

The Hunter's Guide



NRA

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The Hunter's Guide

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NRA®

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NRA HUNTER'S CODE OF ETHICS

I will consider myself an invited guest of the landowner, seeking his permission, and so conducting myself that I may be welcome in the future.

I will obey the rules of safe gun handling and will courteously but firmly insist that others who hunt with me do the same.

I will obey all game laws and regulations, and expect that my companions do likewise.

I will do my best to acquire those marksmanship and hunting skills which will assure clean, sportsmanlike kills.

I will support conservation efforts which can assure good hunting for future generations to come.

I will pass along to young hunters the attitudes and skills essential to a true outdoor sportsman.

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As a hunter, you have a responsibility to yourself to learn as much as you can about the nature of your quarry.

Knowing an animal's behavior and natural history as well as improving your marksmanship and woodsmanship skills are of prime importance.



Hunting today requires a lot of know-how. Through advanced hunter education seminars and clinics you can learn those hunting skills necessary to make hunting even more enjoyable and successful in years to come.

Introduction



Introduction

The primary goal of The Hunter's Guide is to assist you in understanding the important role of modern managed hunting in wildlife management and conservation. Equally important is the wise and safe use through proper handling of firearms and respect for the property of others. This guide is intended to help you to become a safer and more successful hunter.

The question of whether to hunt or not to hunt is strictly a matter for your decision. Hunting constitutes an important tool of wildlife management. Each year throughout North America over 15,000,000 men and women purchase hunting licenses. Many of these hunters spend many dollars in travel and purchase of supplies and equipment. Despite its popularity over the years, hunting has proven to be one of the safest forms of outdoor recreation. It is hoped that this guide will enable you to derive more pleasure from North America's great outdoors.

If you choose not to hunt, it is just as important that you understand how modern hunting is used by wildlife managers to help ensure the future well-being of our wildlife species. Hopefully, information in this guide will instill an appreciation of hunting, safe firearm use and respect for property.

HUNTER EDUCATION HISTORY

Hunter safety training became a concern in North America during the late 1940's and early 1950's. New York in 1949 was the first state to pass a law requiring hunter safety training. Soon many state agencies followed with voluntary and mandatory hunter safety training programs.

During the 1970's, hunter safety training was expanded to "hunter education" which included a variety of aspects besides safety such as hunter ethics, sportsmanship, wildlife identification and respect for personal property.

Today, all states and Canadian provinces offer hunter education programs. The NRA joins state and provincial hunter education professionals in an ongoing effort to improve and upgrade hunter education. By continual review of various programs and how they meet the changing needs of the sport of hunting, the NRA will be better able to offer quality hunter education programs. The result will be a better informed group of new hunters and a brighter future for hunting.

