

Madison Team Warden Web Report – October 2009

Wardens Boyd Richter, Janesville and Warden Supervisor Jeremy Plautz contacted two goose hunters that were leaving a field in a truck. Two uncased shotguns were found in the truck. Upon talking with the hunters, one was found to be hunting with an unplugged shotgun, while the other was hunting with lead shot. One of the hunters was found to be under the influence of intoxicants and was arrested and transported to the Rock County Jail. The suspect was found to have a blood alcohol concentration over .20. Citations were issued and criminal charges are pending for going armed while intoxicated.

Wardens Boyd Richter and Mike Dieckhoff, Rock County, investigated a complaint of an individual hunting over bait in the city of Janesville. Warden Dieckhoff found illegal stands in the city in 2008 and 2009 and located different baits on several occasions. The hunter did not know whose property he was hunting on or that he was in the city limits. A citation was issued.

Warden Boyd Richter, Janesville, investigated a hotline complaint on Thursday during the four-day antlerless deer season concerning hunting ducks during the closed waterfowl season. Richter observed two adults and a child in a field next to the interstate south of Janesville using duck decoys. Upon contact Richter found one of the adults had shot two mallards and was not aware the season was closed. The other adult was a convicted felon that was calling ducks for the hunter and was also not aware the waterfowl season was closed. A citation was issued.

Wardens Boyd Richter and Mike Dieckhoff, Rock County, investigated a hotline complaint on Friday of the four-day antlerless deer season concerning hunting geese during the closed waterfowl season. Richter and Dieckhoff observed two hunters in a field west of Evansville using goose decoys. The hunters finished hunting and were contacted when they drove an ATV out to their vehicle at the road. The hunters were in possession of two geese and had failed to validate their goose permits. A Citation was issued.

Wardens Dave Walz, Watertown and Mike Dieckhoff, Beloit, spoke to several hunters on the Zeloski Marsh public hunting grounds opening day of the duck season. The wardens were advised a hunter shot at a pair of swans flying over the marsh hitting one of them but not killing it. The wardens located the pair of hunters learning that one of them thought the birds were snow geese and he took one shot at them. A citation was issued.

During the 4-day October gun deer season Warden Dave Walz, Watertown, encountered two convicted felons who were out gun deer hunting with firearms. One of the hunters also did not have a gun deer license and was driving with a revoked driver's license. Both individuals were arrested and spent the weekend in the Dodge County jail until they met with a judge on Monday. While enroute to the jail one hunter advised he would probably see his brother there. His brother has been in jail for quite some time.

Warden Ryan Ellifson, Jefferson, investigated a complaint of possible license fraud. The individual had moved to Wisconsin less than one week prior to attempting to purchase a license. He was told by the vendor that he did not qualify for a resident license. The vendor then sold him a non-resident license. The vendor did not take credit cards so he was not given the license. The individual stated he would go to an ATM and come back to pay. When the person did not come back the vendor placed a call to ALIS to remove the sale from their machine. At this time it was discovered that he had gone to another vendor and purchased a duplicate resident small game license. Warden Ellifson located the individual who had moved to Wisconsin from Minnesota 6 days ago. The individual did not meet the 30 residency requirement. Citation issued.

Wardens Ryan Ellifson, Jefferson, and Regional Warden Barb Wolf observed two anglers fishing in the Rock River north of the Bark River Hatchery. There were nine fishing rods with lines in the water. The two fishermen were fishing with 4 and 5 lines. Citations were issued.

Warden Ryan Ellifson, Jefferson, investigated the possible loan and borrow of a buck tag. Ellifson returned a call from a hunter who stated he had placed his buck sticker on his archery buck carcass tag and wanted to know how he could get a replacement archery tag. A subsequent investigation revealed that the 19 year old son shot a buck and his father gave him his buck authorization tag to use. The son had not harvested an antlerless deer and did not have a buck authorization. Citations were issued.

Warden Dave Wood, Madison, worked opening day of duck season on the south edge of Madison and Monona. Wood had assisted the manager of Capitol Springs State/County Park with posting a closed area in the park prior to the season. While out on foot working late shooters opening day Wood heard a number of shots coming from what sounded like county park land. Wood contacted 3 hunters coming out of the park. They had shot 9 geese and several ducks and Wood noted a number of empty beer cans in a cooler. All hunters were given a preliminary breath test and were within legal limits to hunt. Wood issued several citations to the group and warnings to the group.

Warden Dave Wood, Madison, worked southern areas of Dane County on opening weekend of duck season and found several hunters in violation. Wood issued citations for hunting waterfowl with an unplugged shotgun and possession of lead shot while waterfowl hunting. Wood performed field sobriety tests on a subject who attempted to hide a bag of marijuana while Wood was retrieving a preliminary breath test unit from Wood's truck. Wood referred him to the Dane County Sheriff Department for an ordinance citation for possession of marijuana.

Warden Dave Wood, Madison, received a citizen complaint of subjects hunting waterfowl after hours on a federal Waterfowl Production Area. Wood checked the area the next night and observed 4 hunters hunting ducks up to 22 minutes after close of hours. None of them had a waterfowl regulation pamphlet and they said they were using the general small game hours. Wood issued citations to all 4 hunters.

Warden Nate Kroeplin, Madison, issued a citation to an archery hunter who was hunting over a salt block and a second mineral block. The hunter stated that he has been archery hunting for over 15 years and did not know that it was illegal to bait deer in Dane County. One citation was issued.

Warden Nate Kroeplin, Madison, was working waterfowl enforcement around Southern Dane County and contacted two hunters hunting ducks and geese in the Albion area. Both hunters did not have small game licenses, state waterfowl stamps or goose permits. Citations were issued to both individuals. One of the individuals had two warrants out of Rock County and was arrested for both of these warrants and taken to the Rock County jail.

Warden Nate Kroeplin, Madison, was called out on a complaint of hunters hunting in Patrick Marsh where hunting is prohibited. Warden Kroeplin found the hunters and found they were hunting on private property where they had permission approximately 10 feet from the Patrick Marsh property boundary. Upon checking their licenses it was found that one of the hunters did not have an exterior goose permit and he had also shot a goose. One citation was issued.

In October, Wardens Tyler Strelow, Madison, and Deputy Warden Mac Hannon patrolled near the Stoughton and Edgerton areas for waterfowl enforcement. Wardens checked a group of hunters and found that one hunter had not called in two geese from Sept 3rd and the group was hiding a shotgun on the outside of the duck blind that did not have a plug in it. Warden Strelow issued two citations and several warnings to the group.

Wardens Tyler Strelow, Madison, and Deputy Warden Mac Hannon observed a group of four waterfowl hunters actively hunting on a WPA. Wardens observed the hunters shooting at numerous song birds flying over. Wardens contacted the hunters and found one hunter to be hunting without a license and another hunter who had killed two geese and failed to report the harvest. Wardens issued two citations.