



# NOVICE AND YOUTH HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES 2011

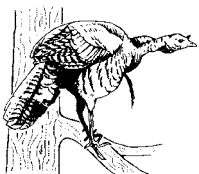


PUB-WM-471-2011

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 youths 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

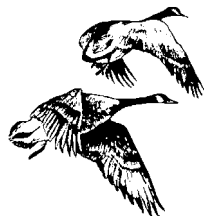
*April 9 and 10*

A spring turkey license, stamp, and permit (carcass tag) are required. Youths 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.

### YOUTH DEER HUNT

*October 8 and 9*

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 Earn-A-Buck requirements during the October 8 and 9 hunt. All other hunting regulations apply.



### YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNT

*Tentative dates: September 17 and 18 (Dates will be finalized in mid-August)*

All license and stamp requirements are waived for eligible youth duck hunters on these 2 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 to harvest a Canada goose the youth must possess a Canada goose harvest permit for the zone he/she is hunting in. 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. Visit the DNR website for more details; information on Hunter Education can be found at [dnr.wi.gov/org/es/enforcement/safety/hunted.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/enforcement/safety/hunted.htm), and information on Bow Hunter Education can be found at [dnr.wi.gov/org/es/enforcement/safety/bowed.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/enforcement/safety/bowed.htm).

## 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 arms reach of a mentor who is 18 years of age or older. The mentor must have a current valid hunting approval, and have completed a hunter education course if born on or after January 1, 1973. The mentor can only provide guidance to ONE mentored hunter at a time if the 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 <http://new.dnr.wi.gov/outdoors/activities/hunting/mentored/>.

## 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 <http://new.dnr.wi.gov/outdoors/activities/hunting/learnhunt/>.

## LEARN TO DEER HUNT - BUCKHORN STATE PARK

Note: A student who has participated in the Sandhill youth deer hunt program is not allowed to participate in the Buckhorn hunt and vice versa.

This hunt is for novice hunters ages 10 and older who have never purchased a deer license. Applications must be sent by July 15. Successful applicants and their chaperones are required to attend a one-day workshop in order to participate in the hunt; applicants will be assigned to either the August 21 or the 22 workshop. The deer hunt is on November 5 and 6. Visit the Buckhorn website for an application and complete set of rules:

[dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/specific/buckhorn/hunt.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/specific/buckhorn/hunt.htm).

## LEARN TO DEER HUNT - SANDHILL OUTDOOR SKILLS CENTER

Note: A student who has participated in the Buckhorn youth deer hunt program is not allowed to participate in the Sandhill hunt and vice versa.

Youth (ages 12-15) and Beginner Adult (ages 16 and over) Learn to Deer Hunt Workshops are one day and run from 8 am to 5 pm. The Beginner Adult workshop is on September 24. Several youth workshops will be held during the month of August. Applications must be post-marked by May 31. All participants must be enrolled in or have completed a Hunter Education course. The hunt is tentatively set for November 5 and 6. For a complete set of rules and applications for all programs at the Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center, visit:

[dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/reclands/sandhill/outdoorskillscenter.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/reclands/sandhill/outdoorskillscenter.htm).

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

#### **TRAPPER EDUCATION WORKSHOP**

*September 17 and 18*

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 7. See Sandhill website above for more details.

## YOUTH OUTDOOR SKILLS DAY AND PHEASANT HUNT

The Rock River Valley chapter of Pheasants Forever will be holding their 9th annual youth outdoor skills day and pheasant hunt on September 10, 2011 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 19 and 20. 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 1 and 2 in Wisconsin Rapids. To participate, a student must have participated in NASP during school hours during the current year. At present, over 270 Wisconsin schools participate in NASP, and interest by other schools continues to grow! For more information contact NASP state coordinator Dan Schroeder at [daniel.schroeder@wisconsin.gov](mailto:daniel.schroeder@wisconsin.gov)



*National Archery in the Schools Program*