

WE BELIEVE

Human growth and development is the primary goal of the 4-H shooting sports program.

Shooting sports is an outstanding way to provide human growth and development opportunities.

Introducing safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment opens valuable vocational and life-long recreational education.

PROGRAM GOALS

1. *To encourage understanding of natural resource concepts through participant's interest in shooting and hunting.*
2. *To enhance development of participant's self-concept, character and personal growth through safe, educational and socially acceptable involvement in shooting activity.*
3. *To teach safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment including sound decision-making, self-discipline and concentration.*
4. *To promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship and ethical behavior.*
5. *To expose participants to the broad array of vocation and lifelong avocational activities related to shooting sports.*
6. *To strengthen families through life-long recreational activities.*
7. *To complement and enhance the impact of existing safety and hunter education programs.*

WHY SHOOTING SPORTS

About 2/3 of the homes in the U.S. have firearms. Exposure to safe and responsible handling is vital to preventing accidents at home or next door.

Shooting is the second most popular international sport behind track and field. It is nearly unique in being a lifetime sport.

Shooting Sports attracts a new audiences to 4-H and creates adult-youth bonds.

Shooting Sports is an excellent program to capture the interest of youth and expose them to concepts and issues in conservation, natural resource management and ethical behaviors.

SHOOTING SPORTS INCLUDES

- Archery
- Muzzleloading
- Hunting and Wildlife
- .177 Air Pistol
- .22 Pistol
- .177 Pellet Air Rifle
- .22 Rifle
- Shotgun

Each discipline teaches safety, concentration, self-discipline, self-confidence, goal setting, decision-making and courtesy as the young people learn basic skills and build toward more advanced activities. Both competitive and cooperative skills are included. Participants are exposed to local policies, regulations, laws and ethical behavior both by repeated demonstration and through personal practice.

PARTICIPANTS GAIN

Communication Skills
Confidence & concentration
Exposure to careers
Ethical Standards
Friendship
Leadership skills
Lifetime sports
Opportunities to achieve goals
Opportunities to compete in matches
Opportunities to earn awards
Opportunities to set goals
Personal responsibility
Poise
Reasoning skills
Respect
Safe habits
Self-discipline & self-esteem
Social skills
Sportsmanship
Useful knowledge and skills

This year's schedule of 4-H competitive shoots and certification workshops as well as registration forms can be found at:

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinpro/shooting/index.cfm>



A SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER IS...

- Interested in youth and their development
- Interested in some phase of shooting and outdoor recreation
- Willing to learn how to teach shooting effectively
- Willing to be helpful, open and supportive
- Interested in challenges with rewards
- Enthusiastic, positive and energetic
- Honest, self-disciplined and kind

Shooting ability is not essential, but willingness to learn coaching skills is. Training is available for interested people. Program materials provide excellent support.

LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Learn and practice higher standards of safety
- Learn and practice cooperative coaching techniques
- Learn and practice 4-H teaching techniques
- Invest your time, energy and spirit
- Focus on helping youth develop and learn
- Be a strong, positive role model

Leaders must attend a 2-day training workshop before they are allowed to lead a Shooting Sports Program in Wisconsin. Several workshop options are available each year.

SUPPORTIVE ORGANIZATIONS

There are too many cooperators and supporters to list all of them here. The entire shooting and conservation communities are involved. Some of the major supporters in Wisconsin include:

National Wild Turkey Federation
Gander Mountain
Federal Cartridge
Friends of the NRA
Whitetails Unlimited
Wisconsin 4-H Foundation
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Dept of Wildlife Ecology – UW Madison

These organizations are dedicated to the safe, responsible, socially acceptable use of sporting arms; the education of shooters and sound natural resource management.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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in your county

or

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WISCONSIN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS



INTERESTED IN SHOOTING, HUNTING, SAFETY, KIDS?

READ ON...