

Legal Issues

- The current regulation defines tracking as hunting and requires trackers to abide by the same restrictions as hunters
- Trackers will only assist in recovery of legally harvested game
- Trackers must be in possession of a license for the animal they are tracking
- Tracking dogs must be licensed and be on a 30' leash
- Animals are not allowed to be tracked after legal shooting time
- A person shall not use or be accompanied by a dog when hunting elk.
- Trackers are legally not allowed to track a wounded animal with their dog(s) after the season closes
- The humane dispatch of wounded animals is paramount



Who We Are

Big Game Blood Trackers Ontario (BGBTO) is an organization of dedicated volunteer handlers and their trained leashed tracking dogs who provide a free service to hunters in Ontario

Our mission is the ethical, humane and quick recovery of wounded big game animals through the use of trained leashed tracking dogs

We aim to reduce the number of animals that cannot be found in spite of the exhaustive efforts of ethical hunters

All BGBTO trackers are members of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) and are insured under that organization

Contact Us

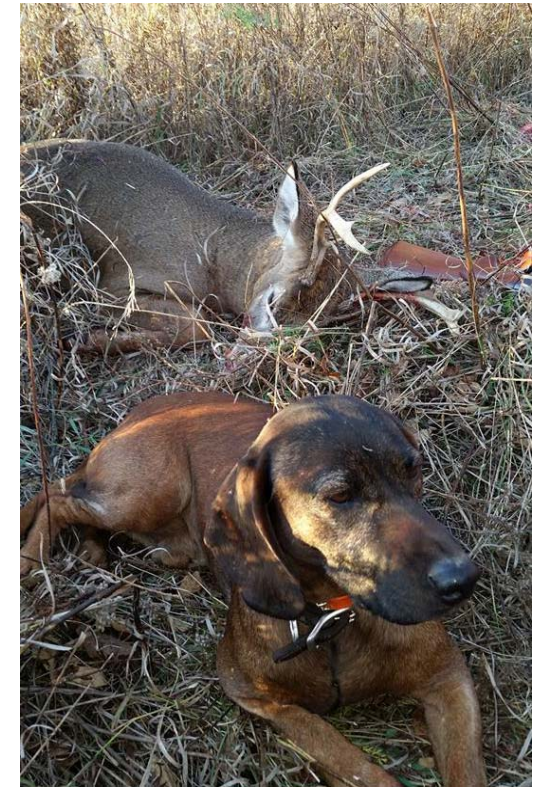
BGBTO Dispatcher phone#: 705-277-9183

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/870120393072511/>

Web: www.biggamesearchon.com



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**BIG GAME
BLOOD
TRACKERS
ONTARIO**

*Assisting hunters in the
ethical recovery of wounded
big game*

Why Call a Tracking Team?

- Humans are excellent hunters, but our tracking is dependent strictly on visible sign.
- Tracking visible sign can be stifled by rain, snow or lack of blood
- Trained tracking dogs follow the scent of a specific animal (known as a cold track) where other similar game may have crossed the track
- Many mortally wounded animals bleeding internally can go a long distance without a good blood trail
- Tracking dogs can follow the scent trail when there is little or no blood
- Dogs can follow a wounded animal in difficult cover and marshy areas
- Coyotes can readily find and devour your game if not promptly recovered



In the spirit of Section 36 of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, a hunter who kills game wildlife shall not abandon it, if its flesh may become unsuitable for human consumption.



How to increase your odds of recovery

- Before taking the shot, remember a landmark near the animal
- Note the way the animal acts when it runs off
- Remember landmarks it runs by
- Assess the evidence (blood, hair, arrow, odor etc.) at the hit site and beyond
- Track with one or two people and avoid grid searching
- Mark the trail with toilet paper or other markers
- When blood trail runs out, back out and call for help

What to expect when you call

- Dispatcher will contact closest available tracking team
- Tracker will conduct a thorough telephone interview with hunter
- Tracking team will meet hunter and give 100% effort assisting in the search
- Recovery depends on many factors
- Success rate is ~50% of animals that would otherwise not be found
- There is no fee for the service

Our Objectives

- Increase hunter awareness of how a dog can assist a hunter in tracking wounded big game
- Promote tracking to other hunters interested in becoming handlers
- Share information and advice with hunters interested in tracking
- Continue to advocate changes to the existing regulation. Redefine tracking with leashed tracking dogs as NOT hunting
- Establish tracking teams throughout Ontario
- Maintain statistics about our service