

4-H Shooting Sports Wildlife/Ecology

All 4-H Members participating in shooting sports events must take the wildlife/ecology test.

What: Wildlife Ecology courses
Day: 3rd Sunday of each month
Time: 11:30 to 1:00 pm
Where: Columbus Sportsman's Association unless specified at time of registration.

Registration for each course will be included in the Rolling in Clover newsletters starting in September. Attendance in wildlife/ecology courses is open to anyone in a Natural Resource or Environmental Education project. If enrollment is limited, preference is given to Shooting Sports project members. Shooting Sports project members are strongly encouraged to participate! The schedule is as follows:

- October** What is a habitat?
What is conservation, preservation, and land management?
What is the role of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in Wisconsin?
How do you get involved in DNR programs as an independent 4-H project?
- November** All about the whitetail deer - what is Quality Deer Management (QDM)?
What is all the hype about food plots?
What is Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)?
How do you age a deer and score antlers?
We will take a hike and make plaster molds of tracks.
- December** We will talk about furbearers (muskrat, otter, badger, squirrels, beaver, raccoon, possum, skunk, etc.) tracks, behaviors and habitat, and learn some trapping procedures.
- January** We will learn about predators (fox, coyotes, cougar, bear, etc.) tracks, behaviors, and habitats.
- February** This course will be all about birds (hawk, eagle, cranes and swans).
- March** You will be taught about flying critters - Wisconsin song birds or bats – and build a house. (There will be a fee for supplies.)
- April** You will determine the species identification of snakes, lizards, frogs and turtles, and learn about their habitats.
- May** We will work with you to create a backyard habitat; a bird and insect paradise with native Wisconsin plants. Learn about invasive plant species and beneficial plant species. (Location: Fall River, WI)
- June** This course will be about game birds (pheasant, ducks, geese and turkeys). We will coordinate with the State Game Farm for a weeknight tour of the hatchery for a hands-on with pheasant chicks. (Location: MacKenzie Center; State Game Farm, Time: TBA)
- July** This will be the annual Fair Shoot (archery, muzzle loader, shotgun, pistol and rifle).
- August** This course will be about fishing in Wisconsin.
- September** You will be taught about flying critters - Wisconsin song birds or bats – and build a house. (There will be a fee for supplies.)

4-H Shooting Sports Indoor Winter Schedule

4-H Members must be enrolled in the specific shooting sports project to participate in the following courses (pistol course must be registered in .22 pistol or air pistol).

Project: **Archery (60311)**
Day: Sundays starting January 23rd for 5 weeks (1/23/11, 1/30/11, 2/6/11, 2/13/11, 2/20/11); Wildlife/no archery: Feb. 20th and ends Feb. 27th
Time: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Cost: \$8 course fee and \$4 bow rental for course period
Special Dates: **REQUIRED:**
Date: Sunday, January 23rd
Event: We will be learning basic archery and range safety prior to shooting.
NOT REQUIRED:
Date: Sunday, February 13th
Event: We will learn how to make an arrow (fee to cover supplies).

Project: **Air Pistol (60321)**
Dates: Sundays, starting January 23rd for 6 weeks (1/23/11, 1/30/11, 2/6/11, 2/13/11, 2/20/11, 2/27/11)
Time: 1:00 to 3:00 pm
Cost: \$10 course fee and \$10 air pistol rental for course period (includes ammunition)
Special Date: **REQUIRED:**
Date: Sunday, January 23rd
Event: We will be learning basic pistol and range safety.

.22 pistol (60381) & .22 rifle (60331) public leagues begin in **January**. Parental hands-on supervision is required on pistol ranges pursuant to state law. Due to the age restrictions, all courses will be taught with the air guns; however experienced shooters may choose to attend the public leagues where 4-H volunteers or certified 4-H instructors regularly attend and will provide coaching support.

NOTE: Public air pistol and archery indoor leagues will be offered following beginner courses in the same time period. Equipment rental will be available to 4-H participants. This will allow families to shoot together and to be able to attend only when they are able for additional shooting practice.

3-D archery & video archery courses will be at Achterberg Archery, Pardeeville, in **April/May**. More information will be in the Rolling in Clover newsletter.

Shotgun (60351), Muzzle Loader (60361), and Indoor Air Rifle (60371) will begin in April on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

Please read project age restrictions carefully!