



NEWS RELEASE/COMMUNIQUÉ

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Détachement Noëlville Detachment

P.O. Box 96, 239 Hwy 64 South

Noëlville, Ontario P0M 2N0

Tel: (705) 898-2211

Fax: (705) 898-2143

Detachment Commander's Message about Wildlife on Roadways

Noëlville OPP Detachment Commander Staff Tim Foster would like to remind all drivers that wild animals are unpredictable at all times. In 2007, the Noëlville Detachment area responded to 222 reported motor vehicle collisions. 63 of these collisions involved either deer or moose. From 01st Jan 2008 to 28th April 2008, the Noëlville OPP have responded to 85 motor vehicle collisions. 11 involved wild animals.

Here are some facts on wildlife collisions:

- ◆ On average, there is a motor vehicle/wild animal collision every 39 minutes
- ◆ One out of every 17 motor vehicle collisions involves a wild animal
- ◆ Motor vehicle/wild animal collisions are increasing annually
- ◆ 89 per cent occur on two-lane roads outside of urban areas
- ◆ 84 per cent occur in good weather

REDUCE YOUR COLLISION RISK

Watch

Scan the road ahead from shoulder to shoulder. When you see wildlife beside the road, slow down and pass carefully as they may suddenly bolt onto the road.

Watch for the yellow wildlife warning signs that indicate an area of increased risk. Slow down when travelling through these areas.

Use high beams at night where possible and watch for glowing eyes of animals.

Steer

Stay in control. Watch your speed and take extra precautions when driving at night as visibility is greatly reduced. Slowing down will give you that extra second to respond.

Never swerve suddenly. This could cause your vehicle to go out of control or head into oncoming traffic.

Brake

Brake firmly if an animal is standing on, or crossing, the road. Never assume the animal will move out of your way

Stop

Stop as safely as possible if a wild animal is crossing the road.
Remember, if one animal crosses the road, others may follow.

***If possible, avoid driving during dusk or dawn when most wildlife collisions occur. Swerving to avoid hitting a wild animal may result in a more serious collision. If hitting a wild animal is unavoidable, remember to stay in control ...
Watch, Steer, Brake and Stop.***