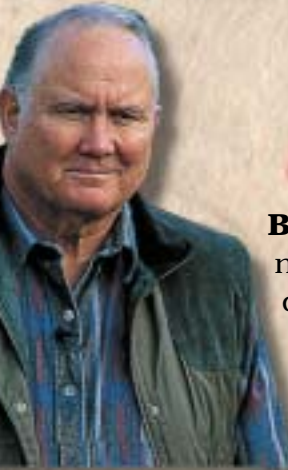


Bear Spray

What Retailers and Consumers should know about Bear Spray



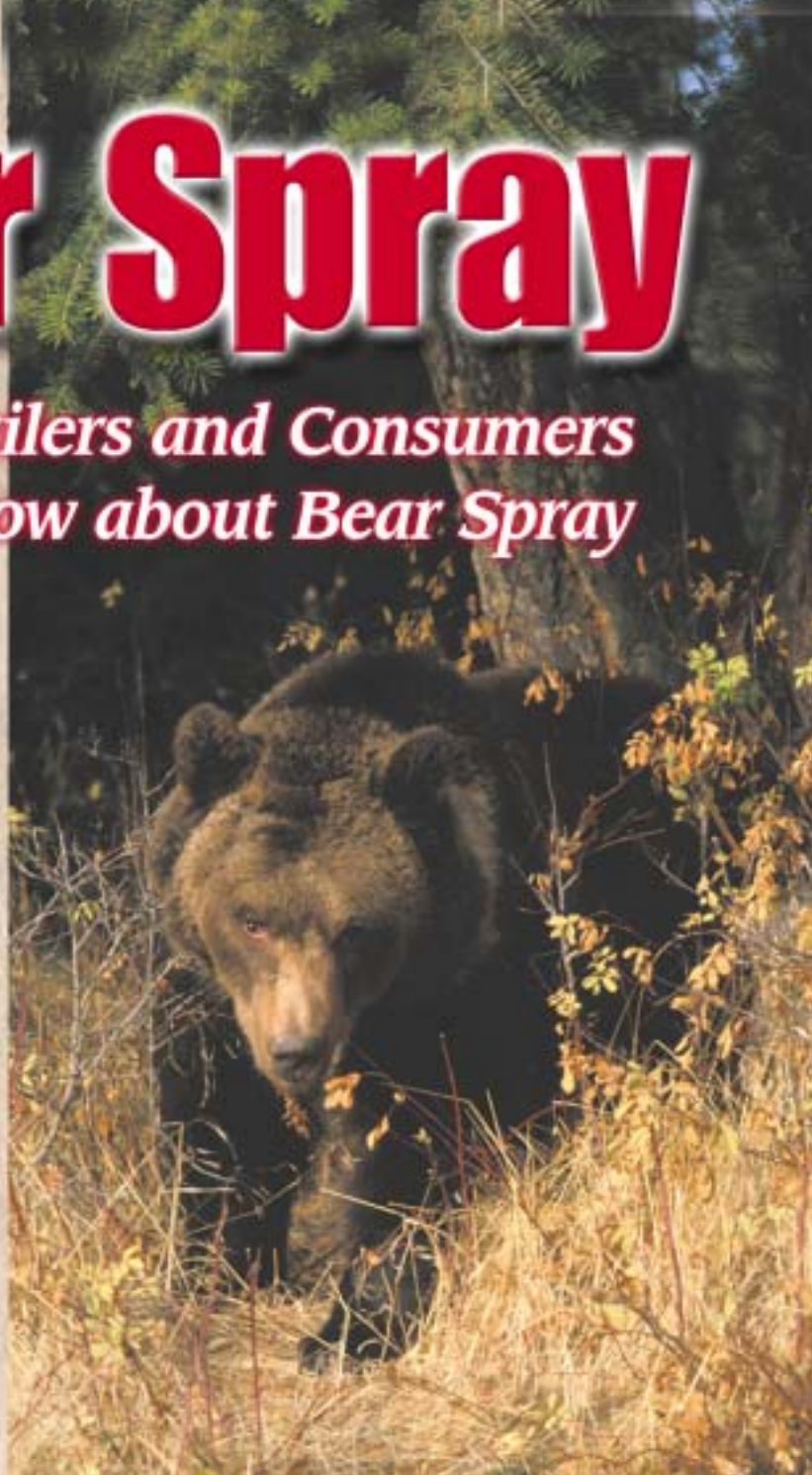
Bear spray is a non-lethal bear deterrent containing capsaicin and related capsaicinoids. It must be registered with the Environmental

Protection Agency and with the Agricultural Department of each state. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Be Bear Aware Campaign have prepared this brochure to help guide you in becoming an informed consumer when purchasing **bear spray**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Norman Schwarzkopf'.

General H. Norman Schwarzkopf
National Spokesman for the Be Bear Aware and Wildlife Stewardship Campaign.

www.BeBearAware.org



The Pittsburgh Foundation,
Thyrza W. Amos,
Helen P. Rush and
Savina S. Skewis Fund

What is Bear Spray?

