

Nandawenjige (Get food by hunting/fishing)

Becoming an Anicinabe Harvester



SHARE YOUR GIFTS

When you come back home, share with your community. Many wish to taste food from the land and cannot because they are not well. This food will give them life. Share your story with younger ones and ask them to help you, so they will be the ones to provide in the future.



BE CONFIDENT

In the choices you make. When you are encountered by a Natural Resource Officer, or Conservation Officer, be wise in the knowledge of your rights as Anicinabe and that you are aware of your responsibility as a hunter/provider. Be calm with them when possible to avoid unnecessary conflict.



BRING TOBACCO

Use tobacco to make an offering so that you may have a good day. Introduce your spirit to the land and build a relationship. Offering tobacco gives you a chance to observe the land and build your awareness.

LEARN ABOUT THE HARVEST

Offer tobacco to a harvester and ask to them to show you how they harvest. Learn how and when to harvest, and how to protect the animals and plants we harvest. And why we have to let the animals raise their young or we do not take all the plants or berries.

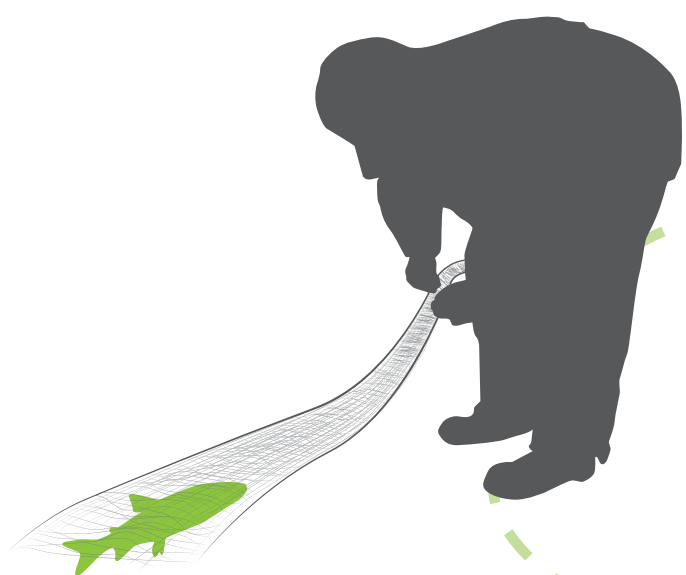


STAY SAFE

There are many techniques to harvesting and hunting. By helping hunters and by taking certified courses you will learn safe ways to use a firearm, boat or vehicle. Dress for the worst conditions and avoid travelling alone. Let someone know where you are going to harvest when you are preparing to go out.

GIVE THANKS

Acknowledge animals who offer themselves to you to feed your family. Show respect when you are cleaning animals. Leave the parts you are not going to use so other animals can enjoy the harvest.



BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LAND

Sometimes we have to resist temptation, like when there is an animal showing itself when you are on the road. We cannot take that animal for our food, because there are laws, which protect the wildlife for future use. This means when we see animals outside the hunting areas, we do not hunt there.

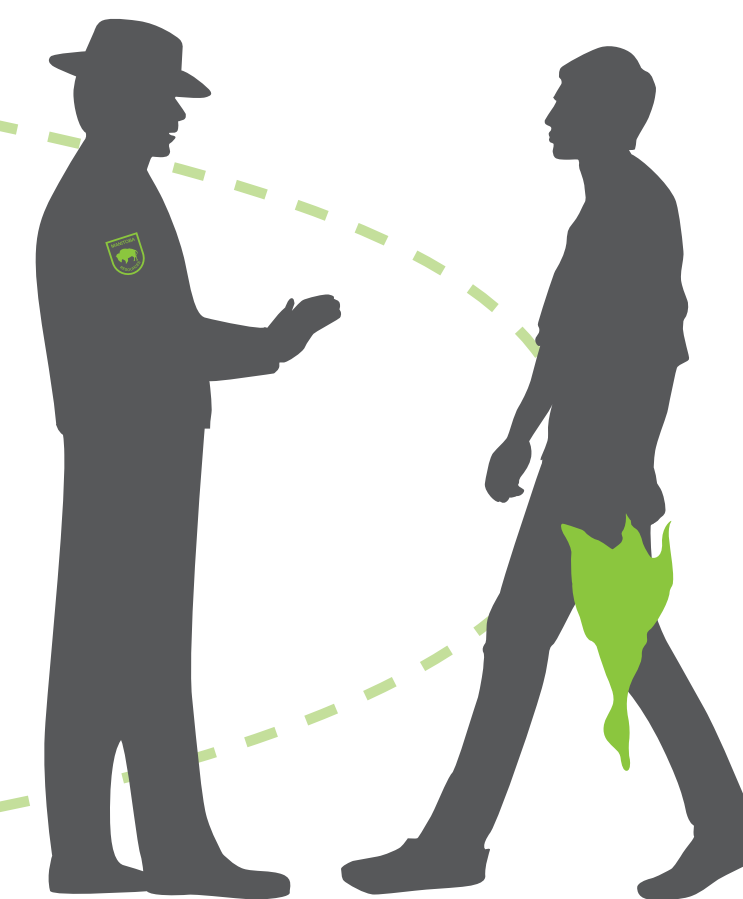


LEARN ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS

Your rights to hunt, fish and harvest have always existed and are reaffirmed by the treaties. However the limits of those rights has not been agreed upon. Currently Manitoba recognizes that:

- Harvesting is intended for food and ceremony.
- Harvesters must not take more than they need.
- Harvesting should occur in Wildlife Management Areas, unoccupied crown land, and the reserve.
- Rights cannot be granted to non-status peoples.

gov.mb.ca/conservation/firstnations/hunting-fishing-jan03.pdf



For the Anicinabe, many changes have taken place on the land, within our societies, and how we interact with each other. For years, our way of life has been threatened by policy, industry, and settlement. Yet we continue to find strength in our natural gifts and continue to practice our way of life.

We understand our responsibility to the future generations and teach them to be proud of the relationship they have with the land. We continue to teach them what the land has taught us, and what nourishment comes from the land. This helps us to be a strong people. The land is our home, our mother. We will protect her.

Royal Proclamation (1763) declared that the Indian nations that territories ***“not having been ceded to or purchased by us, are reserved to them, or any of them, as their Hunting Grounds.”***

Natural Resources Transfer Act (1930) stated that ***“Indian people have a right to hunt game and water fowl and to gather medicine at all seasons of the year on all unoccupied crown lands and any other lands to which they may have access to.”***

Under Section 35 (1) of the Constitution Act (1982) ***“The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed.”***

YOUTH TAKING ACTION is a partnership between Food Matters Manitoba, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation and Sagkeeng First Nation. Together, we assessed environmental contamination in some traditional Anicinabe foods. Youth from each community participated in the research and gained knowledge about Anicinabe foods from harvesters and community leaders. Through this project, Food Matters Manitoba aims to strengthen local knowledge in young people and develop skills to assist them as they become keepers of their cultural practices and traditional lands. We developed four educational posters to demonstrate some of the aspects of Anicinabe harvesting:

- 1 A Time to Harvest
- 2 Becoming an Anicinabe Harvester
- 3 Eating a Healthy Anicinabe Plate
- 4 Protecting our Anicinabe Harvesting Areas

Learn more at: foodmattersmanitoba.ca

National First Nations
Environmental Contaminants Program

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