



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES NOTICE OF FINAL GUIDANCE & CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to ch. 227, Wis. Stats., the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has finalized and hereby certifies the following guidance document.

DOCUMENT ID

LE-20-0009

DOCUMENT TITLE

WDNR Recreational Safety Class Instructional Requirements

PROGRAM/BUREAU

DNR Bureau of Law Enforcement

STATUTORY AUTHORITY OR LEGAL CITATION

DATE SENT TO LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU (FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS)

July 6, 2020

DATE FINALIZED

July 13, 2020

DNR CERTIFICATION

I have reviewed this guidance document or proposed guidance document and I certify that it complies with sections 227.10 and 227.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes. I further certify that the guidance document or proposed guidance document contains no standard, requirement, or threshold that is not explicitly required or explicitly permitted by a statute or a rule that has been lawfully promulgated. I further certify that the guidance document or proposed guidance document contains no standard, requirement, or threshold that is more restrictive than a standard, requirement, or threshold contained in the Wisconsin Statutes.

July 13, 2020

Signature

Date

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Hunter Education and Recreational Vehicle Education Programs
Covid-19 Bounce Back
Reopening
July 13, 2020**

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As we can all attest 2020 has been a challenging year as we all experienced day to day adjustments due to COVID-19. Please do not relax on precautionary measures as COVID-19 still poses a risk to you, the students and their families. With that being said, we need to provide safety education programs that continue to save the lives of our constituents and start them off on the path to a safe recreational experience. To be responsible for the safety and well-being of our customers, change in how our in person courses are conducted is required moving forward.

Many of you have expressed interest in continuing to offer your classes but were looking for ways to conduct them safely. I wish we had a "one size fits all" plan, but there is not one. Every class in Wisconsin is different in location, facility, and instructor numbers.

Here are some new instructional requirements for 2020. This may change so please read every update as we continue to move forward.

For all Safety Ed Classes:

1. No lectures, stories, and movies during the program.
2. The classroom you use will limit the number of students that can attend. Social distancing of 6 feet must be maintained. You need 36 square feet per attendee. Keep this in mind when selecting a facility. During Phase Two of the Department of Natural Resource Bounce Back Plan for reopening, maximum participants in any one class is restricted to 50 people. This includes instructors (Note: The combination of instructors and students may not exceed 50 people. Take this into account when scheduling your class and instructor involvement needed. We recommend one instructor to 10 student ratio).
3. Ask all non-students to remain out of the building, in their vehicle or have them come back later for pick up. This includes parents observing the class.
4. During class maintain social distancing to 6 plus feet from each other. This is essential.

Hunter Ed Specific

1. Online program: You can require the students to pay for the online programs provided on our internet page as a prerequisite to your class. This will help limit in-class time to hands on work.
2. For this year (2020) we will be limiting the class length to 14 hours of classroom instruction over a 14 day period. There will be no minimum hour requirement. (Hunter Education example: If you hold a field day with 8 students and you are done in 4-7 hours, you may pass the students.)
3. Please stick to the hands-on lesson plans as that training will prepare them for the final practical exam.
4. Written exam: If you cannot maintain social distancing you may bypass the written exam.
5. Practical exam: This will remain as the mechanism for determining pass or fail.
6. Have student bring bottle water with them. Avoid shared watering fountains.
7. Warden presentation is optional at this time. We encourage you to use the video if needed.

Student Consideration:

Please keep in mind that many of the students have had limited activity away from their residences and in person interaction with peers during the last 3+ months. They will be excited to see friends and classmates and a little less structured in their routines as it relates to the classroom instruction. Please consider that they will be a little more rambunctious. A little more direction might be needed.

Safety Precautions:

1. Avoid congregating in a small group, maintain social distancing 6-plus feet.
2. Clean equipment: Please plan on buying some disinfectant wipes to keep your equipment clean and safe. Use class money to pay for safety supplies (Clorox wipes or isopropyl alcohol).
3. Facemasks: It is strongly recommended everyone attending the class wear a facemask during the class. Cloth masks or neck gaiters are appropriate.
4. Maintaining 6 plus feet away is essential.
5. If your city or county has restrictions in place you still need to follow those rules.
6. Hand sanitizer: Have instructors and student use hand sanitizer whenever they enter or exit a room. Have a bottle on a table near the entrance and encourage the use.
7. If a student or instructor sneezes or coughs into their hands/shirt/arm make them wash their hands and use hand sanitizer.

For the safety of our students and fellow instructors, how can I do things different?

1. Considering that school is closed and most, if not all summer activities are canceled. Consider non-traditional hours. Instead of the 6p-8p maybe 9a-noon on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday.
2. Consider hosting two smaller classes vs. a traditional larger size class.
3. When selecting a facility keep in mind social distancing and 36 square feet per attendee.
4. Rotate instructors instead of having 10-15 instructors per one class, have several smaller classes in which the instructor group can divide lead responsibility.
 - a. Do not mix instructors from class to class; utilize the same instructors from start to finish for each session.
5. Consider doing the class all outdoors if possible. This includes the stations and sequence in rotations from station to station. Less risk to all.
6. Consider staging your training area so that you have every detail thought out for the safety of all. This could also include entrance and exit to classroom, station rotation, limiting breaks and number of people to restroom at one time, etc.

Safety Equipment:

We continue to work toward purchasing and supplying our instructors hand sanitizer, face masks, and wipes, but as with the rest of the nation, there may be a delay based on demand and shortages. As mentioned previously, if you are in immediate need for an upcoming course, and have the resources to purchase locally, please consider utilizing a portion of student's fee to cover this expense. Continue to work class needs through your local OST.

Timeline:

Instructors may start to enroll their class into Go Wild on **Sunday, June 28, 2020**.

Class start date may begin **Monday, July 13, 2020**.

Note: When scheduling your course, please allow two weeks for shipment of supplies from our warehouse.

OUR INTENT IS TO GO BACK TO NORMAL ONLY WHEN SAFE. THESE NEW SAFETY RULES ARE ESSENTIAL UNTIL THIS PANDEMIC THREAT IS GONE.



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Classroom Health Screening Post

Ask students reporting to class the following questions:

Do you have any of the following?

- Shortness of breath (not severe)
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - New loss of taste or smell

Are you ill, or caring for someone who is ill?

In the last two weeks, did you:

- Have contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19?

Students: If you answer yes to any of these questions please do not enter this building

For the safety of all our safety course participants

PLEASE GO HOME!!!