



# Attention Hunters!

Hunting season is quickly approaching, in some cases it may already be here.

The **Forestry Safety Association of NL** would like to remind hunters that there are many active forestry worksites operating during hunting season. We ask that you respect the **No Hunting Signs** posted at these sites.

## Hunting Accidents have Four Common Causes

- 1. Judgment Mistakes:** Mistaking a person for game, not checking what's in front of or beyond the target and getting caught up in the excitement of the hunt which can cause you to make serious mistakes.
- 2. Not Following Firearm Safety Rules:** Not following the four primary rules of firearm safety.
  - 1) Always keep your muzzle pointed in a Safe Direction
  - 2) There is no such thing as a Unloaded Firearm
  - 3) Make sure you know What's in Front of & Beyond the Target
  - 4) Keep your Finger OFF the Trigger until you're ready to shoot
- 3. Not Enough Practice:** Hunters not knowing their firearms capabilities. This stems from a lack of practice that can lead to accidental discharge and stray shots.
- 4. Mechanical Failure:** You can never let your guard down; mechanical failures can and will happen, so you must know how to deal with them when they do happen. **(Did you know a loaded Remington model 700 can discharge when taking off the safety?)**

## Let's go over some helpful safety rules.

- Never take a hasty shot—Be sure of your target
- Do not hunt around Forestry Operations and respect posted signage.
- Never allow debris to collect in the barrel of your firearm.
- Don't fire at a movement, a noise, a flash of colour or into a rustling bush.
- Remember bullets travel further than 300 metres.
- Never attempt to cross a fence, ditch or other obstacle while holding a loaded firearm.
- Always treat your firearm as if it were loaded.
- In Newfoundland and Labrador a person must pass both the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) and the Hunters Education Course (HE) to become eligible to apply for resident hunting licences and to hunt game with a firearm.



## Aim To Be Safe!



**Forestry Safety Association of Newfoundland and Labrador ..... working together to create a safe work environment for our forest industry!**