



# Yearlings

OHA Junior Newsletter

Summer 2023

For OHA junior members & children of family members

**FREE POSTER &  
TARGET INSIDE!**



## A LITTLE DIRT NEVER HURT

Kids helped at Oregon Hunters Association wildlife habitat projects around the state this spring and summer. Young people built nest boxes, planted shrubs and trees, helped water new plants and much more. Read more on the next page.

*Young people helped OHA's Redmond Chapter plant 450 cottonwood trees this spring.*



# OHA chapters help kids have fun in the field



*OHA members help kids sharpen shooting skills at youth events around the state.*



*Kids got to try their hands at archery at OHA's youth events this spring.*

## KIDS GET DIRTY TO HELP WILDLIFE

Oregon kids are getting themselves dirty this summer, and that's just fine with their parents. These kids are helping the Oregon Hunters Association do wildlife habitat projects around the state to help make food, water and shelter for wildlife – the three things wild animals need most.

Some projects make for great family day trips, while others are weekend campouts in Oregon's

outdoors, where OHA families camp together and enjoy a good time.

This summer OHA families are cleaning up trash in the woods, building and fixing guzzlers that store water for wildlife, planting trees and shrubs that make cover and food for wildlife, and even fencing aspen groves until they grow bigger.

Watch your OHA chapter newsletter for projects your family can do with OHA.

The Oregon Hunters Association wants kids to get outside and learn outdoor skills. That's why OHA chapters around Oregon held youth days this spring that give kids a chance to try shooting air rifles, small bore rifles, shotguns and bows. Kids also get to learn survival skills and test their knowledge of the outdoors.

OHA members cook food for kids at most of the field days, and it's always something good! Some of the events are free to kids, while some charge a small amount to cover the costs of putting on the event.

OHA kicked off the youth day events this spring with the annual youth turkey clinics at the White River Wildlife Area near The Dalles and Denman near Medford a week before Oregon's youth turkey weekend.

OHA chapters around the state held youth days in May and June. More youth events are happening this summer, so watch your OHA chapter newsletter.

The Yamhill County Chapter will hold a shotgun clinic on August 12.

The OHA Klamath Chapter will hold a barbecue at an informative gathering at Gerber Reservoir in August the night before the youth antelope hunt opens there.

In September, OHA members will help out youth pheasant hunts all around Oregon, and the OHA Klamath Chapter will host a youth chukar hunt for kids on Oct. 21 and 22. The Bend Chapter will offer a youth upland bird hunt on Oct. 21.

Most of these events didn't exist before OHA formed 40 years ago, so kids today should feel lucky to get to do these things, and get out there and have fun!



