



THE BULLSEYE BULLETIN WISCONSIN HUNTER EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

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SEEMS LIKE THERE ARE A LOT OF CHANGES GOING ON:

During this year you have seen change. We have talked about it in newsletters and special mailings. When you read about these changes, please take the time to see the positives that come with and if you want, call me. I will be happy to talk to you about them. Ten years ago, when I started with the DNR, I only knew what you, as the instructor knew, and the decisions that the DNR made were, in some cases, upsetting to me. Now, sitting on this side of the aisle, listening to everyone that has a stake in Hunter Education, I get the big picture. I can't begin to explain everything to you in these newsletters, but before you say I quit, please call me.

A couple changes we will be working towards over the next several years:

1. Online Program: This program will take the place of student books. As we all know technology is here to stay and we might as well embrace it for that very reason. In the future, we will require every student to log into this course and complete it before coming to your hunter education class. The end result will be a better prepared student and more

time freed up for your 18 hours of course length. This course will be Wisconsin specific and will be ours to control and change. **Currently 3,000 of our students are already doing this without a problem every year...**

Why? Every year we spend about \$100,000 on the student manual: buying them, packing and shipping them out to the instructors. The end result, after a few days to a year or so, is that the manuals end up in the garbage.

2. Student Manuals: They will stop being issued once the Online Program is done. We will only keep a few around for those that cannot access the internet, such as the Amish. This also will be a Wisconsin Specific Manual.

A few key things to remember regarding Safety courses and rosters in general:

1. Course length is the total number of hours the students were instructed, not the number of hours that the instructors volunteered.
2. Volunteer hours are recorded individually for each instructor, not collectively as a group.
3. Wardens/Field Staff presenting to a class (LE Presentation, for example) are not recorded as volunteer hours.

ARCHERY EDUCATION:

I wanted to take the time to clear up a few things related to Hunter Education and the add-on Archery Education:

Add-on Archery Course: When conducting a 5-hr add-on course for archery education, the following rules must be met:

1. The Add-on course is a separate course and roster from the Hunter Education course.
2. The students cannot be required to attend both courses. If they only want Hunter Education they are done when the Hunter Education course is done.
3. We do not use the Add-on Archery course to extend the amount of hours for the Hunter Education course.
4. The Add-on Archery Course has a specific agenda and must be followed.

New rules for archery education:

If you offer an Archery Add-on class, the following rules apply to that course:

Who can attend an Add-on Archery Course?

- Anyone who has completed the Hunter Education course connected to the add-on archery course
- Anyone who has completed a Hunter Education course in Wisconsin
- Anyone that has completed an Online Wisconsin Archery Education course. This can be viewed at: <http://www.bowhunter-ed.com/wisconsin>.

Adult Only Course: In June of 2012, the Legislature passed into law, an Adult online Hunter Education Course that the DNR is required to offer. To be consistent the DNR will now be offering an adult only Online Archery Education Course.

We always encourage people to attend a hands-on course; however, this online archery course will not require a field day for adults. You can go to the DNR Website and find out more information about the Online Archery course and certification.

The online course will be launched in August 2014. Here is a link to the course <http://www.bowhunter-ed.com/wisconsin>.

Archery Equipment: Equipment was purchased for shooting during your archery class so please contact your Recreational Safety Warden to get this equipment.

FEDERAL AUDIT IN 2014:

Early this year we had our audit from the Office of the Inspector General. This periodic audit is conducted to ensure the requirements of the Federal Pittman Robertson Grant are met. Two items we are directed to address is proper recording of volunteer hours and firearm inventory.

1. **Instructor Timesheets:** In 2008 we started using the timesheet which is currently on the roster. The recent audit requires volunteer hours be recorded for each specific day rather than the total course.

Why? The PR grant is how the hunter education grant is funded. Every hour a volunteer works goes to our required match. They are asking us to provide better and more accurate documentation as per federal law. They require volunteers to submit a timesheet; the same as the department requires its staff to do.

Solution: Later this fall you will see a new roster and timesheet. Until the new online system is created every lead instructor will need to send in page 2 of the roster.

Volunteer Hours: Another area of concern was the hours the department submitted for volunteers. This is the total of every hour you, as instructors, wrote down on your roster. They looked at many rosters and saw minimal amount of hours wrote down as compared to the length of the class. However, they also saw some areas that I could not explain to them or myself. For example: A class that was 15 hours long had each individual instructor listed as 200 hours. What did they do during the other 185 hours? Come to find out it was a typo. They meant to type 20 but 200 was entered. We will be monitoring hours to ensure that the appropriate amounts are entered.

