

Food Storage Requirements

A food storage order signed in 2022 requires food storage practice across the Forest to reduce the potential for human-wildlife encounters.

Regulations

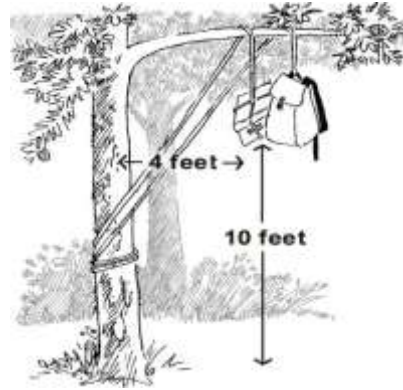
The Food Storage Order applies to the entire Lolo National Forest. Attractants such as food must be stored in a bear-resistant container or stored in a bear-resistant manner if these attractants are unattended during daytime hours or not in immediate control during nighttime hours. Harvested animal carcasses within a half mile of any camp or sleeping area or within 200 yards of a National Forest System Trail also must be stored in a bear resistant manner with exceptions as described below – “wildlife carcasses”.

Approved Storage Means

- A bear resistant container approved by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee. Please see their website at [Bear Resistant Products - Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee](#). Most bear-resistant containers sold in local outdoor retail stores meet these requirements.
- Stored in a *bear resistant manner* means: Attractants may be hung 10 feet off the ground and four feet horizontally from a tree or other structure; stored in a hard-sided camper; vehicle trunk, or cab or trailer cab; in a hard-sided building or stored using an electric fence.

Harvested Wildlife Carcasses

Any harvested animal carcasses (including big game, birds, fish, or other animal parts) that are within 1/2-mile of any camp or sleeping area or within 200 yards of a National Forest System Trail shall be stored in a bear-resistant manner by the responsible party (unless the carcass is being field dressed, transported, being prepared for eating, or



being prepared for storage). If a wildlife carcass is within an attended camp during daytime hours, it may be on the ground.

This graphic shows the proper hanging method for food, attractants, and wildlife carcasses.

Burning Attractants

Attractants are things like leftover food, bacon grease, etc. They cannot be buried, burned in an open campfire, or left behind in camp. All attractants must be stored in a sealed container and packed out with garbage – or placed in a container and burned so that the contents do not leach into the ground.

Food must be stored in a bear-resistant manner!

For more information:

- [Lolo National Forest website](#)
- [Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee](#)
- [Lolo National Forest Facebook](#)
- [Northern Region of the US Forest Service NDCE Food Storage Order](#)

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