“I received payment for half the cost of the fence, as well as guidance on how to design and install the fence, from Defenders of Wildlife. I might not have gone forward with the project without the cost assistance, and I doubt if the design would have been as effective without the technical assistance. There have been bears on the property, but they have not gotten into the yard to harass the chickens or partake of the vegetables.”

—KENNETH B., SEELEY LAKE, MONT.

“Since the inception of the program in 2010, Defenders has helped more than 100 property owners design and install bear-resistant electric fencing.”

—ERIN EDGE, DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE, ROCKIES AND PLAINS REPRESENTATIVE, MISSOULA, MONT.

Defenders of Wildlife is a national, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the protection of all native wild animals and plants in their natural communities.

Defenders of Wildlife
259 West Front Street, Suite B
Missoula, Montana 59802

www.defenders.org/got-grizzlies
Garbage, chicken coops, beehives, fruit trees and other sources of enticing odors can draw hungry and curious grizzlies and black bears to your property. Properly installed bear-resistant electric fencing is a simple and effective way to deter them. If you live in an eligible county, Defenders of Wildlife can help you design a barrier to keep bears out of things they shouldn’t get into and will reimburse you for 50 percent of the cost—up to $500.

Defenders’ Electric Fencing Program
Participating in the program is a simple, three-step process:

1. Check the lists of eligible counties and qualifying bear “attractants” (opposite). If you qualify, you must contact us before purchasing materials and/or installing your fence to confirm your place on our list for reimbursement. Funding is limited, and maximum reimbursement per project is $500.

2. Plan your project. Defenders can provide technical advice and recommendations on design and materials specific to your project. Your fence must follow general specifications listed in Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Electric Fence Guide for Bears, available at http://fwp.mt.gov/frontwards/livingWithWildlife/beBearAware/default.html.

3. Once your fence is completed, fill out and submit the form (opposite) and all required supporting documentation to obtain your reimbursement.

Questions? Contact Russ Talmo, (406) 728-8800 or rtalmo@defenders.org.

Eligible Counties
Idaho: Bonner, Boundary, Clark, Fremont, Lemhi, Madison, Teton
Washington: Pend Oreille
Wyoming: Freemont, Hot Springs, Park, Sublette, Teton
Montana: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Carbon, Deer Lodge, Flathead, Gallatin, Glacier, Granite, Jefferson, Lake, Lewis & Clark, Lincoln, Madison, Mineral, Missoula, Park, Pondera, Powell, Ravalli, Sanders, Silver Bow, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Teton

Fenceable Bear Attractants*
Chicken coops • Garbage • Beehives
Fruit trees • Livestock/pet feed
Food-waste compost • Carcass pits
Boneyards • Restaurant grease containers
Backcountry hunting camps
Hanging game • Livestock

*Something not on this list attracting bears to your property? Call us to see if it qualifies for the fencing incentive.

Electric Fence Incentive Form
Complete and submit along with the required documentation (a signed W-9—we can email or mail you a copy, copies of all receipts for fencing supplies purchased in 2014 and photos of the completed fence) to:

Defenders of Wildlife
259 West Front Street, Suite B
Missoula, Montana 59802
Attn: Electric Fence Incentive Program

(If you prefer, scan and email to rtalmo@defenders.org)