I want everyone to understand that awards and credit issued are based on years of service, not the amount of hours volunteered.

2. **Gun Inventory:** We were asked to annually verify inventory of our firearms by our department leaders and by the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

Why? Our State Rules require us to document every firearm we have, who has it, along with all information of the gun. OIG requires every gun bought with Federal Money to be inventoried and documentation of its current location kept up to date. All DNR staff verifies their inventory every year.

Solution: On the **new** Roster/Timesheet you will need to add any firearms that have been issued to you by the WI DNR as well as the location in which they are being kept.

WARDEN TALK:

Just a reminder to schedule your warden talks 6-weeks ahead of the class. This is required as part of your normal class curriculum. If the warden is not available they will allow you to continue on without them but please try to have a warden present.

IHEA ONLINE CLASS:

IHEA <http://homestudy.ihea.com/> online class that was free to our students will be going away December 31, 2014. IHEA owns the course and has told us they will no longer support this class. Please be alert to this info for the 2015 Hunter Education classes. For now we are looking at using the paid classes to keep the internet program up and going.

PRODUCT SAFETY WARNING AND RECALL NOTICE

REMINGTON MODEL 700™ AND MODEL SEVEN™ RIFLES

Products: Remington Arms Company, LLC (“Remington”) is voluntarily recalling Remington Model 700™ and Model Seven™ rifles with X-Mark Pro® (“XMP®”) triggers, manufactured from May 1, 2006 to April 9, 2014.

Description of the hazard: Remington has determined that some Model 700 and Model Seven rifles with XMP triggers could, under certain circumstances, **unintentionally discharge**. A Remington investigation

has determined that some XMP triggers might have excess bonding agent used in the assembly process. While Remington has the utmost confidence in the design of the XMP trigger, it is undertaking this recall in the interest of consumer safety to remove any potential excess bonding agent applied in the assembly process.

HMONG OUTREACH:

The DNR’s Bureau of Law Enforcement Hunter Education Program and video production team joined with Wisconsin Hmong communities to create a 72-second hunter education video based upon TABK.

The YouTube link is: <http://youtu.be/t3KL8ufa5qg>
Created in constant consultation with Hmong leaders, the video is in Hmong and features Hmong individuals to ensure the hunter safety messages are presented effectively and with respect to the Hmong culture.

Wisconsin is a great state – and this video is one example of how Wisconsin is home to all who enjoy the natural resources, and how two very different groups (government and a non-English-speaking culture) worked together to help everyone learn.

SAME DEER, DIFFERENT SEASON:

Questions about the upcoming deer season? Go to <http://dnr.wi.gov/> and Search: **DEER**

You will find many answers to questions you may have. This site provides a great list of frequently asked questions, rule change videos, and regulations. Start to familiarize yourself with this site and know how to direct your students to get the answers they need.

As a volunteer instructor you are not expected to translate or teach these new rules and laws, so please just direct them to the DNR website <http://dnr.wi.gov/contact/> or have them call our customer service line at 888-936-7463.

INSTRUCTOR INTERFACE:

Using the online interface yet? Check it out at https://jc.activeoutdoorsolutions.com/wi_ises/login/login.do

While using this website, you can:

- Register your safety classes

- Manage your class and students (Need to mark your class full? You can do it yourself using this system)
- Submit payment and class roster online (Students receive their cards within 3 days of submitting fees online)
- Allow students to register online and save you time from entering each student on your roster
- View and update your instructor contact information
- View your instructor record
- View upcoming workshops and trainings across the state
- Have access to the forms instructors commonly use
- Send comments and suggestions

If you have questions on any part of the site please contact your Recreational Safety Warden (RSW) or RSW Assistant:

Not sure who that is? View your county and this map to find your RSW and their contact information: <http://dnr.wi.gov/volunteer/safetieducation/rswmap.html>

Password requirements:

The system password automatically expires in 45 days. The reason for the short password duration is because it links to a banking system (for processing of course fees). We understand the issues created with the short password expiration but it cannot be changed with this current system.

Here are some helpful tips when creating your password:

System Password Criteria

- Must be at least 6 characters in length
- Must contain one alpha character and one number or special character (!,@,#, etc)
- Cannot have more than one pair of repeating characters (e.g. football)
- Cannot contain any commonly used words

Password suggestion – it is difficult to develop a password that meets the system criteria, a good suggestion is to use a word and replace one of the letters with a number that is similar to a letter. Document the password used and keep it in a safe location.

a. Mallard = M4ll4rd

b. Wooduck = W00duck

c. Feb2013 or mar0213 (the month your class is being held plus the year)

Forgot Password: No Problem

Don't know what your password is or haven't logged on in over 45 days?

