

# Hunter education teaches responsibility

## What Is Hunter Education?

Kansas Hunter Education teaches new hunters to be responsible hunters. Responsible hunters are ethical, safe and knowledgeable. The Kansas Hunter Education Program was established by the Legislature in 1972. By law, the course must be a minimum of 10 hours in length. Most courses are 12 hours or longer. The courses are taught by volunteer instructors across the state.

The course consists of subjects covering hunter responsibility, ethics, fair chase, history of firearms, firearms basics, ammunition, basic gun safety, field safety, bowhunting, conservation and wildlife management, wildlife of Kansas, outdoor emergencies, and boating safety for hunters. Where possible, students may live fire and/or go through simulated hunting conditions.

## Who Needs Hunter Education?

As amended and effective 1 January 2005, Kansas law provides:

Anyone born on or after 1 July 1957 must be certified by an approved course in hunter education before they can hunt in Kansas **EXCEPT** that anyone 15 years old and under may hunt without hunter education certification **PROVIDED** that they are under the direct supervision of an adult 18 years old or older.

Hunter Education Certification issued by any state, Canadian Province, Mexico, or any

additional foreign jurisdictions are deemed to meet the requirements of Kansas Law

**No one** under the age of 11 will be certified in hunter education. Those under age 11 may take the course on a Space Available basis. Anyone taking the Hunter Education courses prior to age 11, will be required to take the course again for certification after turning 11.

**No one** under age 12 may hunt by themselves regardless of Hunter Education certification status. All hunters under age 12 **MUST** hunt with an adult.

Those under age 12 may not hunt with others under age 12 unless the group is under the direct supervision of an adult age 18 or older.

Those hunters age 12 and over may hunt by themselves **PROVIDED** that they possess a valid hunter education certification.

Hunters turning age 16 **MUST** have completed a hunter education course before they may purchase their first hunting license.

All hunters age 16 to age 27, and all hunters age 12 to age 16 hunting alone, **MUST** carry proof of hunter education while hunting.

## How Do I Enroll?

Classes are scheduled around the state. The volunteer instructors set the dates and locations for their classes. The majority of classes are held from August to October, the period of peak demand. There are also a good number of classes offered in early spring prior to

the turkey season. There are very few classes offered between November and February. Since many classes fill up quickly it is in the student's best interest to plan ahead and sign up as soon as possible for the class that fits personal schedules, school requirements, etc.

All classes are listed on the KDWP website as soon as they are scheduled by the volunteer instructors. Classes are also advertised in local papers, fliers at schools and sporting goods stores.

Most classes require you to pre-register with the person or organization listed. Some classes require advanced study on your part. Some will have a requirement to complete an Introduction to Hunter Education Internet course prior to class.

There is no charge for the course materials. Upon successful completion of the course you will be issued a Hunter Education Certificate.

## Hunter Education Classes

**Aug. 1-29** — Hays, Hays Recreation Center

**Sept. 9-Oct. 10** — Hays, Hays Recreation Center

**Aug. 7-Aug 12** — Salina, National Guard Armory

**Sept. 4-9** — Salina, National Guard Armory

**Oct. 2-7** — Salina, National Guard Armory

**Oct. 16-21** — Salina, National Guard Armory

**Nov. 6-8** — Salina, National Guard Ar-

mory, Adult Class

## Advanced Hunter Education Classes

The Department has begun offering Advanced Hunter Education classes on specific types of hunting. Courses such as beginning waterfowl, goose, upland bird, deer and varmint hunting will be offered. The classes will be basic instruction in the type hunting listed. These courses are taught by volunteers. The classes will be listed here as they are scheduled by the instructors.

These Advanced Hunter Education classes do NOT substitute for a required Hunter Education Course.

**Oct. 22** — DeSoto, Wingshooting Class, Millcreek Rifle Club

**Oct. 8** — DeSoto, Wingshooting Class, Millcreek Rifle Club

**Sept. 17** — DeSoto, Wingshooting Class, Millcreek Rifle Club

**Sept. 3** — DeSoto, Wingshooting Class, Millcreek Rifle Club

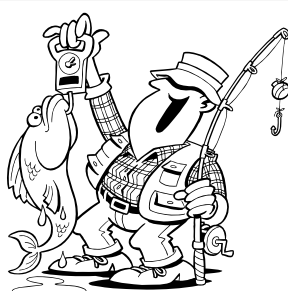
**Aug. 20** — DeSoto, Wingshooting Class, Millcreek Rifle Club

**July 23** — DeSoto, Wingshooting Class, Millcreek Rifle Club

## For More Information

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Wayne Doyle, *Hunter Education Coordinator*, 512 SE 25th Ave., Pratt Kan. 67124, (620) 672-5911

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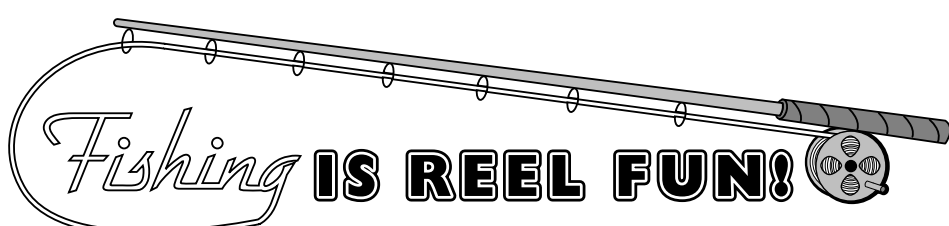
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