*Young volunteers helped out at many OHA projects this spring.*

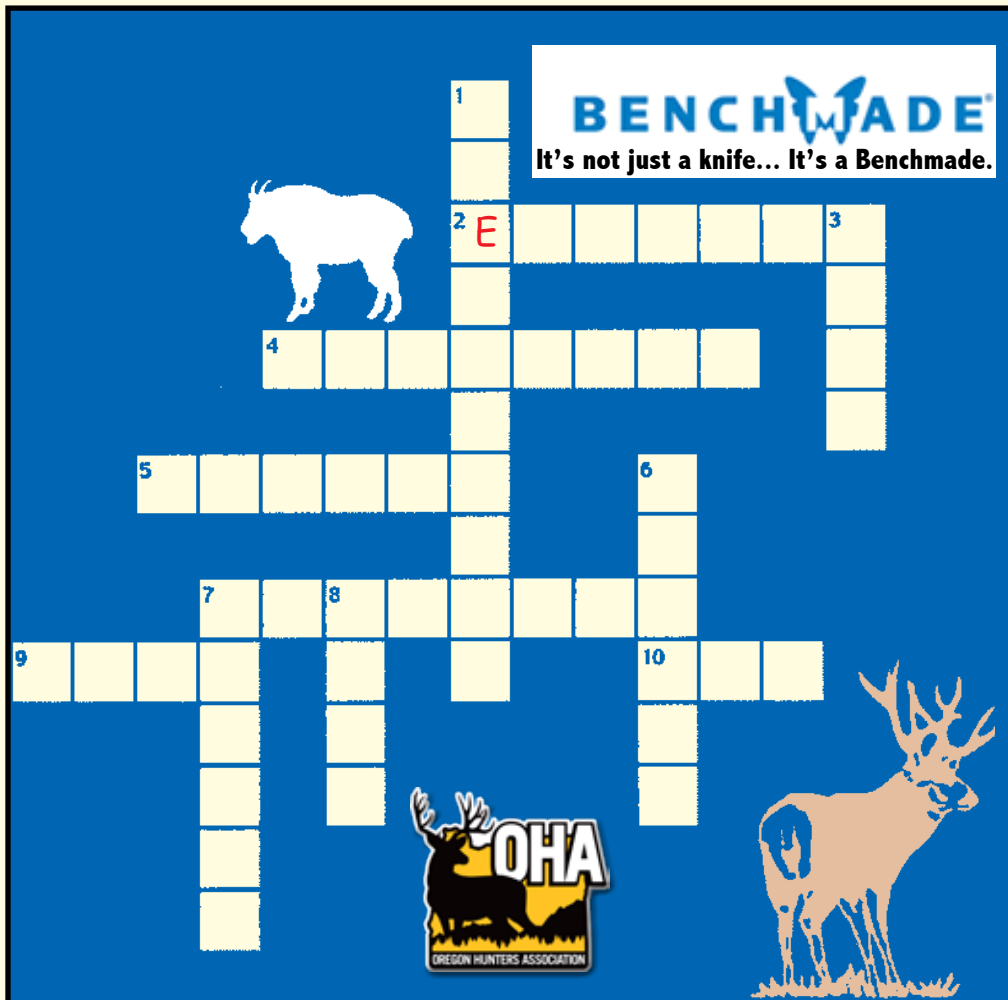




# PUZZLE PAGE



When you finish the crossword puzzle,  
find your answers in the word hunt below.



## Across

2. Wearing away of top soil, may be caused by wind or water.

4. A duck that nests in trees or boxes built by sportsmen.

5. Container for arrows.

7. A large size of shot used for deer.

9. Another name for cougar, or a shoe brand.

10. After shooting a big game animal, you must put your \_\_\_\_ on it.

## Down

1. To remove the entrails of a game animal.

3. Home made by an animal, often in trees.

6. A baby cougar.

7. The part of a firearm the shot or bullet must travel through.

8. Hypothermia, the silent killer of the outdoors, happens when the body gets too \_\_\_\_.

**Bonus word:** Find the name of an NFL team

## Do You Know?

1. What is Oregon's fastest land mammal?

2. What is Oregon's fastest duck?

3. What two big game animals were once extinct in Oregon but were brought back here by hunters?

4. The name for a baby goose?

5. What a male bear is called?

6. What country Oregon's pheasants came from?

Answers: 1-pronghorn antelope; 2-canvasback; 3-bighorn sheep & mountain goat; 4-gosling; 5-boar; 6-China.

A	T	S	D	C	B	G	R	L	P	I	K
D	F	C	T	A	E	J	C	X	W	Q	N
S	S	E	R	D	D	L	E	I	F	V	O
H	E	I	D	P	V	E	P	B	R	K	I
P	O	L	G	L	H	V	U	U	C	Z	S
Q	O	G	I	O	B	C	A	Z	M	I	O
C	K	S	N	A	K	R	G	Y	Q	A	R
R	S	S	R	S	H	R	F	Z	I	D	E
J	J	R	H	K	I	T	T	E	N	I	N
K	E	O	W	O	O	D	D	U	C	K	I
L	T	X	R	E	V	I	U	Q	Q	D	R
T	S	E	N	T	A	G	F	G	G	G	O





# WILDLIFE POSTER



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# DUCKS

Although there are many species of ducks found in Oregon, most belong to one of two main groups of ducks. One group is called “dabbling ducks” and the other group is called “diving ducks.”

Dabbling ducks are also called puddle ducks because they like shallow water. They’re most often seen in places like ponds, ditches and the shallow edges of lakes and rivers. Some of the most common dabbling ducks are mallards, wood ducks, wigeons, gadwalls, pintails and teal. The legs of dabbling ducks are located near the middle of their bodies,

which gives them better balance on land. Dabbling ducks are good walkers. When they take off from the water, dabbling ducks fly almost straight up.

Diving ducks like deeper water in large bodies of water. Their legs are further back on their bodies, which makes them good divers and swimmers but poor walkers. When they take off, diving ducks tend to fly across the water for a while rather than flying straight up. Some common diving ducks are canvasbacks, redheads and buffleheads.

Most ducks taken in Oregon are puddle ducks.



Rogue Valley Green-Wing Teal

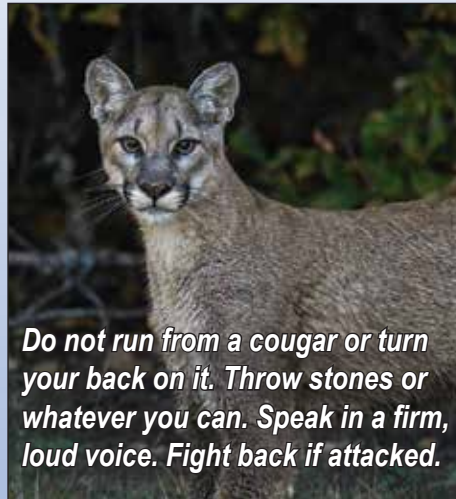


# What to do if you see a cougar

When you head for the hills this summer, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife reminds you to be alert while enjoying Oregon's great outdoors.

While cougars spend the winter and early spring months close to the deer and elk herds that are their favorite prey, late spring and summer months find the herds – and the big cats – scattered throughout the countryside. An adult male cougar prowls a home range of 150 to 200 square miles or more, and the species inhabits every Oregon county, including yours.

