

Tree stand accidents are leading cause of injury

Tree stand accidents are the leading cause of injury to hunters. One in three people who hunt from an elevated stand will have a fall resulting in serious injury.

The following information will provide you with tips and information for safe tree stand hunting.

Types of Tree Stands

The following is a description of some of the more well known types of tree stands:

•*Fixed position stands* – these stands are designed to be placed on a tree trunk and remain secured in that spot.

•*Vertical ladder stands* – this type of stand has a ladder that supports the shooting platform. The ladder is usually divided into short sections that can be assembled on site. The ladder “legs” extend at a slight angle out from the stand and tree trunk, and are secured to the trunk via supporting arms and belts.

•*Climbing stands* – the most popular stand type, the climber is designed to “walk” up a tree trunk with the hunter to a desired elevation.

•*Permanent stands* – such stands may be placed in a tree or cluster of trees and left there. They are exposed to weather and may deteriorate. Never trust the safety of a permanent tree stand that was built previously by someone else.

Safety Harnesses

•Always wear a safety harness, also known as a fall arrest system, when you are in a tree stand, as well as when climbing into or out of a tree stand.

•A safety strap should be attached to the tree to prevent you from falling more than 12 inches.

•In the event of a fall, harnesses provide some “cushion,” generally about four inches, which is the result of the alternately tightening and slipping of the harness as well as the normal stretch of the material.

•Always inspect the safety harness for signs of wear or damage before each use.

•Follow all manufacturers’ instructions for use of a safety harness and stand.

Recovery From a Fall

Preparation and prevention are the keys to safe tree stand use.

•In the event of a fall in a harness, try to recover as soon as possible. The longer you stay suspended from your harness, the harder it will be to recover from your fall.

•Seek suspension relief by grabbing onto the tree trunk or climbing steps.

•Take the weight off your harness as soon as possible.

•Once you have a firm hold on the trunk or climbing steps, use the 3 Point Rule to climb back into your stand or down from it.

•Replace your harness with a new one in the event of a fall, especially if you have cut your tree tether.

3 Point Rule

Follow the 3 Point Rule of tree stand safety. Always have three points of contact to the steps or ladder before moving. This could be two arms and one leg holding and stepping on the ladder or one arm and two legs in contact with the ladder before moving. Be cautious

that rain, frost, ice or snow can cause steps to become extremely slippery. Check the security of the step before placing your weight on it.

Safety Guidelines

•Always use a haul line to pull up your gear and unloaded firearm or bow to your tree stand. Never climb with anything in your hands or on your back. Before descending, lower your equipment on the opposite side of the tree.

•Always select the proper tree for use with your tree stand. Select a live, straight tree that fits within the size limits recommended in your tree stand’s instructions.

•Always hunt with a plan, and if possible, with a buddy. Let others know your exact hunting location, when you plan to return, and who you are hunting with.

•Always carry emergency signal devices, such as a cell phone, whistle, walkie-talkie, signal flare and flashlight on your person at all times and within reach, even when you are suspended in your tree stand.

•The recommended height for an elevated tree stand is less than ten feet above the ground.

•Know your physical limitations. Don’t take chances. If you start thinking about how high you are, don’t go any higher.

•While climbing with a tree stand, make slow, even movements of no more than 10-12 inches at a time. Have proper contact with the tree and/or tree stand every time you move and follow the 3 Point Rule.

Deer Hunting Dates

09/17/22 - 12/31/22	Deer - Archery	Statewide
10/20/22 - 10/23/22	Deer - Early Antlerless	
10/20/22 - 10/23/22	Deer - Youth	Statewide
11/5/22 - 11/20/22	Deer - Firearm (Season A)	100 Series permit areas
11/5/22 - 11/13/22	Deer - Firearm (Season A)	200 & 300 Series permit area
11/19/22 - 11/27/22	Deer - Firearm (Season B)	300 Series permit areas
11/26/22 - 12/11/22	Deer - Muzzleloader	Statewide

Grilled Venison and Vegetables

Ingredients

1 cup red wine vinegar
1/2 cup honey
1/2 cup soy sauce
1/4 cup ketchup
Dash pepper
Dash garlic powder
1-1/2 pounds boneless venison steak, cut into 1-1/4-inch cubes
8 to 12 cherry tomatoes
8 to 12 fresh mushrooms, optional
1/2 medium green or sweet red pepper, cut into 1-1/2 inch pieces
1 to 2 small zucchini, cut into 1-inch chunks
1 large onion, cut into wedges
8 to 12 small new potatoes, parboiled

Directions

In a glass bowl or plastic bag, combine vinegar, honey, soy sauce, ketchup, pepper and garlic powder; set aside 1/4 cup for vegetables. Set aside 3/4 cup for basting. Add meat to bowl or bag; stir or shake to coat. Cover (or close bag) and refrigerate for 4 hours. One hour before grilling, toss vegetables with 1/4 cup reserved marinade.

