

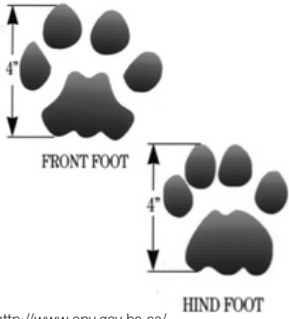
what to do when you encounter wildlife

Please ensure that while visiting the ASCCA, you **use caution, and make your presence known on the trails**. If you see cougar or bear tracks, or signs of recent activity, leave the area immediately. It is also **never safe to feed any animal**, big or small, as it can be hazardous to both the wildlife and your safety.



Also known as puma or mountain lions, cougars have been seen at the ASCCA. They stalk their prey from the ground, and can be active any time of the day, particularly at dawn and dusk. Their dens are usually located on ledges, in tree hollows, on steep slopes, under fallen logs, and in between rocks.

if you see a cougar...



<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/images/cougsf2.gif>

if the cougar is at a distance and not focused on you...

- *don't provoke it*
- gather everyone in close, especially children
- back away slowly
- do not make eye contact
- do not run
- keep the cougar within your sight

if the cougar is coming closer and hissing and snarling or staring and tracking your movements...

- *show the cougar you are not a prey animal and will fight back*
- do not run and do not turn your back
- pick up children if you can do so without crouching down, otherwise keep them directly beside you
- shout at the cougar
- make yourself look larger by opening your jacket and waving your arms and walking stick
- prepare to use bear spray

if the cougar attacks...

- *show the cougar you are not easy prey*
- spray bear spray directly at the eyes and nose of the cougar
- fight back, using anything you can find as a

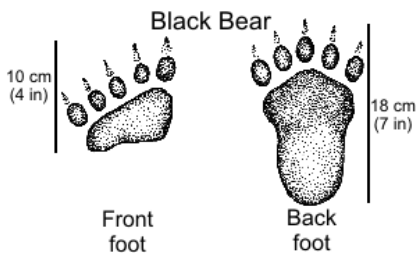
weapon, aim at the cougar's eyes and face

- get back up if you're knocked down
- never play dead with a cougar
- after the cougar has left, continue to watch for it until you are safely inside a vehicle or building



Black bears are the only bears known to be at the ASCCA. While they can be black or brown in colour, they can be distinguished from Grizzly Bears by their straight face profile (not dished), taller ears, and lack of shoulder hump. Look for signs of recent activity, including overturned logs, stones, or disturbed ant hills where bears have looked for insects. Torn up berry patches and fresh scat are also a sign that bears may be in the area.

if you see a black bear...



<http://www.gvta.on.ca/images/blackbearpaws.gif>

if you encounter a black bear...

- *don't provoke it*
- do not run
- back away slowly
- speak in a calm voice
- do not make eye contact
- move away from cubs
- leave it an escape route
- black bears are excellent climbers, so climbing a tree is a last resort

if a black bear charges you...

- *act and appear non-threatening - this may be a "bluff charge" to show dominance*
- stand your ground
- speak in a calm voice to identify yourself as human
- *if the charge continues and the bear gets closer, try to intimidate it by jumping up and down, shouting, and making eye contact; use bear spray*

if the black bear attacks...

- *try to escape if possible, keeping in mind that black bears are very good climbers*
- adopt a dominant stance, make eye contact, shout and act in a defensive manner

- fight back, using any available weapon, such as pepper spray, sticks, stones, or even your fists

ungulates: deer, moose, & elk

- *all ungulates should be considered dangerous, and should never be approached*
- maintain a distance of at least 100m
- males can be particularly aggressive

during mating season (from late July into autumn)

- females can be very protective of young at any time, especially from mid-May to early July during calving season