Cougars most often will go out of their way to steer clear of humans, but summer months in Oregon mean more people spending time outside, and we want everyone to have a safe, enjoyable time in the outdoors. Oregon's big game species – from cougar and bear to elk and deer – can all be dangerous to people in the wrong situations. Everyone should know and take the simple precautions to be as safe as possible in the outdoors.



***Do not run from a cougar or turn your back on it. Throw stones or whatever you can. Speak in a firm, loud voice. Fight back if attacked.***

ODFW advises the following cougar precautions:

- Do not hike alone. Go in groups, with adults supervising small children.
- Do not approach a cougar. Most cougars will try to avoid you. Give them a clear way to escape.

Do not run from a cougar. Running may trigger their instinct to chase. Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact. If you have small children with you, pick them up so they do not panic and run. Do not bend low to pick them up, or turn your back on the cougar.

Try to look larger. Raise your arms, open your jacket, throw stones or whatever you can without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak in a firm, loud voice.

Fight back if attacked. Attacking cougars will go for the head and neck. Try to remain standing. Use rocks and sticks, jackets, garden tools, camping gear or anything that is handy. Do not play dead or curl up in a ball.

For more information on cougars, contact ODFW for a copy of the brochure "Living with Mountain Lions." The brochure is found on ODFW's web site at [https://www.odfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living\\_with/docs/CougarBroch.pdf](https://www.odfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/docs/CougarBroch.pdf)

## LAST CALL FOR HUNTER EDUCATION!



The time to sign up for Hunter Education courses is not when you want to hunt. Classes fill up fast, and it's very hard to find a class by the fall, so get in now. Oregon's Hunter Education course is required for all first-time hunters under the age of 18. For information about enrolling in a Hunter Education program, call 1-800-708-1782, extension 6015, or visit: [myodfw.com](http://myodfw.com)

## OHA MEMBER PLEDGE

As an OHA member, I pledge to:

- Respect the environment and wildlife;
- Respect property and landowners;
- Improve my outdoor skills and understanding of wildlife;
- Support wildlife and habitat conservation;
- Know and obey the law;
- Hunt safely;
- Show consideration of nonhunters;
- Abide by the rules of fair chase;
- Hunt only with ethical hunters; and
- Pass on an ethical hunting tradition.

\* Adapted from the Hunter's Pledge of the Izaak Walton League of America



## 10 COMMANDMENTS OF SHOOTING SAFETY

- Control the direction of your firearm's muzzle. Carry your firearm safely, keeping the safety on until ready to shoot. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- Identify your target and what is beyond it. Know the identifying features of the game you hunt.
- Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.
- Be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions and that you have only ammunition of the proper size for the firearm you are carrying.
- Unload firearms when not in use. Leave actions open. Firearms should be cased and unloaded while in a vehicle traveling to and from shooting areas.
- Never point a firearm at anything you do not want to shoot. Avoid all horseplay with a firearm.
- Never climb or jump with a loaded firearm. Never pull a firearm toward you by the muzzle.
- Never fire a bullet at a flat, hard surface or water. With targets, be sure your backstop is adequate.
- Store guns and ammunition separately in locked spaces out of reach of children and careless adults.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages and drugs before or during shooting.



# YOUNG GUNS VARMINT TARGET



## JACKRABBIT

Jackrabbits can do a lot of damage to farmers' crops in Oregon, especially when their numbers are high. When their numbers grow too high, often disease will wipe out most of them in a single season, and it may take them years to repopulate to that level again. Varmint hunters can help keep rabbit populations in check.

## NOSLER

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## DON'T MISS A THING! JOIN OHA TODAY!

When you join OHA as a Junior Member for just \$10, you'll get everything adult OHA members get – and **MUCH MORE!**



\* You get 6 issues of OREGON HUNTER magazine.

**Just \$10 for kids!**

\* You get an Oregon Hunters Calendar, with 12 colorful game animal pictures, and all the hunting season dates and deadlines!

\* You get 4 issues of OHA's junior newsletter *Yearlings*.

\* You'll be invited to OHA events where there may even be prizes for kids!

\* You'll get your own OHA decal!



### OHA Jr. Membership Application

I want to be an Oregon Hunters Association Junior Member! Please sign me up, send my Oregon Hunters Calendar and OHA decal, and start my subscriptions to OREGON HUNTER magazine and the OHA junior newsletter *Yearlings*!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please enclose one-year dues of \$10**

\_\_\_ Payment enclosed (check or money order)

\_\_\_ Bill my parent's: Visa / MC / Discover / AmEx

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV2# on back: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

OHA, P.O. Box 1706, Medford, OR 97501

(541) 772-7313

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*Yearlings* is published quarterly for OHA junior members and the children of family members.

## GOOD SHOTS FROM OREGON'S YOUNG GUNS



Gavin Pedro of Cove tagged this mule deer a couple of years ago on a family hunting trip in the Catherine Creek Unit.



Michael and Matthew Wright of Bend found these nice mule deer sheds, including a couple of trophy pairs, not far from their home.



Jordan Lenhardt of Newberg took her first deer in the Willamette Unit using the Mentored Youth Hunter Program.