertaparksca/advisories-public-safety/

For bear and other information from Banff National Park:
https://parks.canada.ca/pn-np/ab/banff/bulletins
(this site also has links for Yoho, Kootenay, Jasper, and Mount Revelstoke/Glacier National Parks)

Recent AEP reports on bears, cougars, predation, etc relating to our two counties:
1. Foothills Research Institute – 2018 Estimate of Grizzly Bear Population for BMA4 Summary:
   https://friresearch.ca/sites/default/files/GBP_2021_03_BMA%204%20and%207%20summary%20materials.pdf
2. Alberta Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan 2020:
   Alberta grizzly bear recovery plan - Open Government
3. Grizzly Bear Occurrence Summary BMA4 – 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020
   https://open.alberta.ca/publications/grizzly-bear-occurrence-summary-bma-4
4. Grizzly Bear Mortality Summary 2009-2020
   https://open.alberta.ca/publications/grizzly-bear-mortality-summary
5. Human-Cougar Occurrence Summary 2015-2018
   https://open.alberta.ca/publications/human-cougar-occurrence-summary-human-cougar-coexistence-in-the-south-saskatchewan-region
6. Predator Compensation 2015-2020
   https://open.alberta.ca/publications/predator-compensation-south-saskatchewan-region

2026 BEAR ACTIVITY
in Mountain View County and Clearwater County, Alberta

Black Bear Sighting – MVC October 14, 2026 In the evening on October 13, a black bear was seen crossing a road NE of Bergen. (info from motorist)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – CC October 11, 2026 In the evening on October 10, a grizzly bear was photographed by a trail camera NW of Burnstick Lake. (info from land owner)

Cougar Sighting – MVC October 7, 2026 Just after sunset on October 7, a cougar with a kitten was seen on the south shore of Winchell Lake. (info from fisherman)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – MVC October 7, 2026 A grizzly bear with 2 cubs was seen in Water Valley, damaged a poultry coop and killed chickens and turkeys. (info from Facebook)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – MVC November 3, 2026 Just before midnight on October 6, 2 subadult grizzly bears were photographed by a trail camera SW of Water Valley. (info from land owner)

Black Bear Sighting – Red Deer County October 16, 2026 On October 2, a black bear was photographed by a trail camera NE of Red Lodge Provincial Park. (info from land owner)

Cougar Sighting – Red Deer County October 16, 2026 In the morning on September 30, a cougar was photographed by a trail camera NE of Red Lodge Provincial Park. (info from land owner)

Black Bear Sighting – CC September 29, 2026 In the mid-afternoon on September 29, a black bear was seen on the road to Mitchell Lake. (info from motorist)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – MVC October 5, 2026 In the early evening on September 28, a grizzly bear was photographed by a trail camera SE of Sundre. (info from land owner)

Black Bear Sighting – Red Deer County September 27, 2026 Just after midnight on the morning of September 27, a black bear was seen near a residence E of Red Lodge Provincial Park. (info from land owner)

Bear Sighting – MVC September 27, 2026 On September 26, a bear broke through the electric fence and destroyed 2 beehives E of Camp Evergreen. (info from land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – CC September 26, 2026 After midnight on the morning of September 26, a grizzly bear was photographed by a trail camera S of Strubel Lake. (info from land owner)

Bear Sighting – MVC September 27, 2026 Late in the evening on September 25, 4 young bears were in the yard of a residence NE of Bergen. Barking dogs and flashlights were enough to scare the bears away. (info from land owner)

Black Bear Sighting – Red Deer County September 25, 2026 Before dawn on September 25, a black bear was seen on the front lawn of a residence E of Red Lodge Provincial Park. Bear scat has been seen in the pastures and on the front lawn a few times in the past week. (info from land owner)

Grizzly Bear Sighting – MVC September 29, 2026 After midnight on the morning of September 24, a grizzly bear was photographed by a trail camera W of Bearberry. (info from land owner)

Cougar Sighting – CC September 24, 2026 Before dawn on September 23, a cougar was photographed by a trail camera S of Strubel lake. (info from land owner)

Black Bear Sighting – MVC September 27, 2026 In the evening on September 22, a black bear was photographed by a trail camera E of Bergen. (info from land owner)

Black Bear Sighting – CC September 25, 2026 In the evening on September 22, a black bear was photographed by a trail camera E of the James River Bridge Store. (info from land owner)

Bear Sighting – MVC September 22, 2026 During the night on September 20, a bear broke into bee hives SE of Harmattan. (info from land owner)

Black Bear Sighting – CC September 22, 2026 In the evening on September 20, a black bear was photographed by a trail camera NW of Burnstick Lake. (info from land owner)

(Sightings prior to September 20th are still available on the website)

If you wish to unsubscribe from our weekly report, please email us at:
info@mountainviewbearsmart.com