FOGGY MOUNTAIN GUIDE SERVICE

EST. 1964



Foggy Mountain Guide Service • 131 Ladd Road • Sebec, Maine 04481 • (207) 564-3404 • info@foggymountain.com



Greetings from Maine!

Thanks to all of our hunters for a great 2009 season. I look forward to seeing all of you again.

Although our hunting areas are still covered with several feet of snow, mud season is coming up fast.

While the mud dries up, I thought you might enjoy some news and extra tips for your next hunt.

Feel free to give me a call - I love hearing from old friends.

- Wayne the Bear Hunter



Wayne visiting with Art Wheaton, former NSSF Chairman

Bear Hunting Tips

What a season we had last fall! Hungry bear and fantastic kills. Well, not every day was perfect of course, but for the most part it was great.

Here are some tips to make your next bear hunt even better.

Practice

Accurate shot placement is vital in bear hunting. Whether you are using a rifle, handgun, bow or crossbow, you need to consistently hit a bear's small vital area.

Miss that and the bear might run for miles. Bear do not often leave a good blood trail like deer do, nor do they lay down and bleed out like a deer. So your first shot must count.

If some of our hunters had made more accurate shots, we would have had even more bear on the pole.

So, get out to the range this summer. Practice your shots as if you were actually in a hunting stand or ground blind.

Be Still

Sitting motionless in a stand or ground blind is vital. This is also one of the most difficult skills that a successful bear hunter must master.

Bear have extremely keen senses, and use them as they cautiously and slowly approach your line of fire. One twitch and the bear's eyes or ears will catch you. If you do spook a bear, continue sitting motionless and you are likely to have a good second chance – maybe even at a different bear that had been lurking just out of sight.

Stay Scent Free

Bear live and die by their nose. It leads them to food, and warns them of danger. That nose is so good it can scent food from miles downwind. Unfortunately, it can also scent you!

You must stay as scent free as possible. A little odor might be OK with a favorable wind. Our stands and bait sites are placed to take advantage of prevailing winds. But, when the breezes die down late in the day, your scent could swirl in all directions.

Foggy Mountain bear hunters are provided with our own custom blended cover scent. We know this works. We also know that many hunters will try their own cover scents – don't do it!

Bugs

Our bear hunters know too well how one mosquito can ruin a hunt. One swat and you might spook a great bear.

While mosquito swarms are all over by the time we start to hunt, there are just enough around that you need to come prepared, especially for the first week of the season.

(Continued on page 2)



At one time, Foggy Mountain produced a DEET-based repellant called "Bug Ammo." And it was deadly! While DEET is still effective, as long as it is unscented, we have logged many bear kills by hunters using the new Thermacell products. You might consider bringing one, or buying one on your way to Foggy Mountain.

Preserve Your Trophy

Bear hide and meat deteriorates rapidly, even in cool weather. It is imperative that you retrieve your kill quickly, then skin and refrigerate your meat. A bear is nothing like a deer.

At Foggy Mountain, there is no such thing as leaving bear hanging while we wait for a promotional photo. Our game pole fills up each night and is then cleared off each morning as we process the trophies.

We first retrieve, gut out, and skin your bear. We then take extra care to see that the hide is properly readied for a taxidermist. We even arrange for a specialist in black bear taxidermy to visit camp and discuss mounting options with you if you wish.

Then, we will quarter up your

meat, remove the backstraps, and freeze the meat for you to take home. Also available should you wish, we have a very professional local butcher shop that will make up steaks, chops, hamburg and sausage according to your wishes, then vacuum seal and freeze it. Shipping to your home is no problem.

Bear Population Trends

We intentionally under harvest the bear in our hunting areas, and the population is increasing.

After the season closed last fall, there were still at least one hundred bear visiting our sites while we were cleaning them up after the hunt.

What is significant about this is that during spring and summer, these bear will revisit the sites from time to time. Then, when we start baiting before the fall season, we'll get them locked on again!

Just imagine...100 bear returning to our sites that will be even bigger next fall!

Katahdin-Moosehead Hunts

2010 Bear Hunts:

Hunt August 30th (Arrive on the 29th) thru September 3rd; or hunt September 6th (Arrive on the 5th) thru September 10th.

Maine's vast Highland, Katahdin and Moosehead Region lies between our Sebec base camp, and Mount Katahdin and Moosehead Lake to the north. You will be hosted at our Sebec main camp, where you can meet other hunters, share stories, and we even have wireless internet for those who "just can't get away from it all."

We offer excellent housekeeping accommodations in comfortable cottages or camps. We match your lodging to the size of your party and the area you are hunting. We provide bedding and household equipment. You'll have everything you need to prepare your own food inexpensively. There are also several places to eat within easy driving distance.

(Continued on page 3)

2010 Bear Hunts

As many of you know, Foggy Mountain offers two bear hunting packages to suit everyone's differing needs.

Both hunts are in bear infested regions where we have hunted for decades. Bear hunting success is the same in both areas, but our accommodations are different.

Lodging for hunts in our Highlands, Katahdin and Moosehead Region is housekeeping style (each cabin has a full kitchen).

Lodging for hunts in the West Branch Region is American Plan (meals included).

