

# REPORT A POACHER



In Alberta Dial Toll Free : 1-800-642-3800

Alberta Conservation Association's **REPORT A POACHER** program provides Albertans with the opportunity to report suspected violations using a toll-free number: **1-800-642-3800** or #3800 on the **TELUS Mobility network** (courtesy TELUS Mobility). The line is in operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fishing or hunting out of season, night hunting, exceeding bag limits, illegal sale of fish and wildlife and deposit of harmful substances in lakes and rivers are violations that seriously affect fish and wildlife in Alberta. If you see or know of a violation, you should record all information, including

- date
- time
- location
- vehicle licence number
- vehicle description
- description of person(s) involved
- details of violation, and any other details, no matter how insignificant they may seem. You should then contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office or call **1-800-642-3800** as soon as possible.

If the information provided concerns a resource violation and results in the laying of a charge, the reporter may be eligible for a reward. If you have any questions about this program, please contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office (page 59).

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## NOTICE TO HUNTERS

The Fish and Wildlife Division of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development frequently conducts vehicle checks to assist in the management of Alberta's fish and wildlife resources and to ensure compliance with existing legislation.

## West Nile Virus

*Are hunters at risk of West Nile virus when handling hunter-killed birds?*

Health officials advise that there is no evidence or reason to believe that there is any risk of getting West Nile virus from handling hunter-killed birds in Alberta. Free-flying birds are unlikely to contain sufficient virus to pass on an infection. In addition, the only evidence of direct transfer of West Nile virus from birds to humans without going through a mosquito are two accidental infections when lab technicians were handling heavily infected crows. Similarly, hunting dogs are not at risk when retrieving hunter-killed birds.

Hunters are advised to take precautions against being bitten by mosquitoes, which are common in wetland habitats and are active at dawn and dusk when temperatures are suitable for insect activity.

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