

Yearlings

OHA Junior Newsletter

Fall 2024

For OHA junior members and children of family members



EARN YOUR WINGS AT A YOUTH BIRD HUNT!



www.OregonHunters.org

"PROTECTING OREGON'S WILDLIFE, HABITAT AND COUNTRY LIVING HERITAGE"
~ KLAMATH CHAPTER



Oregon's young hunters will get a chance to earn their wings this fall at youth upland bird hunts all across Oregon, with shotgun skills clinics available at many of the hunt sites. Members of the Oregon Hunters Association will be on hand at many of these events, cooking food, taking kids afield with dogs, and assisting with the shotgun skills clinics.

See the dates for youth bird hunts near you on the next page, and reserve your spot now, because these hunts are very popular.

OHA's Klamath Chapter will host its annual Youth Chukar Hunt October 26 & 27.

Kids will get an extra weekend for deer!



APPLGATE UNITY/DUANE DUNNANNON

Oregon kids who have hunted hard in the western Oregon deer rifle season but have not tagged a deer by the end of the season will get one last shot this fall.

Youths ages 12-17 who have not filled their western Oregon deer tags by the time the season ends on Friday, Nov. 8, may hunt the following two days in the youth western Oregon deer hunt weekend Nov. 9 and 10.

This special weekend hunt was started

several years ago by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to give kids a weekend to go afield and enjoy a fun weekend with their families without so many adults crowding the woods.

The hunt is open to kids with one of these tags that they have not filled: either a general season Western Oregon deer, or West High Cascade (119A).

The bag limit is one buck that has a visible antler.

YOUTH PHEASANT HUNTS & SHOTGUN CLINICS

FERN RIDGE WILDLIFE AREA	SEPT. 7 & 8
DENMAN WILDLIFE AREA	SEPT. 14 & 15
JOHN DAY (PRIVATE LAND)	SEPT. 14 & 15
KLAMATH WILDLIFE AREA	SEPT. 14 & 15
LADD MARSH WILDLIFE AREA	SEPT. 14 & 15
SAUVIE ISLAND WILDLIFE AREA	SEPT. 14 & 15
CENTRAL OREGON (NEAR MADRAS)	SEPT. 14 & 15
WHITE RIVER WILDLIFE AREA	SEPT. 14 & 15
IRRIGON WILDLIFE AREA	SEPT. 21
COQUILLE VALLEY	SEPT. 28 & 29
E. E. WILSON WILDLIFE AREA	SEPT. 28 & 29
OHA BEND HUNT (541-480-7323)	OCT. 19
KLAMATH WILDLIFE AREA	OCT. 26



RANDY SHIPLEY/WRSHIPLEY.ZENFOLIO.COM



For reservations, visit myodfw.com



Young waterfowlers get special hunts

Young Oregon hunters under 18 will get to hunt some areas of the state this season without crowding by adult hunters.

An adult over 21 must accompany the youth, and the adult may not hunt.

Hunters over 12 need a state waterfowl validation and hunting license. Those over 16 also need a federal waterfowl stamp.

Registration is required. See the game

bird regulations for more information and contacts.

2024-25 YOUTH-ONLY HUNTS:

- Fern Ridge:** Nov. 30 and Dec. 30.
- Klamath Wildlife Area:** Oct. 26.
- Sauvie Island:** Oct. 26, Nov. 10, Dec. 8, Dec. 26, and Jan. 11.
- Umatilla NWR:** Nov. 9.
- Tualatin NWR:** Nov. 9, 17, 23; Dec. 1, 7, 15, 21 and 29, Jan. 4.

Kids get their own weekend for waterfowl



A statewide youth waterfowl hunting weekend for hunters under age 18 will be held in Oregon on Sept. 28-29.

Daily bag limits, licensing requirements and other regulations apply, and not all areas are open for this hunt.

For more information, see Page 26 of Oregon's 2024-25 Game Bird Regulations or visit MyODFW.com.

OHA hosts youth chukar hunt

The Oregon Hunters Association's Klamath Chapter will host its annual youth chukar hunt Oct. 26-27 in the Lower Klamath Hills Regulated Hunt Area.

Kids must be with an adult and must wear orange and safety glasses. The bag limit is two chukars per day.

Reservations are required. For more information or to make reservations, call 541-883-8326 before the hunt.





