DAKOTA PRAIRIE LODGE & RESORT

PRAIRIE NEWS





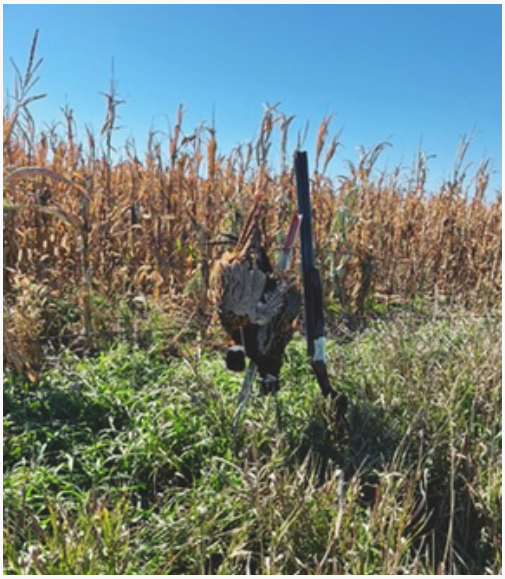
MEET OUR TEAM
HARRIS LINDEMANN
Lodge Chef & Guide

Harris recently joined the team as a chef and guide. His kitchen career started at just 14, when he began working at a pizza parlor. Since, he has cooked a diverse range of menus from breakfast to fried chicken to bar foods and upscale dishes. His top meal? Burgers. They may seem simple, he says, but when done right, they are hard to beat.

This season, Harris is excited to serve up some delicious dishes – and to see his younger dog mature into a steadier hunter.

Hometown: Sioux Falls, SD
Favorite Hunt: Pheasant
Favorite Supper: Burgers

2026 PHEASANT SEASON BEGINS WITH A BANG!



Pheasant hunting season this year kicked off with much fanfare on October 17. We have been enjoying plentiful hunting with an excellent crop of wild roosters since then!

Every year, our hunters ask us for delicious pheasant recipes to enjoy the cleaned and vacuum-sealed birds they bring home. In past newsletters, we have shared some tasty recipes: pan-fried pheasant, pheasant normandy, bacon stuffed pheasant, pheasant florentine, and many others. Discover some tried and true favorites in our newsletter archive – find it right here!

WHAT'S NEW? THE LATEST FROM THE LODGE

Pheasant season is off to a wonderful start, and we have had some beautiful fall weather as well as some more overcast days this October. When groups come in from walking the fields, our brand-new massage chair has been a big hit! Also a hit? Our meat smoker, which we purchased this summer. We've been enjoying some fun new recipes (like brisket and pork loin) that are much-loved.

Now, we would never want to start a rumor… but we hear tell that there might be some new puppies at the Lodge this December! The potential parents-to-be are our lovely Johnny and Emma. Both come from truly phenomenal hunting lines – Emma from Jim Klages' dogs and Johnny from our very own black lab Molly. The puppies would be ready for new homes in February 2027. Reach out to lock in a spot on the waitlist!



COMPARING EARLY SEASON VS. LATE SEASON PHEASANT HUNTING

Early season or late season pheasant hunting: Which one is better, which is more popular, and which one is right for you? This is one of the most debated topics in the world of upland shooting. Really, there is not an easy answer – early season and late season hunts each have unique characteristics that set them apart, making the decision less about which is "better" and more about which aligns with what you and your group are looking for. Today, we are going to explore the similarities, differences, and misconceptions around these options.



THE JOY OF EARLY SEASON PHEASANT HUNTING

Pheasant hunting earlier in the season (October or November) comes with plenty of perks. The weather is normally warmer, which means that the birds are more spread out rather than clumped togther to beat the cold. The dogs will be working hard to flush the birds from the food plots, and you will get some clean shots as just a few roosters at a time take to the skies. There is without a doubt something special about hunting on opening weekend, too. Kicking off your pheasant hunt on the day the season opens comes with a once-in-a-lifetime magic and a certain buzz that seems to take over the entire town of Kimball. It is hard to find fault with.

LATE SEASON PHEASANT HUNTING:

Late season pheasant hunting (December/January) is often written off. Misconceptions about cold weather scare some hunters – but really, there are cooler and warmer days at any time of year. Another myth about late season hunts? Some think all of the birds will be shot by hunters earlier in the season – but our pheasant population persists through the season. Plus, every rooster has a brood of 8-10 hens. By the season's end, we *want* only 10% of the birds to be roosters. Otherwise, they spend spring fighting for mates! The 3-bird limit per hunter per day also helps with intentional population control so the birds bounce back each year.



Late season pheasant hunting has its own special allure. With colder temperatures, the birds are more grouped together, taking shelter in taller cover and even tree lines. They flush completely differently: 50 or even 100 birds can take to the sky at once. This astonishing sight is so captivating that some hunters forget to take a shot! Even if you have already hunted with us this year, there's still time to book a late season pheasant hunt. Give us a call today to choose your dates.

PRAIRIE PUZZLE



October Question: How many free-roaming bison are in the herd in South Dakota's Custer State Park?

a) About 1,500 bison

b) About 500 bison

c) About 1,000 bison

d) About 3,000 bison

Submit your answer by November 10, 2026, for a chance to win! Answers will be accepted via email, phone, or mail. Correct answers will be entered into the prize drawing to receive a FREE piece of Dakota Prairie Lodge & Resort merchandise.