



**PRESERVING AND PROTECTING SASKATCHEWAN'S
FISHERIES, WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES**

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RM OF TORCH RIVER

Each year at the SARM convention, a draw is made for a framed print. The print is donated to SaskTip by Ducks Unlimited (Canada). The R.M. of Torch River accepts the 2013 framed print (right). All RM's which annually donate at least \$100 to SaskTip are eligible to win.



Local Conservation Officer, Jeremy Johnson, Administrative Assistant, Michelle Waddington and Torch River RM Administrator, Nathalie Hipkins

**SASKTIP wishes to thank those R.M.'s
who are contributing to SASKTIP!**

TURN IN POACHER PROGRAM CALLS

Year	Wildlife	Fisheries	Environmental	Forestry	Miscellaneous	Total Calls
2008	731	77	116	1	11	936
2009	727	85	118	5	23	958
2010	747	78	78	1	9	913
2011	734	81	114	2	15	946
2012	799	90	78	5	9	981

SASKTIP

- Creating, maintaining and distributing a reward to encourage the public to provide Saskatchewan conservation officers with information which leads to the discovery and/or prosecution of fisheries, wildlife, forestry, and environmental law violators.
- Providing public information on the incidence and detrimental impact of fisheries, wildlife, forestry, environmental law violations.
- Working with the public and private agencies to provide funding to promote the province's toll-free Turn-in-Poacher (TIP) line, **1-800-667-7561** or Sasktel cellular **#5555**, and any other program that deters fisheries, wildlife, and environmental crime.



TURN IN POACHERS 1-800-667-7561 Toll Free

or Sasktel cellular #5555

www.sasktip.com

REWARDS PAID OUT THROUGH SASKTIP

Year ending	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Number Paid	5	3	3	6	4	7	6	13	4	9
Total	\$960	\$800	\$700	\$5950	\$1600	\$2750	\$8000	\$5450	\$1450	\$3115

CRIME OF THE MONTH

In June 2009, the first SaskTip Crime of the Month feature was aired on CTV Saskatchewan. The new advertisements were an attempt to promote the SaskTip and Ministry of Environment TIP (Turn in Poacher) programs. These programs were designed for the public to assist Saskatchewan conservation officers in apprehending resource and environmental violators.

The **CRIME OF THE MONTH** is aired on CTV stations across Saskatchewan on the third Thursday of each month and then additional gratuitous airing by CTV when spots are available throughout the month. The ads are also available for viewing on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/SaskTip> and the written summaries on the SaskTip web page at <http://www.sasktip.com/cotm.html>

The Crime of the Month ad highlights one of the unsolved cases in the province. SaskTip canvasses for unsolved cases that conservation officers need the public's help in solving. The cases are reviewed and additional information such as photos, date and location is collected and this information is then formatted into a media script. Arrangements are made with CTV Prince Albert for filming. The filming consists of SaskTip spokesperson, Jeanette Krayetski, narrating the unsolved case and it may also include a field re-enactment by volunteers or possibly using photos of the featured crime scene if a suitable field location is not available.

2012 CRIME OF THE MONTH ADVERTISED CASES

January: Forty six (46) moose shot and left to waste in Saskatchewan during fall of 2012
February: Fish peddler activity in Saskatchewan
March: Whitetail deer snared in Prince Albert area
April: Bull elk shot and left to waste in Preeceville area
May: Poisoned bald eagle and coyotes in Gladmar area
July: Invasive fish species introduced into 2 Saskatchewan water bodies
September: Three (3) mule deer chased, shot and left to waste in Jansen area
October: Illegal dumping of asphalt shingles in Melville area
November: Six (6) bull elk shot and left to waste, 1 elk poached and taken in Maple Creek area
December: Four (4) elk shot and only portions taken and rest left to waste, 1 elk poached and taken in Spiritwood area

HOW CAN INDIVIDUALS HELP?

Members of the public are relied upon by all law enforcement agencies to be their "eyes and ears". This is especially true in rural Saskatchewan where there is little traffic at certain times of the year. School bus drivers, landowners, any rural resident recognizes when unfamiliar or suspicious activity might be occurring in their area. Getting information to law enforcement authorities **in a timely manner** is very important to prevent crimes from occurring or in finding the offenders.