PUZZLE PAGE



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

PROUD SPONSOR

John Deere Bass Pro Shops Cabela's

OUTDOOR FUND

Across

- Oregon's only big game animal that hibernates
- To be inactive or asleep in winter
- Bony structures on the head of animals in the deer family
- Wigeons and pintails are kinds of ___
- A hidden duck hunting stand
- The hide of an animal with the fur or hair still on it
- A female bear

Down

- The sound made by a bull elk
- An old kind of muzzleloader
- Hunters follow these to find game
- Oregon's most common duck
- Container that holds the bullets for a rifle
- Mule deer have big ___ like a mule

Do You Know?

- What a male cougar is called?
- What makes antlers brown?
- What duck eats fish?
- What quail has a curly plume?
- Oregon's deepest valley?
- Oregon's biggest goose?
- What animal eats half the elk calves in northeast Oregon?

Answers: 1-tom; 2-rubbing plants; 3-merganser; 4-valley quail; 5-Hells Canyon; 6-Western Canada goose; 7-cougar.

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





Klamath Wood Duck Photo by John C. McFarland III





WILDLIFE CLOSE-UP: **WOOD DUCKS**

Many people think wood ducks are the prettiest of all ducks. They are colorful, medium-sized ducks, and they nest in trees, near water. They eat seeds, acorns, fruits, worms and bugs.

Wood ducks are the only North American ducks that regularly lay eggs twice in a year. Females lay 6-15 eggs in the spring.

The number of wood ducks dropped when the number of trees they could nest in also dropped. Biologists figured out that wood ducks are willing to nest in man-made boxes. Oregon Hunters Association members and other folks have been making and putting up nesting boxes where there aren't enough trees with large nesting cavities for more than 25 years.

OHA volunteers return each year before nesting season to clean out the boxes and put fresh nesting material in them.

OHA builds homes for Oregon ducks



OHA chapters build nesting boxes for ducks that nest in trees, such as wood ducks and mergansers.

Wood ducks need trees to nest in. The Oregon Hunters Association is making sure ducks get what they need to build nests and hatch their eggs.

Wood ducks are pretty and colorful ducks. They and the fish-eating mergansers are among the very few American ducks that nest in tree cavities. These nesting habits make them special, and they have special needs. In areas where land use changes have led to a lower number of large trees and snags, tree-nesting ducks have had a tough time finding places to nest. Many years ago, when many older trees near water were cut down for lumber, wood duck numbers were very low.

But wildlife managers found out that ducks that nest in trees will also nest in man-made boxes. And, thanks in large part to OHA, duck nest boxes are in wide use near streams, ponds and wetlands.

OHA builds duck nesting boxes and places them next to lakes, ponds and streams. Every winter, volunteers gather to build and put up boxes so they are up and ready for ducks to nest in during the spring.



RANDY SHIPLEY/WRSHPLEY.ZENFOLIO.COM

Wood ducks are one of our most common ducks now thanks to the efforts of groups like OHA.

Old nests have to be cleaned out each year. If boxes are kept fresh with nesting material, in the winter owls and other birds will use them.

If you know of a place near water where you think wood ducks would nest, call your closest office of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and ask if they have any wood duck nesting boxes you can use.

Sign up 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 hard to find a class right before hunting season.

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, visit: myODFW.com



10 Commandments of Shooting Safety

1. 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.
2. Identify your target and what is beyond it. Know the identifying features of the game you hunt.
3. Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Never point a firearm at anything you do not want to shoot. Avoid all horseplay with a firearm.
7. Never climb or jump with a loaded firearm. Never pull a firearm toward you by the muzzle.
8. Never fire a bullet at a flat, hard surface or water. With targets, be sure your backstop is adequate.
9. Store guns and ammunition separately in locked spaces out of reach of children and careless adults.
10. Avoid alcoholic beverages and drugs before or during shooting.

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



Young Guns Target

NOSLER

PROUD SPONSOR



Elk

Elk are tough and hardy animals that usually get through Oregon's winters just fine. They can get themselves into trouble, though, when they raid farmers' haystacks and wreck their pastures and fences. Sometimes hunting groups like OHA build fences and provide feed to lure the elk away from farmland and keep them out of trouble.

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Medford, OR
Permit No. 425

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)

Credit card: 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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OREGON HUNTERS
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Good shots from Oregon's Young Guns



Jaxson Argyle tagged this cow elk in the Wilson Unit with a Savage .270 Winchester last year on New Year's Eve. Happy New Year, Jaxson!



Jim Slawter's grandkids carried the ducks to the truck on this cold December hunt in Crook County.