Hunting Season is upon us. The thrill of game hunting with a bow or a rifle can be fun and exhilarating, but also dangerous if safety precautions are left unchecked. The following ‘Tips’ are provided to enhance your hunting safety knowledge and your hunting experience:

BRIEFING TOPICS:

- Hunter’s Safety; Weather and Clothing; Laws/Courtesies; Risk Management

SAFETY TIPS:

- Control muzzle direction - never point a weapon at a person. Keep finger off trigger until ready to fire. Treat all guns as if they were loaded. Know your target and what’s behind the target.
- Use a rope or cord to raise and lower guns and bows from tree stands.
- Never climb at tree or jump a fence with a loaded gun. Don’t shoot at sounds or movements.
- Take a Hunter’s Safety Course in the state where you’ll be hunting, and obtain a valid hunting license. Familiarize yourself with the hunting area and identify tree stand sites in daylight.
- If using a tree-stand, wear a full-body safety harness in order to maintain three points of contact. Securely attach tree stands to healthy trees. Avoid using stands if feeling fatigued or taking medication.
- Check weather conditions and extended forecasts before leaving for hunting trip.
- Wear hunter-orange clothing while hunting to enhance your visibility to other hunters. Avoid wearing only camouflage clothing.
- Pack sufficient clothing to be prepared for weather changes. Dress in layers. Inform someone of your planned route, hunting site, and estimated return time. Maintain a first-aid kit and an emergency pack equipped with fire starter, food and water, and additional warm clothes.
- Know the laws and game limits where you will be hunting. Obtain permission from landowner if hunting on private property. Clean hunting site before departing the area.
- Understand the dangers associated with hunting and take necessary precautions to mitigate the hazards. Inspect hunting equipment before use. Wear eye protection when shooting. Hunt smart and hunt safe.

HUNTING RESOURCES:

- [www.huntinfo.org](http://www.huntinfo.org) (Where To Hunt In Your State)
- [www.hunter-ed.com](http://www.hunter-ed.com) (Hunter Education Course)