

NATIONAL BOWHUNTER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PLAN "B"

A Plan You Can't Live Without

Ever wonder why some bowhunters seem to have all the "luck"?

They always seem to come up with a winning hand no matter what hunting cards they are dealt. In most cases they aren't lucky at all. They are just smart. Smart enough to develop a Plan "B" and go with it when things don't go quite according to their original plan.

The same holds true with tree stand safety. Each year hunters are killed and injured because they try to hunt from tree stands when they shouldn't. They climb icy ladders, stand on snowy platforms, hunt in high winds, fall asleep in stands after driving all night, or hunt when heavily medicated.

Smart hunters realize that every day is not a tree stand hunting day and plan accordingly. They go to Plan "B" and hunt from a ground blind.

According to the Executive Director of the National Bowhunter Education Foundation, Marilyn Bentz, "Hunters just don't seem to acknowledge how dangerous it is to hunt from an ice covered tree stand or in a wind whipped treetop. It's nothing short of a suicide wish. We have the data to prove it."

"These guys would never think of climbing a ladder under adverse weather conditions to fix a leaky roof or clean leaves from a gutter, yet they will slip and slide up a tree trunk without a thought of how close they are to killing themselves."

Commercial ground blinds have been proven to be enormously effective in getting the jump on unsuspecting game. They allow hunters to extend their time afield on bad weather days while hunting warm and dry, and most importantly, safe. Home made ground blinds are equally effective and can be fashioned out of just about any thing in a minute or two. Dead tree limbs, blow downs, hay bales even discarded artificial Christmas trees can make excellent hides.

Savvy hunters have a ground blind ready and waiting that compliments almost every tree stand set-up. That way they are never caught by unexpected circumstances in the woods such as leaving their harness at home or back in the truck. They set ground blinds up well in advance of the season and use them whenever weather or other circumstances make hunting from a tree stand dangerous. They also use them to ambush wary animals which have patterned elevated hunters and to hunt locations where tree stand hunting is out of the question.

"Having a Plan "B" ready is the key" remarks Bentz. "When a hunter arrives at his tree stand and it is covered in ice he is more likely to take the risk if he hasn't worked out a Plan "B". If a comfortable ground blind is waiting for him just 10-20 yards away he climbs in it and waits for the ice to melt. Perhaps an hour later in the morning he can safely climb into his stand without risking life and limb."

Climbing down from a tree stand before the snow storm is no big deal when you have Plan "B" ready. And Plan "B" is not only for bad weather. If you forget your harness Plan "B" can save your hunt as well as save your life.

"We are beginning to educate hunters that smart hunting and safe hunting go hand-in-hand. Pope and Young members have always led the way. We are counting on them to spread the word that hunting smart is hunting safe."



The leading DVD on tree stand safety can be yours at a special Pope and Young discount for \$5.00 plus shipping and handling by calling the NBEF at 479-649-9036. Do it today...your life depends on it!

NATIONAL BOWHUNTER EDUCATION FOUNDATION
PROJECT STAND
STOP TREE STAND ACCIDENTS 'N DEATHS

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