

**365 THINGS**

**EVERY HUNTER**

**SHOULD KNOW**

**STEVE CHAPMAN**



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### 365 THINGS EVERY HUNTER SHOULD KNOW

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## INTRODUCTION

There are as many things hunters should know as there are hunters who should know them, and there's no way one person can cover them all. The booklet you hold in your hand contains short, pithy insights on hunting, biblical wisdom for life, and hunting lore for successful forays into the woods.

I've thoroughly enjoyed perusing my mind and heart as I reflected on hunts, stories, knowledge gleaned from others, and even a tall tale or two in my search for what to include. Whether you're a seasoned hunter or someone taking your first steps on this wonderful adventure, I hope you'll find some thoughts and suggestions that are meaningful, helpful, inspiring, encouraging, and that will even cause you to smile.

God bless all your seasons,  
*Steve Chapman*

P.S. Many hunters are women...and that's great. For ease in writing I've used feminine pronouns when referring to spouses. Don't let that throw you if you're a woman! This book is written for you too.



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# QUOTES & QUIPS FOR HUNTERS

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Insights to brighten your day and  
bring to mind hunting seasons.



*“To everything there is a season, a time  
for every purpose under heaven”*

(ECCLESIASTES 3:1).

THE WORD “SEASON” CAUGHT THIS HUNTER’S EYE!



*“Throughout the city, the talk now is of the kill  
or the near kill. Some of it may even be true.”*

JIM ROBBINS, HELENA, MT,

DURING HUNTING SEASON



*“For me, hunting is more than big antlers or shallow  
words. It’s amber sunrises and the smell of leaves in  
an October forest. It’s fluffy snowflakes landing on  
a cold gun barrel, and the smell of wet wool at the  
end of the day’s hunt... In short, hunting is being  
there. It’s experiencing all that nature has to offer.”*

CHARLES ALSHEIMER,

WHITETAIL BEHAVIOR THROUGH THE SEASONS

*“If a wife doesn’t like what her husband likes to do as a hobby, then he’s not doing it right.”*

ANNIE CHAPMAN



*“To be successful at hunting, stay put just a little bit longer.”*

JAY HOUSTON



*“The ending of deer season is a good thing. It reminds many of us that we have jobs—and we should return to them.”*

STEVE CHAPMAN



*“Any relation to land—the habit of tilling it, or mining, or even hunting on it—generates the feeling of patriotism.”*

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

*“When you go to church and a trio sings, its nice.  
But when the choir strikes up, ain’t it grand!”*

BILLY, A RABBIT HUNTING GUIDE,  
ON BRINGING 15 BEAGLES TO A HUNT



*“I saw the deer and took its life  
then gave it to my skillful wife.  
She added leeks and tall morels,  
a secret spice I dare not tell  
and deep red fruit of tomato vines,  
legumes, and fire and evening time  
bread of wheat and coffee hot...  
She made me glad I took the shot!”*

STEVE CHAPMAN



*“When the sun is setting on a hunt and the  
primer on my rifle cartridge is yet to be dented  
by the firing pin, it’s still been a good day.”*

A WISE HUNTER





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# SECRETS FROM A SEASONED HUNTER

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Observations to improve  
your hunting skills.



A barbed wire fence can offer the best evidence of the presence of critters in the area. Elk, deer, bear, and old hippies leave behind remnants of their tresses as they crawl under or between the wires.



Thunder is a turkey hunter's friend. A "hot" male during springtime mating season often gobbles when the thunder rolls, giving away his location. But be careful if lightning comes. Your gun can act as a lightning rod, bringing a massive electrical charge directly to where you're standing.



Squirrels are curious creatures. If you're hunting bushytails and one escapes into a hole in a tree, sit down on the ground on the opposite side of the hole and quietly wait for 20 minutes or so. You'll probably see the squirrel again!

Deer take the line of least resistance when traveling. Before hunting season, cut a trail across a field of heavy grass or brush, wait a week, and then check the trail for tracks. Hopefully you'll be surprised by how much your "trail trap" is used. Put a stand nearby and enjoy the traffic.



If you're walking through the woods on the way to your deer stand and your presence causes a squirrel or chipmunk to squawk and nervously run for cover, don't be overly concerned that the resident deer are spooked. Small critters like squirrels and chipmunks act the same way when hawks and owls fly over their territory. Deer may hear the squawking and be curious about the cause, but if you stop walking for a few minutes and let the little creatures settle down, more than likely the deer in the area will relax too.



If you jump a deer or even a few deer on the way to your stand, don't fret. Remember they're the only deer you disturbed. Mount your stand and quietly wait for the other deer in the area to come by. The spooked ones may return too.

When building a ground blind, make the cover in front of you multidimensional. Start about 12 to 15 feet out and place limbs and brush every 3 feet until you come to your seat. Avoid building a solid wall of cover. It won't look natural to an animal's eyes.



When hunting on the ground, make sure there is plenty of structure behind you so your silhouette won't alert game to your presence. Also make sure the wind is in your face.



As bothersome as they can be, noisy planes overhead can be useful. When the leaves are extra dry and crunchy under your feet as you're slipping into position for a shot, a plane can provide sound cover.



When deer hunting, don't despair when dogs are barking in the distance. Instead, get ready with your gun or bow. Game may be running toward you.