

Information for Resident Black Bear Hunters

Mandatory Reporting

Your resident bear hunting licence tag is valid in both the early pilot and fall seasons.

You are required to report your bear hunting activity and harvest for each season by completing and submitting the Mandatory Questionnaire for Resident Black Bear Hunters that you will receive by mail. **You must submit completed questionnaires even if you did not bear hunt.**

If you purchased your licence tag prior to June 16 you will receive an early season mandatory questionnaire by mail in July and must complete it and submit it by mail or online by August 1 of the year of the hunt. All hunters will receive a fall mandatory questionnaire by mail in November and must complete and submit it by December 15.

You may submit your completed questionnaires by mail to the Ministry of Natural Resources, 1350 High Falls Road, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1W9, or use the easy and quick online option at ontario.ca/harvestreporting to complete the questionnaires.

Second Game Seals

WMU-specific **second game seals for black bears** may be available to resident bear hunters in WMUs where bear population levels permit. The second game seal allows a resident hunter to harvest a second black bear. A black bear licence tag is required before a second game seal can be purchased. A second game seal can be used before the seal received with the licence tag is filled. These seals are available from participating ServiceOntario centres. You can contact a participating ServiceOntario centre or visit ontario.ca/outdoorscard in late **April** of the year of the hunt for information on WMUs where second game seals are available for the early pilot season and in **August** for information on other WMUs where second game seals are available. **It is illegal to hunt in a WMU not specified on the game seal when hunting black bears under a second game seal.**

Submitting Teeth From Your Harvested Black Bear

To submit the teeth from your harvested bear(s), in return for an Ontario Bear Hunter Crest and information about the age of your bear(s), you can either:

- (1) retain the teeth until you receive your mandatory questionnaire by mail in November and submit the teeth along with your completed questionnaire by mail, or;
- (2) immediately mail the teeth to the Ministry of Natural Resources, Wildlife Surveys Officer, 1350 High Falls Road, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1W9. You will still be mailed a mandatory questionnaire in November, and are required to complete and submit it. When mailing your teeth also include:
 - your name
 - your address
 - your Outdoors Card Number
 - the date the bear was shot
 - the sex of the bear, and
 - the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) where the bear was shot.

Black Bear Hunters We Need Your Help

Successful black bear hunters can assist the Ministry of Natural Resources in determining the age structure of local bear populations by submitting for analysis **two premolar teeth** from each bear harvested. This information provides data necessary for the sustainable management of the species.

In return for your support of wildlife management efforts, an **Ontario Bear Hunter Crest** and information about the age of your bear(s) will be mailed to your home address, usually within six months. Please contact the ministry office in the area in which you will be hunting, or your bear operator, for more information.

Premolar teeth should be extracted shortly after the animal has been killed while the jaw is still pliable. The first premolar is a small, single-rooted peg-like tooth located just behind the canines. To remove the tooth, push the blade of a knife down along all sides of the tooth between it and the gum. Gently loosen the tooth by rocking it back and forth using the canine for leverage, then carefully remove the tooth using pliers. Care should be taken when extracting the tooth to ensure that the root is not broken.

