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The shooting simulator is one of the many activities for the 9th Annual Outdoors Kansas Kids Day at Prairie Dog State Park, which will be held on Saturday, May 2. Park staff and volunteers will be on hand to help youngsters. — Courtesy photo

Youngsters get to spend free day at Prairie Dog Park

By BRANDY LEROUX

The Norton Telegram

The Prairie Dog State Park at Sebelius Reservoir will be holding its 9th Annual Outdoor Kansas Kids Day on Saturday, May 2. There is no registration, no fees, and the Outdoor Kansas Kids Day is for kids of all ages.

"Just show up at 8:30 in the morning," said Ranger Kuhn.

"This is a good opportunity for kids to come to the park and be involved in different activities they might not be able to otherwise do," said Park Ranger Toby Kuhn. "We'd like the kids to be involved in outdoor activities."

Kids will have a variety of activities to keep them busy and entertained. There will be a hunting and shooting simulator, which is a video game that teaches firearm safety skills while shooting at game targets.

Pheasants Forever will be hosting a fishing clinic for kids. There will be volunteers to help the kids with baiting, casting, untangling the

lines, reeling the fish in, and removing the fish from the hook.

Norton County 4-H clubs will hold an archery shoot, for kids to learn bow and arrow basics and shoot targets.

For kids 10 years and older, there will be a youth trap-shoot with clay pigeons. Volunteers from Wildlife and Parks and Pheasants Forever will be on hand to help the kids and to teach the fundamentals of firearm safety.

Last year, there were only about 25 kids that went to the event, mostly due to the cold and windy weather. This year's event will be longer, with lunch provided. Prizes will be given for each activity, and also to all kids who participate in the event. Last year's prizes were t-shirts, gift cards to The End Zone, hats, sleeping bags, camping chairs and fishing poles.

"We don't yet know what all the prizes this year will be," said Ranger Kuhn. "But like last year, each kid who participates will get a prize."



