

PRAIRIE NEWS

<http://SD-PheasantHunting.com>
1-855-SD Lodge

October 2014

35451 253rd Street
Kimball, SD 57355

Lodge Update:

Finally, October has arrived. For only three months of hunting, it's amazing how much preparation and planning is required. Immediately after the season ends, we evaluate our strengths and weaknesses, and we strategize for the next season. As winter progresses, there are several industry conventions to attend where we can talk with prospective clients and share our information and vision. Then spring arrives and we move into planting mode, deciding what species we should promote and how different food plot layouts might be advantageous. Since



we have spent the last several years under construction, we also have ongoing landscaping tasks to complete. All summer long, we study the forecast and talk with the old farmers and try to gauge whether enough rain will fall. Throughout the year, we trap predators to reduce risks to our precious chicks. We check on our hunting partners and try to predict who will have the most birds in the fall. Then, finally, summer ends and the combines start running through the fields, making strips to facilitate our hunting.

With just a few weeks until opening weekend, everyone at the Lodge is very busy. We are mowing our trails and ensuring that no stray rocks might block the path of the buses. To protect the dogs, we are removing the bottom barb wire string along our fences. The cleaners are making the Lodge sparkle, and the cooks are tweaking the menus to guarantee everyone is well fed. Beverage and food deliveries are scheduled, and the ammunition is counted and organized. The dogs are getting more exercise so they are ready for long days in the field, and the buses are being thoroughly inspected to prevent any mid-season malfunctions. The final details on our new shed are almost completed, and we are finishing our new cedar gunracks for the mudroom and target shooting area. We are all so excited that hunting season is almost here, and we anticipate a truly wonderful time with our hunters.

Travel Tips:

Our hunters travel primarily by plane, bus and car – so some travel tips might be helpful as you prepare to embark on your journey. We will pick you up directly at any of the airports noted below, so there should be no need for you to rent a vehicle.

Plane: Private planes can land in Mitchell (heated hangar and a few more services) or in Chamberlain (only about 15 minutes from the Lodge). Technically, Kimball has an airstrip too but it is rather primitive. For more information, we recommend:

<http://wrightbrothersaviation.com> (Mitchell)

<http://www.airnav.com/airport/9v9> (Chamberlain)

<http://www.airnav.com/airport/6A6> (Kimball)

For commercial air travel, we recommend the Sioux Falls airport. Although planes also fly into some small towns around the state, Sioux Falls offers the best connections and the most reliable service. For information on schedules and airlines serving Sioux Falls, please refer to:

<http://www.sfairport.com> (Sioux Falls)

Bus or Car: Interstate-90 continues through the entire length of South Dakota and will bring you directly to Kimball at Exit 284. From the exit ramp, turn north onto Highway 16. This road curves around the outskirts of Kimball and then continues westward. Drive about six miles west of Kimball to 356th Avenue and turn left. Continue two miles south to 253rd Street, and turn right. Drive west for 1.5 miles, and the Lodge will be on your left at the top of the hill.

Prairie Puzzle:

The answer to last month's question about the highest statewide pheasant index was 2008. Congratulations to Mr. Cluchey of South Carolina and Mr. Harrison of Arizona for winning our Prairie Puzzle.

October question: ***To which cities does the Sioux Falls airport offer direct flights?***

- a) Chicago, Dallas, and Denver b) Atlanta, Detroit, and Minneapolis c) Phoenix, Orlando and Las Vegas d) all of the above

Please submit your answer by October 18, 2014 to be included in the prize drawing for a free Dakota Prairie Lodge & Resort hunting hat. Responses will be accepted via mail, phone, or email. Good luck!