



HUNTING - GOOD RECREATIONAL VALUE FOR YOUR DOLLAR

1. In previous public opinion surveys, it was identified that cost was one of the factors why people did not hunt. The reality is that hunting stacks up very favorably against the costs of other popular entertainment or recreational activities.
2. The average hunter buys three big game licenses, at a cost of \$165.00 per year (which includes the 5 year WIN card, Wildlife Certificate, three general licenses and a bow hunting permit (if required)).
3. The average time spent hunting Whitetail deer is 9.5 days in Alberta. With the liberal hunting seasons, there are over 100 days of hunting opportunities, depending on licenses purchased.
4. The average cost to purchase a game bird hunting license is \$50.00 and to hunt Migratory Game birds is an additional \$17.00 for a total of approximately \$68.00 (Wildlife Certificate, WIN card, Upland Game Bird stamp, and Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting permit).
5. The average time spent hunting ducks and geese is 4.5 days in Alberta and the season affords three and a half months of hunting opportunity for birds.
6. Equipment choices vary upon individual preferences, similar to campers choosing between a tent, camper, 5th wheel or motor home.
7. The average daily expenditure by hunters (according to the "Importance of Nature to Canadians: The Economic Significance of Nature-related Activities") is \$41.00 per day. This includes hunting equipment (46.5%) transportation (20.2%), license fees and ammunition (16.5%), food (12.1%), accommodation (4.7%).
8. Compare the following recreational activities:

The average round of **golf** is \$75.00 for 4 hours of recreational activity.

The average cost of a **movie** is \$20.00 for 2 hours of entertainment.

It is not unusual for the average **camping** costs to exceed \$25.00 per day, with a range of amenities.

The average cost for **Internet service** (based on the two main providers in Alberta) is \$37.00 per month.

The average cost to attend a **NHL hockey game** is \$80.00 for 2.5 hours of entertainment.

THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE EQUIPMENT, TRANSPORTATION, FOOD, AND ACCOMMODATION – LIKE THE HUNTING NUMBERS DO.

9. **Youth** have identified that one of their preferred recreational purchases are DVD's, CD's or Game Systems. While this can be good value on an hourly basis broken down over time – youth in Alberta have a special opportunity to purchase some licenses at a reduced rate. Starting at \$8.25 a Youth could hunt game birds and a Youth Whitetail or Mule Deer license may be added for \$8.25 each. Furthermore, hunting requires physical activity, which promotes good fitness.
10. The licenses are a fixed cost, therefore the greater the amount of time spent hunting, the higher the value for your initial cost. License fees have remained stable since 1996, (with a small increase in 2008) while other recreational activities continue to increase in price.
11. Hunters contributed over \$40 million during a 15-year period from license sales to manage wildlife populations and their habitat.
12. Wildlife is a shared resource and a common heritage. All Albertans – and visiting tourists – benefit when hunters invest in wildlife programs. For more information about the benefits of hunting contact Hunting For Tomorrow.

KEY CONTACTS

Alberta Conservation Association (ACA)	Phone: 780.410.1999 or 1.877.969.9091 Email: info@ab-conservation.com Web-site: www.ab-conservation.com
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Fish and Wildlife Division	Dial 310-0000 and ask for the nearest Fish and Wildlife office. Web-site: www.mywildalberta.com
Environment Canada	Web-site: www.ec.gc.ca/nature/tofc.htm
Wildlife Habitat Canada	Web-site: www.whc.org

HUNTING FOR TOMORROW

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