



# NOVICE AND YOUTH OUTDOOR SKILLS OPPORTUNITIES - 2013



PUB-WM-471-2013

This is not an all-inclusive list of opportunities.

## YOUTH HUNT WEEKENDS

Prior to the regular spring turkey, deer, and waterfowl seasons, a weekend is set aside for youth 10 to 15 years of age (residents and non-residents) to gain hunting experience. All youth hunters must have successfully completed a hunter education course unless they are participating in the Hunting Mentorship Program, hold all required permits and tags, and be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian who is at least 18 years of age. The adult may not accompany more than two youth hunters, of which only one can be a mentored hunter (see section on Hunting Mentorship Program).



### YOUTH SPRING TURKEY HUNT

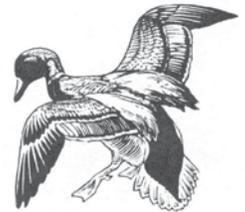
*April 6 and 7*

A spring turkey license, stamp, and permit (carcass tag) are required. Youth hunters can hunt regardless of what time period their permit is issued for, but may only hunt in the Turkey Management Zone designated on their permit. Bag limit is one male or bearded turkey in total during this two-day youth hunt. All other hunting regulations apply. If the youth does not fill their turkey tag during the two-day youth hunt, they can still hunt for turkey during the week for which it was issued.

### YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNT

*Tentative dates: September 14 and 15 (Dates and bag limits will be finalized in mid-August)*

All license and stamp requirements are waived for eligible youth duck hunters on these two days. We expect the duck bag limit to be the same as during the regular season. Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration is required of all youth hunters, and if hunting Canada goose, the youth must possess a Canada goose harvest permit for the zone in which he/she is hunting. All other hunting regulations apply.



### YOUTH DEER HUNT

*October 5 and 6*

A gun deer hunting license is required. Youth hunters may hunt deer with a gun in all Deer Management Units (DMU) except state park and non-quota units. The bag limit is one buck per Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag plus an additional antlerless deer per Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag. Youth hunters are exempt from Bonus Buck requirements during the October 5 and 6 hunt. All other hunting regulations apply.

## HUNTER EDUCATION

Hunter Education and Bow Hunter Education are offered statewide throughout the year with most classes held in February-April and July-September. For more details, visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search keyword 'hunter safety'.

## HUNTING MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Hunting Mentorship Program was implemented to allow any person the opportunity to hunt with a mentor without the need to first complete Hunter Education. A mentored hunter must be at least 10 years old, possess the appropriate hunting license, permits, and tags, and must hunt within arm's reach of a mentor who is 18 years of age or older. The mentor must have a current, valid hunting license, and have completed a hunter education course if born on or after January 1, 1973. If hunting under the Hunter Mentorship Program, only one firearm, bow, or crossbow can be possessed jointly between the hunter and the mentor. Also, the mentor can only provide guidance to ONE mentored hunter at a time if the mentored hunter is either age 10 or 11, or was born on or after January 1, 1973 and has not yet passed a hunter education course. For complete information and rules, visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search for keyword 'mentored hunting'.

## LEARN TO HUNT PROGRAM

The Learn to Hunt Program is an educational opportunity designed to help novice hunters of all ages have a high-quality, safe, and rewarding hunting experience under the guidance of experienced hunters. Learn to Hunt events are offered for bear, turkey, deer, pheasant, upland game, and waterfowl. Many of these Learn to Hunt events are sponsored by local conservation clubs and organizations under the supervision of the DNR. For more details and a listing of upcoming programs in your area, see the DNR website at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search for keyword 'LTH'.

## LEARN TO DEER HUNT - SANDHILL OUTDOOR SKILLS CENTER

Youth (ages 12-15) and Beginner Adult (ages 16 and over) Learn to Deer Hunt Workshops are one day and run from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. The Beginner Adult workshop is on September 7. Several youth workshops will be held during the month of August. Applications must be post-marked by May 31. All participants must have a chaperone and be enrolled in or have completed a Hunter Education course. The hunt is set for October 26. For a complete set of rules and applications for all programs at the Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center, visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search keyword '[Sandhill](#)'.

### **Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center offers several other workshops, including:**

#### **TRAPPER EDUCATION WORKSHOP**

*September 14 and 15*

Trapper Education is required by law for first-time trappers. This two-day course, for those ages 12 and older, provides hands-on learning about humane and efficient manners of trapping. The \$25.00 fee includes 3 meals, dorm stay, and a training manual. Bring your own lunch on Saturday. Register by September 6. For more information, visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov); keyword: '[Sandhill](#)'.

## YOUTH OUTDOOR SKILLS DAY AND PHEASANT HUNT

The Rock River Valley chapter of Pheasants Forever will be holding their 11th annual youth outdoor skills day and pheasant hunt on September 7 at the Magnolia Game Farm in Evansville, WI. This free event is open to anyone under the age of 18. Numerous stations will teach outdoor skills including archery, trap and target shooting, trapper education, and hunter safety. A guided pheasant hunt will be offered to those age 10 and over who demonstrate safe hunting practices. Call Brian at 608-751-7027 for more information.

## WISCONSIN OUTDOOR EDUCATION EXPO

This youth expo is a completely free opportunity for kids of all ages to enjoy hands-on activities that will teach them about archery, fishing, dog training, firearm safety, wildlife, and conservation heritage. This year's expo will be held at the Dodge County Fairgrounds in Beaver Dam on May 16 and 17. Please visit [www.wisexpo.com](http://www.wisexpo.com) for more information.

## 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM

4-H Shooting Sports programs are available to youth from third grade through the year following high school. Shooting Sports disciplines include archery, air pistol, hunting/wildlife ecology, muzzleloading, rifle, shotgun, and reloading.

The objectives of the program are to 1) create an appreciation and understanding of natural resources; 2) teach youth firearm and archery safety; 3) develop self-confidence, personal discipline, responsibility, and sportsmanship; and 4) provide training for volunteer instructors and leaders on how to plan and manage shooting sports clubs.

Youth may join the 4-H Shooting Sports program by contacting the 4-H Youth Development Educator in their County Extension Office. A list of competitive shoots, adult certification workshops, and additional information on the Wisconsin 4-H Shooting Sports program may be found at: [www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinepro/shooting/index.cfm](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinepro/shooting/index.cfm).



## NATIONAL ARCHERY IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Wisconsin is part of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP), and will be holding a state tournament on April 5 and 6 in Wisconsin Rapids. To participate, a student must have participated in NASP during school hours during the current year. At present, over 450 Wisconsin schools participate in NASP, and interest by other schools continues to grow! We expect over 1,000 students from over 40 schools to participate in the 2013 state tournament. For more information contact NASP state coordinator Dan Schroeder at [daniel.schroeder@wisconsin.gov](mailto:daniel.schroeder@wisconsin.gov).



## FUTURE TRAPPERS OF WISCONSIN

Future Trappers of Wisconsin will be hosting a five day camp for youth that will cover the basics of trapping, including trap types, setting traps, trap maintenance, and proper handling to trapped animals. This camp will be held at Trees for Tomorrow, near Eagle River, on August 7-11. Only two youth from each Trapper Education District will be selected to attend. Youth who are interested in being nominated to attend must contact their local Trapper Education District Coordinator to express their interest in the program. Contact information for the district coordinators can be found in the [Trapping Regulations](#). There will be a fee to attend this program, but the fee has not yet been determined.

