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# NATIONAL BOWHUNTER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

# PROJECT STAND

## STOP TREE STAND ACCIDENTS 'N DEATHS

# QUICK FACTS

### Sources Cited:

Deer & Deer Hunting Tree Stand Survey (D&DH 1993),  
IHEA Survey of Hunters in North Carolina and Vermont (Responsive Management 2002),  
Camp Ripley Bowhunter's Tree Stand Survey (MN DNR, NBEF 2007)

### Tree Stand Usage

- Almost 90% of hunters hunt from elevated stands (D&DH 1993)
- 96% of bowhunters on the Camp Ripley hunt use elevated stands (Ripley 2007)

### Incidents

- Studies differ on the incidence of elevated stand incidents:
  - 37% (D&DH 1993)
  - 11% (Ripley 2007)
  - North Carolina 9%, Vermont 5% (Responsive Management 2002)

### Injuries

- Approximately 25% of those who fell were injured (Ripley 2007, Responsive Management 2002)

### Deaths

- Deaths due to falling often equal or exceed firearms deaths (Ohio 2007)

### Prevention

- 65% of stand users own a full body harness fall arrest device (Ripley 2002)
- 55% of stand users are not regular users of fall arrest devices (Ripley 2002)
- Approximately 45% of elevated stand users may use a fall arrest device at some time (D&DH 1993, Ripley 2007)
- Most do not climb while wearing a fall arrest device (Ripley 2007, D&DH 1993)
- Approximately 65% of elevated stand users have taken a hunter safety course (Ripley 2007, Responsive Management 2002, D&DH 1993)
- Almost 80% of elevated stand users are concerned with safety (Ripley 2007, Responsive Management 2002)
- Only 16% would take a classroom refresher course (Ripley 2007)
- 32% of bowhunters would take an internet refresher course (Ripley 2007)
- Bowhunters preferred safety information sources: magazines (59%), hunting regs (44%), TV (41%) (Ripley 2007)