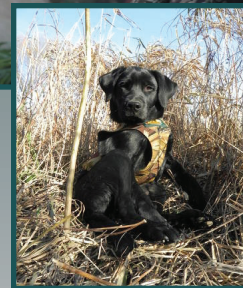


## TRAINING & TRIALING

Organized sporting dog trials and licenced hunt test events sanctioned by the Canadian Kennel Club, Hunter Retrieving Clubs across Ontario and other organizations, provide many benefits, including the preservation and improvement of hunting breeds and standards.

Access and land to train remains the single most important resource for sporting dog enthusiasts. The retention of high quality field dogs through selective breeding requires dogs to be tested against standards, and they require focused training to develop these specific skills.



# SPORTING DOGS

Preserve Centuries of Sporting Dog Tradition

Dogs are happiest and healthiest when they are allowed to do the work they were bred to do



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Hound – Melanie Horne; Pointer – Joe Pope; Retriever – Blaine Hansel  
Back Panel: Blaine Hansel



## OUR HUNTING HERITAGE

Protecting and enhancing sustainable hunting opportunities for the benefit of all hunters is a core mandate of the OFAH.

Our hunting heritage is better protected under the *Heritage Hunting and Fishing Act*, an OFAH initiative.

The OFAH ensures that the use of sporting dogs is understood and protected in provincial wildlife management regulation, policy and programs.

## ENHANCING HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

The OFAH supports all responsible uses of sporting dogs within the field. Well trained dogs are invaluable for locating, tracking, recovering and overall enhancing the hunting experience.

Ongoing work by the OFAH has prevented the loss of sporting dog opportunities, expanded small game hunting seasons, optimized waterfowl hunting seasons, increased deer hunting seasons and opportunities to use dogs for tracking and recovering big game, protected public hunting areas (OFAH Fish and Wildlife Land Trust), and enhanced game habitat throughout Ontario.

## PROMOTING OUR SPORTING DOG HERITAGE



We celebrate our sporting dog heritage through regular features on Angler & Hunter Television, Angler & Hunter Radio, and in *Ontario OUT OF DOORS* Magazine.

The OFAH provides information to hunters and non-hunters about the many conservation benefits of using trained sporting dogs. Sporting dogs are integral to the responsible stewardship of waterfowl and upland game species.

Sporting dog clubs across the province should be recognized for what they do: Promoting responsible hunting practices; teaching and leading new hunters in the art and science of training dogs; raising funds for conservation projects; and heightening awareness of conservation issues.

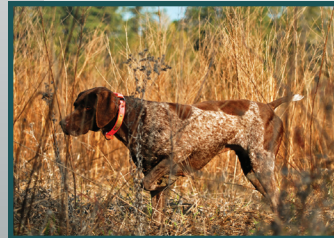
Hunting with dogs is a proud and vibrant Ontario tradition with many special breeds:



## HUNTING WITH HOUNDS

Hunting with hounds has less to do with success rates than the pure enjoyment of the working relationship between hunter and dog, both of whom have evolved to hunt. One senses that neither would rather be doing anything else.

Efficient and methodical in their tracking, hounds are some of the most hard-working dogs around. They are especially good at tracking prey and have been known to follow the same scent for several days.



## POINTING and FLUSHING BREEDS

Cherished for their uncanny "bird sense" and their eagerness to work, they are devoted and tireless in the field, and can easily pinpoint even the most secretive game.



## RETRIEVERS

On a fall morning in the marsh, nothing beats the look of a retriever, wide-eyed and ready, eagerly watching the ducks preparing to set down into the decoys, literally shaking with anticipation awaiting the command to "fetch-em up!"

People who breed and hunt with these traditional working dogs are involved in important breed conservancy – preserving the fine traits that have come to define these specialized breeds.