Bear spray is a chemical formula designed specifically to deter aggressive or attacking bears. It must be registered with the Environmental Protection Agency and individual states. Bear spray must contain between **1% to 2% of the active ingredients capsaicin and related capsaicinoids**.

Capsaicin and related capsaicinoids are the active ingredients that cause rapid eye closure, heavy watering of the eyes, and severe irritation to the nose, mouth, throat and lungs. This results in difficulty breathing and a temporary loss of the sense of smell and sight causing a bear to be distracted from its charge.

A spray **duration of at least 6 seconds** and a spray **distance of at least 25 feet** are recommended for maximum effectiveness in case you are charged by more than one bear, have more than one confrontation, or to compensate for wind. Consider carrying more than one can of bear spray if you are going to be out for an extended period of time or you are in an area with a high possibility of contact with bears.

Registration Process

Prior to sale to the public, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and individual states must first **register** each **bear spray** product.

EPA Federal registration requires each company to submit or reference extensive and acceptable chemistry, toxicity and effectiveness data. EPA also requires labels for canisters of bear spray to indicate the product's active ingredients, and how to store, use, and dispose of the product properly.

The EPA does not register personal defense or law enforcement sprays. It is illegal to sell these types of sprays for use against bears.

Enforcement Monitoring

EPA and the states monitor the sale of bear spray products. Companies selling bear spray may have their products in retail outlets or manufacturing establishments sampled periodically to verify that the products meet the bear spray requirements.

The manufacturers must maintain records verifying that the bear sprays actually contain the active ingredients **capsaicin and related capsaicinoids**.



Read The Label Carefully

To determine if you are **purchasing or selling an actual bear spray**, read the label carefully. The label provides information unique to and **only allowed on bear spray deterrents**.

- 1** **Bear spray** will clearly display on the label identifying terms such as **bear deterrent** or **for use in deterring attacks by bears**.
- 2** The active ingredients of bear spray are **capsaicin** and **related capsaicinoids** and should be between 1% and 2% of the net contents. These active ingredients cause reduced breathing and irritation to the eyes, nose, mouth, throat and lungs, disabling and distracting the bear from its charge.
- 3** Confirms the active ingredients are derived from oleoresin of capsicum.
- 4** The **minimum net content** for bear spray is 7.9 ounces or 225 grams.
- 5** The **EPA Reg. No.** is the number assigned by the EPA to the company that makes or distributes the product. A legitimate bear spray must have an EPA Reg. No.
- 6** The **EPA Est. No.** is the number assigned by the EPA to the place where the product is manufactured or packaged.
- 7** **Spray duration** and **spray distance** performance are indicated on the back side of the label.

What's not allowed on label

Not allowed on the label because it may be misleading are claims such as "the hottest" or "shotgun blast," listing of percentage of oleoresin of capsicum or oc, listing of SHU's (Scoville Heat Units)

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Bear Spray

**To Deter Bears from
Attacking Humans
NOT FOR USE ON HUMANS**

DO NOT SEEK OUT ENCOUNTERS WITH BEARS. THIS PRODUCT IS A BEAR ATTACK DETERRENT WHICH MAY PROTECT USERS IN SOME UNEXPECTED CONFRONTATIONS WITH BEARS BUT MAY NOT BE EFFECTIVE IN ALL SITUATIONS OR PREVENT ALL INJURIES.

Active Ingredient:

Capsaicin and related capsaicinoids* **1% to 2%**

Inert Ingredients 98% to 99%

TOTAL 100%

*Includes Capsaicin and other capsaicinoids. Derived from Oleoresin of Capsicum

2

Net Contents: **7.9 Ounces**
or **225 grams**

3

4

5

6

EPA Reg. No. **00000-0**
or
EPA Reg. No. **00000-0-00000**
EPA Est No: **00000-AA-000**

7

How and when to use Bear Spray



www.BeBearAware.org

Prior to entering bear country, make sure that everyone:

- knows basic bear avoidance safety techniques,
- has a can of bear spray,
- reads and understands all bear spray instructions, reviews how and when to use bear spray
- practices using the bear spray (removing the safety clip, holding, aiming)
- keeps bear spray readily available (carry in a holster, keep within easy reach in tent at night)



When to use bear spray:

- should **only** be used to deter **charging or attacking bears.**



How to use bear spray:

- point container nozzle at the bear, aiming slightly downward, (you do not have to aim for the face)
- spray a short blast when an approaching bear is 40 to 50 feet away producing an expanding cloud of spray between you and the bear;
- if the bear continues to charge, keep spraying until bear changes direction;
- in sudden close encounters, spray immediately aiming towards the face. Continue spraying until the bear stops its charge,
- leave area promptly, but do not run.

How not to use bear spray:

- do not apply bear spray to people, clothing, tents, packs, or to the ground.



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www.CounterAssault.com
Grizzly Tough Bear Spray

