



HUNTING REGULATIONS IN ONTARIO

Hunters follow the hunting regulations of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and the Canadian Wildlife Service. Strict laws regulate when, where, what, and how a person can hunt.

In Ontario, each hunter must pass both the Canadian Firearms Safety Course exam and the Ontario Hunter Education Course exam. These education programs and regulations help ensure hunting is a safe recreational activity for all forest users.

Hunters are aware of the appropriate clothing and equipment required for hunting.

Hunters never shoot unless they are absolutely sure of their target, and what is beyond and around it.

Hunters are aware of the location of the trails, and respect the rights of other people who may be using them.

KNOW WHEN IT IS HUNTING SEASON IN YOUR AREA

FALL

Most fall hunting takes place between early September and mid-December.

SPRING

Most spring turkey hunting takes place April 25 to May 31.

MORE INFORMATION

You can find detailed information on the Ministry of Natural Resources website at:

<https://www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-hunting-regulations-summary>



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Be Seen Be Safe

and enjoy the outdoors!



TIPS FOR TRAIL USERS DURING HUNTING SEASONS

Hunting is one of the many activities enjoyed in the forest and is considered a very safe recreational activity in Ontario. Both hunters and non-hunters need to do their part to respect the privileges of other users and keep the outdoors enjoyable for everyone.

Be Seen Be Safe... and ENJOY!



Trail users need to be aware that hunting takes place in County Forests, conservation areas, Crown land, as well as on private land, with the permission of the property owner. Many of Ontario's long distance hiking trails, such as the Bruce Trail or Ganaraska Trail, go over private land on which the landowner may have given permission to hunt. Trail users should feel comfortable using the outdoors at any time of the year, but in particular during the spring and fall you may want to consider taking some extra steps to ensure your time in the forest is enjoyable.

BE SEEN BE SAFE TIPS FOR TRAIL USERS TO CONSIDER DURING HUNTING SEASON:

- Know the hunting seasons, dates and locations in your area.
- Wear bright colours.
 - Wear bright orange (hat, vest, scarf, bandana, helmet cover) instead of beige, brown, white, or black clothing.
 - During turkey season avoid wearing red, white, blue or black.
 - Cover your backpack with orange.
 - Put brightly coloured markers on horses, dogs and other pets. For example, make or buy an orange rump sheet for your horse, put an orange bandana on your pet.
- Be aware that dawn and dusk are typical times when hunters are in the forest.
- Keep your pet on a leash.
- Stick to established trails and skip bushwhacking.
- Make noise so hunters will know you are on the trail.
- And finally, a good practice any time of the year:
Let someone know where you are going, and when to expect you back.

*The views expressed in this brochure may not reflect those of all individual campaign partners.

RESPONSIBLE FOREST USERS AGREE

Hunters and non-hunters can take pride in understanding, and agreeing upon, the importance of these key considerations:

RESPECT FOR SAFETY – Safety is the number one priority for anyone enjoying the outdoors, no matter how they choose to participate (eg: horseback riding, skiing, hunting, hiking).

RESPECT FOR A MULTIPLE USE APPROACH – It's important to share the forest and respect the individual outdoor recreational interests of other forest visitors.

RESPECT FOR THE LAW – Non-hunters and hunters alike must respect and comply with all applicable laws (including the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act*, *Trespass to Property Acts*, and laws governing the use of motorized vehicles). Trail users should also be aware that under the *Ontario Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1997 (Part II, Section 13)* it is prohibited to interfere with lawful hunting, trapping or fishing.

RESPECT FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY – Private property owners deserve respect.

RESPECT FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – Hunters and non-hunters have an opportunity to support conservation.

Hunters and trail users both have the privilege to pursue their chosen outdoor recreation.

Be courteous and respectful of all outdoor enthusiasts hunters and non hunters alike.

Know the rules and be prepared.

Do your part to share the woods safely.

Respect each other and the land we share.