Hunting

SafeTips from the Naval Safety Center

Quick and easy summaries to find out about something new you're doing or as a refresher for something you haven't done in a while. They're a great training tool to pass around at meetings, through e-mail, or post on bulletin boards.

○ Take a firearms-safety course. The more you know, the better.
 ○ Keep your firearms unloaded. Keep your gun in its case until you get to the hunting area.
 ○ Assume every firearm is loaded, and don't take someone's word for it—check it yourself.
 ○ Don't engage in horseplay with weapons.
 ○ Never point a gun at something you don't intend to shoot. Always keep your gun pointed in a safe direction.
 ○ Keep the barrel clear.
 ○ Use the right ammunition.
 ○ Keep the safety on until just before you are ready to shoot. Immediately put it back on when you are finished.
 ○ If you aren't positive about your target, don't shoot.
 ○ Know what is on the other side of your target.
 ○ If you pull the trigger and the gun doesn't fire, wait 45 seconds before removing the cartridge.
 ○ Don't climb fences or trees, cross slippery areas, or jump ditches and creeks while carrying a loaded gun. Unload, then reload when you arrive.
 ○ Carry handguns in holsters.
 ○ Don't drink alcohol, and be especially careful when you get tired.