

## Aspen police beanbag bear raiding trash room

*The Associated Press The Denver Post*

Posted:

DenverPost.com

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ASPEN, Colo. (AP) — A bear raiding an Aspen trash room got a wakeup call Thursday when police shot it in the rear with a beanbag.

Bears in the Roaring Fork Valley are just starting to wake up from hibernation with rising temperatures.

Paul Kurkulis says he and his wife were awakened by noises coming from their trash room. Thinking it was an intruder, they called the police, who discovered the animal rummaging through trash.

Kurkulis tells the Aspen Times (<http://tinyurl.com/nbwrg69> ) the officer went in the building, the bear came running out and the officer fired a bean bag that kept the bear on the run.

The bear and the officer were not hurt.

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Information from: The Aspen Times, <http://www.aspentimes.com/>