



Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources

Hunt Responsibly

Responsible hunting has an honourable history, great traditions and a code of ethical conduct that extends beyond hunting laws.

Remember the privilege to hunt carries with it a responsibility to other people, wildlife and the environment.

Hunting Ethics

- Do not chase or harass wildlife when hunting.
- Only shoot what you will use and do not waste any meat from animals you harvest.
- Leave the area you hunt in looking the same way it did before you arrived. Pack out your trash and equipment and do not damage the land with your vehicles.
- If you are hunting on private lands within an area with a settled land claim, you must ask permission first.
- Dispose of any animal parts you leave behind on land and not on winter roads or frozen lakes so that when the ice melts the remains do not fall into the water, causing potential pollution problems
- It is considered a sign of respect in some cultures to leave the remains of animals on the land and not on the water.
- Be a safe hunter and respect other hunter in the field. Know the hunting regulations and report any and all violations to the nearest Renewable Resource Officer.

Hunting Licences

In the Northwest Territories, you must have a hunting licence to hunt small game. A hunting licence and wildlife tag(s) are needed to hunt big game.

Wildlife tags are issued for each species. The tags are part of your licence and must be attached to the animal immediately after the kill. Your hunting licence and wildlife tags must be carried with you when hunting.

Licences and tags may be purchased from any Environment and Natural Resources office. In Yellowknife, licences and tags may also be purchased from vendors. It is a good idea to record the number of your licence and tag(s). If you lose your licence, you should report this loss to a Renewable Resource Officer.

Report Hunting Violations

- Report any activities you feel are suspicious or illegal.
- If you see wildlife or environmental infractions, please leave a message on the toll-free “Report a Poacher” line at 1-866-762-2437,
- Provide as much information as you can about the situation including the date, time, location, vehicle licence plate number, air registration letters or boat registration number and the nature of the incident.
- All callers remain anonymous.
- You may also contact the nearest office of Environment and Natural Resources. Contact the local RCMP station if you are unable to reach a Renewable Resource Officer.

Hunt Responsibly

Remember the rules of hunting are designed to ensure people hunt safely and wildlife will be preserved for future generations:

- Resident harvest of caribou in the NWT is limited to males only.
- Do not chase, harass or molest wildlife.
- Do not waste, destroy, abandon or allow the meat of big game, other than bear, wolf and wolverine, and the raw pelt or hide of any fur-bearing animal to spoil.
- The head, legs below the knee joints and internal organs of ungulates (e.g. caribou, moose) are not considered waste if left behind.
- Do not shoot from, along or across a public road.
- Do not remove any wildlife or wildlife parts, other than a manufactured product, from the NWT unless you have an export permit.
- Before leaving on a hunting trip, plan carefully to include all necessary supplies and equipment. Never rely solely on a Global Positioning System (GPS) or a Portable Locator Beacon (PLB) device for survival because batteries can fail, screens can freeze and devices can get lost.
- Take topographic maps and other more traditional navigational aids with you for even the shortest trip.
- Hunting regulations for barren-ground caribou are changing.
- Please contact your local ENR office for updated regulations before you go hunting.

For more information about hunting in the NWT, visit the ENR website at www.wildlife.enr.gov.nt.ca.

***Conserve our wildlife resources.
Hunt responsibly and safely.***