Drain and discard marinade from meat. Thread meat and vegetables alternately on skewers. Grill over medium-hot heat for 15-20 minutes or until a thermometer inserted in the venison reads 160°, turning and basting frequently with reserved 3/4 cup marinade. Yield: 4-6 servings.

NEWSPAPERS BRING LEARNING TO LIFE!

Welcome Hunters

Deer Hunting Opener Hours:

Sat. Nov. 5th	5am-9pm
Sun. Nov. 6:	5am-8pm
Mon. - Thurs. Nov 7-10:	7am-8pm
Fri. Nov 11:	7am-9pm
Sat. Nov. 12th	6am-9pm
Sun. Nov. 13th:	6am-8pm

FRIDAYS ARE FISH FRY NIGHT \$10!

Zapp's Cafe

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

218-652-2233

AT THE JUNCTION OF 34&64 • AKELEY

Saturday, Nov. 5
HUNTER'S LUNCH SPECIAL:
Beef Stroganoff w/bun \$9
DINNER SPECIAL:
Meatloaf dinner w/roll \$12
Oriental Menu Available

Sunday, Nov. 6
LUNCH SPECIAL:
Lasagna w/breadsticks \$9
DINNER SPECIAL:
Chicken Fried Steak \$15

Saturday, Nov. 12
HUNTER'S LUNCH SPECIAL:
Chicken Alfredo w/breadsticks \$9
DINNER SPECIAL:
Oriental Menu

Sunday, Nov. 13
LUNCH SPECIAL:
Chicken Fried Steak \$15
DINNER SPECIAL:
Chef's Choice

Hunting teaches life lessons

By Faith Kowalke

Hunting is something that you don’t get to do every day. It is an experience that lasts a lifetime. As you grow older, some memories may start to fade a little, but you can still remember your hunting adventures as if you were out in the woods only yesterday. Hunting is not violent and gruesome; it teaches you to respect life. Some people might disagree, but I know that hunting builds confidence and patience, no matter the circumstances.

The walk to the deer stand seems to take forever. A feeling of relief comes when you finally arrive at the base of the stand. I climb the ladder, and my father soon follows. We look into the distance, wondering what that shape is out in the field. It is not a dog, or a deer . . . or any animal at all. It is my father’s pup tent. We stare at it for a while. Suddenly my dad looks the other way and sees a deer. “Its got a rack!” he exclaims. I creep over to my gun, then take a seat. I pull it up on the deer and waver my scope, trying to find the buck. I finally get him in my sights, but he is not broadside – he is at an angle. I ask my father where I should shoot. He whispers, “Shoot him in the neck!” My immediate response was, “I can’t shoot him in the neck!” My father was clearly not going to take “no” for an answer. Again he said, “You shoot him in the neck!”

The buck gave me the shot again, and when I got the sights on the right spot, I wasted no time squeezing the trigger. There was a great BOOM as I recoiled from the shot, leaving me

clueless as to whether I got him or not. I asked, “Did I get him?” My father exclaimed, “You dropped him!”

I wanted to scream right there and then, but we were still hunting. We waited for five minutes – it seemed like hours – before climbing down to go see the buck. I was so excited! I didn’t waste any time once I got to the ground, and took off sprinting toward the deer. I didn’t see the deer at first; then my father said, “There he is.” I took off at an all-out run again, but dad yelled at me to stop before I got to the deer. He walked up to it and poked at the animal with the muzzle of his gun to make sure it was dead, then turned and gave me a big smile and two thumbs up.

I went straight for the rack and counted the antler points, coming up with a total of nine. We took a ton of pictures, then headed back to our stand. We sat there until shooting hours were over. That whole time, there was a smile on my face that stretched from ear to ear.

I have learned that hunting is not just about the end result, it’s about everything that goes into it. You can’t be greedy and just focus on the prize before you even start the game. You have to respect the animals. You must respect the idea of a fair hunt in order to get your prize. The longer you hunt, the more you acquire respect for all that has happened in past hunts. You start to see things in a more positive light, and become more mature.

In the future, I know I am going to respect more of the things around me. I will not

just want the end result before I have even started. Hunting can have a great impact on your life, and it will provide you with memories that will last forever, and stories that can be told over and over.



TIMBERLAKE HOTEL & TIMBERS RESTAURANT



TIMBERLAKE HOTEL

- *52 SPACIOUS ROOMS
- *COMPLIMENTARY HOT BREAKFAST
- *LARGE POOL & HOT TUB

TIMBERS RESTAURANT

- *SERVING LUNCH & DINNER
- *EVENT SPACE
- *WEDDING RECEPTIONS
- *SOCIAL GATHERINGS



TIMBERLAKEHOTEL.COM

STAPLES, MN
H- 218.895.1300
R- 218.895.1400

Good Luck and Be Safe Hunters!