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## Conservation Notes

*Current topics and issues affecting hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation in our North Dakota.*

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### The Curse of Jerks and Vandals

There are 100,000+ resident and non-resident hunters in North Dakota. Hunting is a reason that many of us choose to live here. Hunting is big business in our State, especially for small town main street. While most hunters follow the law and respect the land and landowners, there are a few jerks and vandals that just cause problems. Unfortunately, they get all the attention. Coffee shop talk never centers around the hunters that stayed on the good gravel road and didn't drive and make ruts on the trail when it was wet. They don't talk about the ones that closed the gates and took their garbage with them. Or the ones that asked permission. It is usually about the few jerks that trespass like the ones that say, "Oh, Ed won't care if I go on his posted land". Or they talk about the vandals that give hunters a bad reputation by shooting up posting signs, road signs and mailboxes. Fixing this with rules or legislation needs to focus on the jerks and vandals. Therefore, put the jerks and vandals in perspective and recognize that most hunters are ethical. Hunting is enjoyed by many of our citizens and visitors and is good for main street. Don't judge ethical hunters by the actions of jerks and vandals making it more difficult for our ethical hunters to enjoy North Dakota's legendary heritage.

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