The following information is crucial to assist officers in tracking down violators:

- date and time of the occurrence
- exact locations involved
- colour, make and type of vehicle involved
- licence plate number if possible (if not, province of registration) or other identifier
- number and description of people observed
- direction of travel
- photos or video of vehicles or suspects (smart phones are changing the world we live in)
- as complete a description of the offence or your suspicions as possible



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HOW CAN RURAL MUNICIPALITIES HELP?

People who are committing crimes against the environment or natural resources in rural Saskatchewan are often also committing other crimes. They trespass on private property, cut fences, litter and damage crops and property. In recent years some R.M.'s have assisted conservation officers in curbing the littering problem by having R.M. staff examine litter for identification of the suspects contained within the litter before disposing of it properly. Any evidence gathered through that process is turned over to conservation officers for follow up. This team effort is resulting in a reduction of litter abandoned in some areas of the province.

R.M. staff working in the field can also assist by recording and reporting unusual or suspicious vehicles they encounter during their regular work. By keeping constant vigilance all crimes within a rural municipality can be reduced. R.M. administrators can encourage staff by providing cell phones, notebooks or recording devices to staff working within their boundaries. Conservation officers can attend meetings to assist in understanding the types of criminal activity occurring.

The following two excerpts from officers portray excellent examples of R.M.'s working with conservation officers to prevent unlawful activities and apprehend violators in R.M.'s:



“In December, 2011 a call was received from R.M. of Edenwold staff on the Turn In Poachers line that some deer hides and parts, a chest freezer and sofa hide-a-bed were left abandoned on roadside within the R.M. of Edenwold. The deer heads and hides had hunting licence seals attached to them that had been issued to two individuals. When questioned about his involvement in the matter one individual admitted that he was responsible for dumping the garbage. He intended to dump it at the landfill but the landfill was closed for the day upon his arrival there. The garbage was cleaned up by the Rural Municipality staff. The person responsible was convicted in 2012 and paid a fine as a result of this call.”

“SK Ministry of Environment and the R.M. of Corman Park have a strong working relationship. The Corman Park Police Service and Saskatchewan conservation officers have worked closely together on numerous occasions such as during the summer when the Provincial Parks are open, investigating hunting violations, injured wildlife and just recently investigating dogs chasing big game. Conservation officers were informed by Corman Park Police that there had been a number of dogs running loose in the R.M. chasing deer. Due to the cooperation between the R.M. and the Ministry, information was shared and the investigations took less time for both agencies. In one instance the Corman Park Police Officer dealing with one investigation charged the owners of two dogs chasing deer with a bylaw offence. The conservation officer then continued the investigation and found the owners of the two dogs were following the direction of the Corman Park Police and there were no further complaints or incidents of chasing big game. The conservation officer issued the dog owners a written warning instead of charging them under The Wildlife Regulations which is a provincial offence. This may not have been the case if the two agencies did not work closely with one another and could have resulted in both agencies fining the owners not realizing that compliance had been achieved and sometimes education is the right direction to take.”

The SASKTIP Program continues to expand. Ongoing support from the public and the partners who form the Board of Directors are crucial to the continued success of the program.

Donations can be sent to:

**SASKTIP INC.
P.O. BOX 114
MEATH PARK, SK
S0J 1T0**

**Or made by phoning:
(306) 425-4234**

You can also support SASKTIP by asking your local conservation officer about becoming a SASKTIP member for a \$10.00 fee. Members and corporate donors will receive an annual newsletter highlighting SASKTIP successes in the detection of resource and environmental violations.





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Cash Rewards of up to \$2000

A cash reward is being offered for information leading to the identity of the individual(s) involved. Anyone with information about this crime should contact the provincial toll free TIP line at the number listed below. Calls are not traced or recorded in any way and callers may choose to remain anonymous.



Since October 2011 Conservation Officers are aware of 31 deer that have been shot and left in the Frenchman Butte area. Thirteen of those deer, 9 mule deer and 4 white tail deer have been shot and left in December 2012 and January 2013 along highway #797 within 6 miles of Frenchman Butte. Some of the buck deer did have the head and or antlers removed. Some evidence has been collected but the public's assistance is needed to solve and stop this wildlife crime.

Saskatchewan Environment needs your help to solve these crimes. Please call the TIP line at 1-800-667-7561 or on Sasktel cellular #5555. Your name will be kept confidential.

SASKTIP is funded in part by:

Fish and Wildlife
Development Fund