

Yes, I Want To Help Save Our Wildlife ...

Wildlife-Vehicle Accident Prevention Program

Your donation will support research and implementation of wildlife-vehicle collision prevention techniques and continued public education and awareness.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Province _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

I Want to Make a Donation of:

\$10 \$20 \$50 \$ _____

Methods of payment:

Cheque American Express

Visa Master Card

Credit Card # _____

Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Thank you for your support!

Please make cheques payable to the British Columbia Conservation Foundation. Registered Charity # 123042822RR0001 All contributions are tax deductible.

Please clip and return this panel to:
British Columbia Conservation Foundation
Suite 200, 1383 McGill Road
Kamloops, BC V2C 6K7



Wildlife - Vehicle Collisions



Photo: Jim Hesse

A Collision With Wildlife Happens Every Minute Of Every Hour In North America

Wildlife-vehicle collisions result in substantial personal, environmental, and economic losses.

In a typical year, B.C. Ministry of Transportation records show:

- 3 people are killed
- \$630,000 is spent for highway cleanup
- 4,300 animals are recorded as killed
- 13,000 wildlife deaths go unrecorded as the animal moves away from the road to die

For 2004, Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) records show:

- 372 people were injured
- Over 9,000 wildlife-vehicle incidents were reported to ICBC
- \$23 million was spent by ICBC on animal related crash incidents

Stop Wildlife From Becoming Roadkill

The Wildlife-Vehicle Accident Prevention Program (WVAPP) has the potential to make our highways safer through public education and research. The British Columbia Conservation Foundation is seeking the support of those who wish to increase public safety, protect wildlife, and reduce economic losses caused by wildlife-vehicle collisions.

Thank you to our WVAPP partners!

B.C. Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
B.C. Ministry of Environment
Insurance Corporation of British Columbia
B.C. Ministry of Transportation



Together,
we can
help
prevent
this from
happening!



For more information, please contact:

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Suite 200, 1383 McGill Road
Kamloops, BC V2C 6K7
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www.wildlifeaccidents.ca



The Alberta Conservation Association officially endorses the Wildlife-Vehicle Accident Prevention Program.

Cover Photo: Jim Hesse

Wildlife-Vehicle Accident Prevention Program



Prevent Roadkill Save Lives

Vehicles Stop Wildlife DEAD in their tracks ...

Collisions between vehicles and wildlife are a serious problem for species conservation and management, public safety, animal welfare and the economy.

As our population continues to grow, our highway networks expand further into wildlife habitat. With these expansions and increases in traffic volume and speed, it is inevitable that wildlife-vehicle collisions will become more frequent.



4-8 large animal-vehicle collisions occur every hour in Canada. We need to take action now!



Photo: Government of Quebec

If a collision with wildlife occurs, report dead or injured animals to the Conservation Officer Service. In BC 1.800.663.9453 • In AB 1.800.642.3800

Photo: Reno Sommerhalder

Preventing Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions



Photo: Ernie Kroeger

SLOW DOWN!

Speed is a very common factor in many vehicle collisions.

SPEED reduces the driver's ability to steer away from objects
SPEED extends the distance required to stop
SPEED increases the force of impact in the event of a collision

- Reducing your speed from 100 kph to 80 kph gives an extra 30 metres to stop - that's several car lengths.
- Reduce your speed at dusk and dawn; during the night; on dark, overcast or foggy days; in unfamiliar or rural areas; or on roads that are near water.
- If you see wildlife, slow down immediately and be prepared to stop, even if the animal is a considerable distance from the road.
- Resist the tendency to speed up on long straight stretches with good driving conditions, on clear nights and on dry roads. Collisions occur more than expected in good conditions.

Always reduce speed in areas with wildlife warning signs.

You can anticipate and avoid wildlife hazards more successfully at a slower speed.



Photo: Jim Hesse

Hints For The Highway While Driving

- Actively watch for wildlife, and drive defensively
- Watch out between dusk and dawn, when light levels are low, and animals are most active.

Watch For The Signs

- Obey wildlife warning signs and speed changes. Don't disregard the signs just because you have seen them before. They are located in high wildlife use areas.



Use Your Vehicle

- Clean and align vehicle headlights
- Use high beams and scan the road ahead
- Honk your horn to scare wildlife off the road

To Swerve or Not ?

If smaller animals such as deer are in your way, think carefully. Is it safe to swerve? Do not take unsafe evasive actions.

Serious accidents can occur when drivers lose control of their vehicles trying to avoid an animal. If a deer is in your way, consider using your brakes, not your wheel. Swerving can take you into the path of an oncoming vehicle or into the ditch.

Always reduce speed in signed areas. Driving at a slower speed may mean that it is not necessary to swerve at all.



Photo: Roy V. Rea

The Wildlife Factor



Behaviour

- All animals are unpredictable - even if one sees you, it still may jump in front of your vehicle.
- Animals blinded by headlights may be reluctant to move - flash your headlights and be patient.
- Some animals may bolt, possibly onto the road.
- Some animals travel in groups. If one animal crosses the road, the others may follow.

Species

Deer	Many animals on road at once - 80% of all collisions. Very risky behaviours
Moose	Mainly solitary animals
Elk	Hindered by snow accumulations along highways
Bear	Move to less remote areas as food supply decreases

Time of Year

Spring	Early vegetation green-up near roads attracts animals
Summer	Drought, food supply, forest fires affect movement
Autumn	Animals on the move during mating season
Winter	Road salt and better forage in valleys attracts wildlife to roads, but snow hinders movement

Time of Day

About 40% of all collisions occur between 7:00 pm and midnight.

Problem Locations

- Where drainages intersect roads
- Good roadside habitat with water nearby
- Long straight stretches of road

"Drive Wildlife Aware"