Both areas are on private lands with access controlled by gates, as are 95% of our total hunting territories.





West Branch Hunts

2010 Bear Hunts:

Hunt September 13th (Arrive on the 12th) thru September 17th; or hunt September 20th (Arrive on the 19th) thru September 24th.

This hunt is in Maine's famous West Branch Region located between Moosehead Lake and the Canadian border.

This bear hunt is tailored the same as our Highlands, Katahdin & Moosehead hunts, except you will stay in the comfort of a fully restored Maine Lumberjack Lodge. The lodge has been designated as an official National and Maine Historic Site, and features original turn-of-century decor.

What's more, you'll enjoy home-cooked, all-you-can-eat, lumberjack-style meals, reputed to be the biggest and the best in Maine. The coffee pot is always on. We even offer wireless internet for those who "just can't get away from it all."

West Branch History

Foggy Mountain's West Branch bear hunts began as a remote tent operation in the 1980's. The tent operation has been put to rest, at least for a while, and Foggy Mountain's hunters now enjoy the comfort of a a fully restored Maine Lumberjack Lodge.

The lodge was originally built between 1850 and 1879, and later operated by the Great Northern Paper Company as a base for its log drives until those came to an end in the 1970's. This lodge has been designated as an official National and Maine Historic Site, and features original turn-of-century decor.

The lodge has now been fully renovated and modernized.

Wild Brook Trout Bonus

Maine has 97% of all the wild brook trout waters east of the Mississippi River.

Lucky for us, our West Branch lodge is located at the confluence of the two tributaries of the West Branch of the Penobscot River. And this river is native brook trout habitat. There is no stocking, just wild native Maine brook trout.

In September, the larger trout come up into these rivers from the lake on their annual spawning run. Their coloring is beautiful and 18" trout are not uncommon.

Many Foggy Mountain hunters enjoy fantastic wild brook trout fishing each morning right at the lodge or in the many pristine streams nearby. Our guides will direct you to the local hot spots.

Private Lodging

Private & Flexible – Unlike bear hunts with most outfitters, lodges and sporting camps, Foggy Mountain's bear hunting guests are not doubled up in a bunk house with other guests.

Your party will enjoy the privacy of your own cabin or sleeping room, and the good night's sleep that is important for a good hunt - whether you come alone, with a large group, with your spouse or whole family.



We are Proud to be a Member of our Industry's Supporting Organizations









Deer Hunting

2010 Deer Hunts:

Bowhunting Special Season - October 4th (Arrive on the October 3rd) thru October 30th (4 Weeks)

Rifle, Muzzleloader, Handgun or Bow - November 1st (Arrive on
October 31st) thru November 27th (4
Weeks)

Muzzleloader Special Season -November 29th (Arrive on November 28th) thru December 4th (1 Week)

Trophy deer hunting in Maine is an exciting challenge for every hunter. We do not have many deer but do have some real BIG DEER. There's nothing bigger or smarter than an old Maine buck. The satisfaction in tagging one is well earned!

And last fall was a particularly challenging deer season for northern Maine where the herd has declined due to several severe winters and heavy coyote predation.

Fortunately, Foggy Mountain is located in an area still abundant with deer.

A guide is not necessary in this area, and although this is a non-guided hunt, we know where the deer are working and we take you around and show you some good deer country.



2010 SHOT Show

Wayne spent a week during January attending the National Shooting Sports Foundation's SHOT Show in Las Vegas.

SHOT stands for Shooting Hunting & Outdoor Trade. The SHOT Show is a huge show for the entire firearms, shooting and hunting industry.

Wayne visited with many friends and former hunters (see below), firearms experts and outdoor writers.

"Doc Holliday"

Wayne ran into Doc Holliday (aka Dr. Mark Steinhoff), a regular Foggy Mountain hunter, at the SHOT Show.

Doc is a shooting sports enthusiast and medical professional who currently specializes in coaching law enforcement officers who are deeply troubled after having to shoot a suspect. Having gone through a similar situation himself, Doc's program helps the officers cope with their emotional trauma and gets them back to shooting and their professions. Great going, Doc!

By the way, Doc is both a successful, and an unsuccessful, Foggy Mountain bear hunter.



Grouse Hunting

2010 Grouse Hunts:

Open October 1st thru November 30th (8 Weeks). **Note:** The woodcock season is set by the federal government just prior to each fall season - normally it runs from October 1st through November 1st.

Many parts of Maine experienced slow grouse hunting last fall. This was attributed to a very rainy nesting period – that from May through July.

Our area faired slightly better than many, due to our area spanning from vast wilderness to long-abandoned farms. As the season progressed we found more and more birds and had some great flushes.

On average, we encounter from 10 to 15 flushes of grouse along with some woodcock.

Legislation

The good news is that to date there is not a lot of bad legislation affecting Maine's hunters.

There was one last year that would add a sales tax to a wide range of

services, including guided hunts. Fortunately, a campaign was launched to stop this new tax, and enough signatures were collected to have a repeal on our June ballot. We hope this tax will be defeated.

Foggy Mountain Guide Service

131 Ladd Road
Sebec, Maine 04481
(207) 564-3404
info@foggymountain.com
Visit Us at www.FoggyMountain.com