Click "**FORGOT PASSWORD**" and reset your own password by sending an e-mail with a link to reset it.

Once you click forgot password and enter your e-mail address you should receive an e-mail with a link. If you do not see the email, check your Junk mail.

Click the link provided in the e-mail and answer the two security questions you setup when you first logged in.

It will prompt you to enter a new password. Once you have completed the steps you will get a message on the screen saying you have successfully updated your password. Continue to log in and use the interface.

INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS:

As the hunting season approaches don't forget to take advantage of the many companies offering discounts to volunteer hunter education instructors.

You can view these discounts at <http://ig.ihea-usa.org/instructors/special-offers-for-instructors>

You will have to provide a copy of your instructor card to the company offering the discount along with your order. Some sites are password protected. You can call 608-267-7509 or your RSW to obtain the password.

We are currently putting a list together of local Wisconsin companies that offer discounts and will post them on the website as they come in.

Thank you for all you continue to do for hunter education! We appreciate every effort, every course taught, every student certified and your dedication to teaching hunters to be safe, knowledgeable and responsible.

The future of hunting depends on all of us!

Have a safe and memorable upcoming hunting season!

WISCONSIN HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR ASSOCIATION (WHEIA) NEWSLETTER

The VOLUNTEER

<http://www.wheia.com/>

News from W.H.E.I.A. <http://www.wheia.com/>

July 31st, 2014 — This past May the 2014 Statewide Hunter Education conference was held in Rothschild Wisconsin. The event was a success with sessions on certifying instructors to run internet classes, crossbow basics, new techniques in tree stand safety, first aid for instructors using the Combat Application Tourniquet (CAT) and Israeli pressure dressing, Becoming and Outdoor Woman (BOW), and the Learn to Hunt Program.

The evening program included Chief Warden Todd Schaller as the guest speaker and the 2014 instructor awards being presented to:

Administrator's Award: Mr. Mike Noonan
Instructor of the Year: Mr. Scott Kirchoff
Hunter Education Group of the Year: Stevens Point Isaac Walton League
Archery Instructor Group of the Year: Weston Hunter Education Group
DNR Professional of the Year: No Nominee

WHEIA Elections were held during the business meeting for the positions of President and Treasurer. Joe Lacenski was re-elected as President and Gary Dieck as Treasurer.

2015 Statewide Hunter Education Conference, planning is underway to establish a location and agenda for the 2015 conference. We are looking for a site in the south central part of the state and anticipated a date after the middle of May. From last year's conference evaluation we would like to repeat the Instructor First Aid section and have more information on crossbows and tree stands. Please check the WHEIA website later this year for more details.

Instructor recognition! Do you have or know someone or an instructor group who has gone the extra mile? Consider nominating them for the Instructor of the Year Award or an Instructor Group Award. Give your RSW a call and discuss with them how to nominate someone.

Your help is needed to gather data on tree stand accidents! When a hunter falls from a tree stand and a 911 call is made for an emergency response, unless a firearm or bow discharges and someone is shot, the information does not get reported to the DNR. Without knowing why or what is the root cause of the tree stand accidents, adjustments cannot be made to our training. If you read or hear in the local news of a hunter falling from a tree stand and getting injured, send the information to William Wright, William.wright@wisconsin.gov

Upcoming Sport Shows, Hunter Safety Instructors are needed are the following events:

- Rothschild, February 13 – 15th, 2015. Central Wisconsin Deer Classic & Hunting Expo. Instructors are needed to run the youth pellet range and staff a Hunter Education information booth answering public questions.
- Green Bay, February 27th – March 1st, 2015. Wisconsin State Hunting Expo. Instructors are needed to run a youth pellet range and staff a Hunter Education information booth to answer public questions.
- Madison, April 10th – 12th, 2015. Instructors are needed to staff a Hunter Education Information booth at the Field & Stream – Outdoor Life Deer & Turkey Expo in Madison and work at the event. This is a high profile event dealing directly with the public image of the Hunter Safety Program.

If you can volunteer, contact WHEIA using the contact information on the web site or call me at 715-252-6798.

While I understand events of this type require instructor to volunteer more of their valuable time, it makes a big difference in the education of future hunters and of the good will it generates with parents, other hunters, and other instructors.

Joe Lacenski, WHEIA President