

# New respect for zucchini

We all joke about zucchini. The plants are so productive we don't know what to do with all of the fruits. What do you do with them? You can only eat so much zucchini bread.

We used to be able to give zucchini away by putting it into unlocked cars in the neighborhood—but nowadays everyone locks their cars after parking.

Even the Hunger Free North Dakota project, while begging for vegetable donations, asked that only one zucchini plant be allowed to grow per county.

When I was a kid, my brothers and I could always find a use for a few extra zucchinis. We carved the fruits into the shape of canoes, put a mast on them and had zucchini boat races.


Last year, I learned of another use of zucchini—as a WEAPON!

A bear was eating apples from a tree in a backyard in Montana. Pet dogs then started barking and the bear got mad. The bear started to attack one of the pet dogs—that got the pet's owner mad.

She kicked the bear below its chin—that got the bear REALLY MAD. It swiped at the woman's leg and then came after her. She retreated into the house and tried to close the door, but the bruin stuck its head and part of a shoulder through the doorway.

The woman held onto the door with her right hand. With her left, she reached behind and grabbed a zucchini that she had picked from her garden earlier and was sitting on the kitchen counter.

She threw the zuke. It hit the bear on the top of its head and the animal ran away.

Now zucchini has my utmost respect. It can nourish, entertain, as well as PROTECT you. 

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