



Be A Good Sportsman — Report Violators

Since 1984, TIPs has played a vital role in stopping poachers because people care enough to report the violations.

TIPs began in 1984 in the Black Hills after two elk were poached. Sportsmen became upset and offered a reward. It was so successful that it went statewide in 1985. It now has a new hotline number 1.888.OVERBAG (683.7224). You can also submit an online report on a violation. — just go to gtp.sd.gov and look for the TIPs link.

According to TIPs coordinator, Charlie Wharton, because of reports received they are able to make cases like two poachers with 110 walleyes, a poacher with 59



walleyes, three poachers who killed 6 deer and left them, three poachers who killed an elk and two poachers with 120 pheasants.

“These all started with one call either to the local officer or directly to TIPs. Anyone can call and report violations and **WILL REMAIN COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS,**” says Wharton in an online release.

Rewards of up to \$300 for big game and \$100 for fish and small game. Higher rewards may be paid in extreme cases.

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