



Gone Hunting!

How much time do you spend hunting?

The answer might surprise you. We just finished Fact Sheet Number 15 "Hunting – Good Recreational Value For Your Dollar" and when we checked into the statistics on the average number of days hunted, I must say I was surprised at how low they were.

Here is some surprising information (courtesy of Alberta Fish and Wildlife):

The average number of days spent Whitetail hunting – 9.5 days
The average number of days spent Elk hunting – 4.3 days
The average number of days spent Moose hunting – 5.3 days
The average number of days spent Mule deer hunting – 7.2 days
The average number of days spent Antelope hunting – 2.4 days
The average number of days spent Bighorn Sheep hunting – 4.9 days

The average number of days spent duck hunting – 4.6 days
The average number of days spent goose hunting – 4.2 days

Considering the fact that on average we have 90+ hunting days in Alberta, these numbers are interesting.

Despite the lower than expected number of days spent in the field, our data still shows that hunting is good recreational value for its dollar. If the average person buys three big game licenses at a cost of approximately \$125.00 per year divided by the average number of days whitetail hunting (9.5), then the cost per day is only \$13.16 per day. When the cost of hunting equipment, transportation, food, accommodation, licenses fees and ammunition are factored in this daily expenditure by hunters increases to \$41.00 per day. (As per the Environment Canada – Importance of Nature to Canadians study conducted in 1996).

Compare these costs to the following popular outdoor activities:

- The average round of **golf** (including the golf cart) is \$75.00 for 4 hours of recreational activity.
- The average cost of a **movie** (including snacks) is \$20.00 for 2 hours of entertainment.
- It is not unusual for the average **camping** cost per day to exceed \$25.00, 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 \$100.00 for 2.5 hours of entertainment.

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

If you are interested in learning more about the cost of hunting, pick up a copy of our Fact Sheet # 16: Hunting – Good Recreational Value for Your Dollar or visit our web-site at www.huntingfortomorrow.com and click on the Facts or Fiction section.

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