

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR SUCCESSFULLY HUNTING FROM A BLIND

by Paul Waldon

- **Location:** It's not critical to position a blind near roosted birds. I choose a location where I'm confident birds will be able to hear my calling during the hunt. Scouting pays huge dividends because you will have established via sign, sight or hearing where the birds travel.
- **Shade:** Be conscious of where the sun will be during your hunt. Try keeping your blind in the shade if at all possible. It keeps your location less conspicuous and a blind in the sun becomes a sauna!
- **Position:** Though it's possible to position a blind in the wide open I prefer to position the blind near a tree or brush, ideally with some overhanging branches.
- **Secure your blind** with tie-downs...wind can cause unwanted movement, even lifting and blowing a blind away!
- **Calling:** I term it broadcast calling. You're hunting from a fixed location. I always start a calling sequence with the volume turned down and gradually bring the volume up. Frequently I employ my loudest calls and calling techniques when trying to "broadcast" my position to a gobbler that might be ½ mile away and in earshot. Calling from a blind conceals motion associated with operating box calls and other friction calls.
- **Weather:** A waterproof roof on your blind can enable the hunter to stay in the turkey woods and continue hunting when others have returned to their truck to dry off.
- **Comfort:** I always pack camp chairs for use in the blind.
- **Youth hunters or observers:** Obviously the blind conceals motion and improves the "patience" aspect of sitting in one place for hours.
- **Safety:** As with any turkey hunting scenario, if another hunter enters your zone make certain he's aware of your location...say something to get his attention. Don't make a turkey call/sound.
- **Advantages:**
 - ✓ Blinds are an obvious choice for archery hunters concealing the drawing of a bow.
 - ✓ Practice shooting from your blind prior to taking it on the hunt.
 - ✓ Don't bump the sidewalls of your blind as a silent gobbler standing near your set-up might perceive that unusual movement as some kind of threat and not close to gun or bow range.
 - ✓ Blinds make incredible hides for photography. Pack your camera!

- ✓ While hunting, the occupants of the blind can witness other kinds of wildlife that are unaware of your location.

Hunting from a blind is just one option for the turkey hunter and it might work for YOU!



Most of the "hero shots" Paul sends around every season show him and friends posing with gobblers taken from his large, custom "turkey silo," designed and built by friend and mentor, calling legend LeRoy Braungardt of Moscow Mills, Missouri. LeRoy's generally considered to be one of the fathers of modern turkey hunting.

