



HUNTING, TRAPPING OR FISHING?

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

**NISHNAWBE-ASKI LEGAL
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YOU HAVE ABORIGINAL, TREATY & CHARTER RIGHTS

What are my hunting, trapping and fishing rights?

- You have the right to hunt, trap and fish for personal, community and ceremonial purposes on your traditional territory without a license.
- Hunting and fishing rights are community-specific. Make sure your practice has a historical significance to your community.

What can get me in trouble?

- Unsafe hunting practices.
- Commercial sale or trade of fish and wildlife.
- Hunting on visibly occupied or private land.
- The fish or wildlife is at risk or endangered.

Who can stop me?

- Conservation Officers from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Police Officers and First Nations Constables.

What are my responsibilities?

- You must provide proof of your right to harvest, show your status card.
- You must show the fish, wildlife, or other item requested by the officer.

What are my rights if I am stopped?

- An officer may NOT search your home without a warrant.
- If you are stopped for an inspection, you may leave and not answer questions if you are NOT being detained or arrested.
- If you are being detained or arrested, you have the right to know why, the right to a lawyer AND the right to silence.

If you have been charged and/or your property has been seized, contact our office if you are a band member from a NAN First Nation. Your rights are extremely valuable and you must do all you can to protect them.

You can make a complaint against a Conservation Officer by:

Telephone: 1-855-497-7445

E-mail: howarewedoing@ontario.ca

Online form: ontario.ca/form/make-complaint-or-compliment-conversation-officer

To speak to a lawyer, call Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services at 807-622-1413