



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE  
POLICE PROVINCIALE DE L'ONTARIO

NEWS RELEASE/  
COMMUNIQUÉ

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**FROM/DE: SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY DETACHMENT DATE December 10, 2009**

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## **WHAT YOU CAN DO TO BE A RESPONSIBLE HUNTER/ANGLER**

*From the Desk of Detachment Commander Andrew Ferguson*

**(MIDLAND, ON)** – The Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and the Township of Tiny are working together to ensure that property owners and hunters have a clear understanding of what constitutes safe and legal hunting within the Township.

The Township of Tiny has enacted and passed a by-law that deals specifically with prohibiting the use of firearms on municipally owned property. By-Law 08-073 clearly states, in accordance with Section 119 of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c. 25 as amended “that a local municipality may, for the purpose of public safety, prohibit or regulate the discharge of guns or other firearms, air-guns, spring-guns, cross-bows, long-bows, or any other weapon.

Private property owners, who do not wish persons to enter upon their property, must properly sign the property. In order for the provisions contained within the Trespass to Property Act to be enforceable, property owners at a minimum must post a sign that has a red dot on a white background. Signs that clearly state “No Trespassing” are readily available at most hardware type stores, are inexpensive and carry a very clear and concise message. The simple posting a single sign on a large piece of property may not be enough (for court related purposes) and signage should be placed at regular intervals along the property line it is designating as private. The signs should also be checked on a regular basis to ensure that they are still posted, clearly visible and in good repair.

Persons who wish to set upon private property for whatever reason should seek and obtain the expressed permission from the landowner in advance of doing so and respect for the property you are accessing should always be considered once approval has been granted. Please go to the link [www.ofah.org](http://www.ofah.org) to view and print a Hunting/Angling Permission Record and the Landowner’s Permission Record.

For those who hunt, you are further reminded to not only carry your firearm in a safe manner, but to positively identify your target and utilize a safe backstop before discharging any firearm. All required firearms safety rules should be followed closely and any required documentation should be carried and be surrendered upon request.

Non-hunters are encouraged to wear brightly coloured clothing while enjoying the outdoors where other users may be encountered and are also reminded that it is an offence to interfere with persons legally engaged in hunting.

**If a landowner encounters someone on their property and they do not have the expressed permission to be there, in the interest of public safety, the landowner should not confront the person or persons and police should be notified immediately by dialing the OPP Provincial Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122. Any descriptions or license plates of vehicles found in the area should also be noted and provided to the police as this could assist in identifying the person or persons in the event they leave the area prior to the arrival of police. The MNR also has a tips line which can be accessed by dialing 1-877-847-7667 should any member of the public witness inappropriate hunting behavior.**

Safe and responsible hunting practices encompass a combination of courtesy, respect for private property, safe firearms handling, knowledge of firearms related legislation and local hunting by-laws. The OPP, the MNR and the Township of Tiny will continue to work in conjunction with one another to ensure the safety of outdoor recreational enthusiasts, hunters and property owners.

The Township of Tiny continues to provide ongoing education to the public through their website which is located at [www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca). By accessing the webpage entitled “Hunting in Tiny”, hunters will be able to locate relevant and current information on hunting related matters within the Township.

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For additional O.P.P. Media Releases, please see [www.crimealerts.net](http://www.crimealerts.net)

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