

ALABAMA HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS NEWSLETTER



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2010 GOVERNOR'S CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The recipient of the Governor's Conservation Achievement Award for hunter education sponsored by the Alabama Wildlife Federation in 2010 was Mr. Lee Brown of Clanton, AL. He received his award at the AWF banquet in Prattville on August 6, 2010. Mr. Brown is a member of the Chilton and Talladega County teams and has promoted safe, responsible hunting through the Alabama Hunter Education Program for many years. Lee now serves on the board of



directors of the Alabama Hunter Education Association. **His efforts and those of all instructors that promote safe responsible hunting through the Alabama Hunter Education Program are sincerely appreciated.**

Mr. Grady Hartzog, Alabama Wildlife Federation Past President; Governor Bob Riley; Lee Brown, Volunteer Instructor from Chilton County; Matt Bowlen, Alabama Power Company; Mr. Horace Horn, Power South Energy

WFF Hunter Education Staff

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The circumstances of our lives have as much power as we choose to give them.

David McNally

The best way to inspire people to superior performance is to convince them by everything you do and by your everyday attitude that you are wholeheartedly supporting them.

Harold S. Geneen

Upper Delta WMA Shooting Range Improvements

Several Boy Scout troops from SW Alabama and local Alabama Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation members along with Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries employees recently put 36 pallets of centipede sod in place at the Upper Delta WMA shooting range. Steve Barnett, Wildlife Biologist at Upper Delta WMA, stated the large group made it possible to put the sod in place in about 2.5-3.0 hours on a Saturday morning prior to the temperature reaching 98 degrees later in the day. I know they were extremely happy to finish the job prior to the temperature climbing to the upper 90's.



The Upper Delta WMA range was built several years ago but we have not been able to get sufficient coverage of grass on the range. The soil was very poor and would not support vegetative growth other than sparse weeds. Topsoil was brought in to improve the soil quality prior to putting the sod in place. The Stockton Volunteer Fire Department has visited the site on a few occasions to give the sod a good soaking. Steve Barnett recently reported the sod is doing well and will hopefully provide the much needed vegetative cover on the range. We appreciate the assistance of all of the individuals and groups involved in this project. Without their assistance, the process to conduct this endeavor would have been much more difficult and taken considerably longer to complete. The improvements should enhance the lead retention capability of the site and provide a more aesthetically pleasing place to shoot. We hope the shooting public finds the site a pleasant, friendly place to enjoy Alabama's rich outdoor heritage.



Please Submit Your Data!

The Hunter Education Program office periodically receives requests from individuals who were unable to download a duplicate card from our website. Sometimes this situation is a result of an instructor not submitting the data to the Montgomery office. This problem is easily rectified when the course information has been collected through the online registration process. Often times we can call the instructor and easily have the data in our database the same day. However, instructors that have unsubmitted scantron forms in a desk drawer or box at their house may forget about the items and fail to submit them to this office in a timely manner. **Please submit your data to the Montgomery office no later than two weeks after the course is completed! We request all instructors to take a few moments and ensure they have no outstanding data from previous courses.**

We also recommend instructors consider using the electronic data submission process for all future courses. We have not mandated this process but have encouraged instructors to use this process.

Ozark Community Archery Park

The Ozark Parks and Recreation Department and the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) entered into a lease agreement for the construction of a community archery park at the Sam Dale Park just outside of Ozark, AL. Purchase orders for the materials to build the elevated platform have recently been approved and construction on the facility should begin in the near future. The WFF looks forward to the addition of a community archery park in Ozark. Many other cities have approached WFF regarding the future development of other archery parks. We hope to begin construction on facilities in Decatur, Tuscaloosa, and Prattville during the spring of 2011.

Hunter Education Instructor Training Workshops

There is one remaining hunter education instructor training workshop scheduled this fiscal year. The workshop begins at 6:00 PM on September 14, 2010 at Frazer United Methodist Church on the Atlanta Highway in Montgomery. Interested instructor candidates should call 1-800-245-2740 to register.

Upcoming Treestand Safety Workshop

Representatives from the Treestand Manufacturer's Association and the National Bowhunter Education Foundation will conduct a Treestand Safety Instructor Certification workshop on September 24 & 25, 2010 at Camp Meadowbrook in Cullman County. The workshop is a "Train the Trainer" type course and is designed to provide hunter education instructors with the means to teach others the finer points of treestand safety. Please contact Ricky Moss at rmoss@steelcase.com for additional information regarding the workshop. We look forward to seeing you on September 24-25 in Cullman.