

**Spring Turkey Hunt Planned Near Council Grove for Youth Hunters:**

With warming days, turkey hunters are beginning to get “the itch” to break out the turkey calls and other gear in preparation for the upcoming spring turkey season. Anticipation runs high with warming temperatures, budding trees, greening grass, and occasional sightings of strutting turkeys. The memories of past hunts begin to enter our thoughts; the sights and smells of a spring morning as mother nature awakens around you, the thundering gobble of a wild turkey from its roost, the dangling beard and full tail fan of a big tom coming your way, memories of the shed deer antler or morel mushrooms found on the walk out of the woods. To those that have pursued wild turkeys during the Kansas spring season, these experiences are real, and can fuel an outdoor passion.

There are however, many young Kansans that have not yet experienced, or have limited opportunities to experience, what outdoor Kansas has to offer. In an effort to introduce or share the spring turkey hunting experience with area youngsters, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism, in cooperation with area chapters of the National Wild Turkey Federation, Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation, and Ducks Unlimited, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, are preparing for the Council Grove 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Turkey Hunt on Saturday, April 5.

Designed to entice beginning turkey hunters into the woods in search of a spring gobbler, this event will provide participating hunters (age 11 - 16) with an opportunity to become involved not only in the hunt but also in its preparation. Participants will be provided an opportunity to pattern their shotgun and scout for turkeys the evening before the hunt. The morning of their hunt they will be guided to area locations on public and private land where encounters with these magnificent game birds are likely! Program volunteers will arrange transportation to hunting sites and will be available to assist in the hunt. The event will also include door prizes, a turkey hunting presentation, a hunter's breakfast and lunch, and a free mount for one lucky hunter courtesy of JD Taxidermy of Alta Vista. Past participants have enjoyed an opportunity to experience a spring morning in the Flint Hills and shared camaraderie with other participants and volunteers. Past hunts have boasted of some success!

Lodging is available in nearby Council Grove and camping is available at Council Grove Lake. Participants are encouraged to explore historic Council Grove and scenic Morris County while visiting the area.

**Registration is required by March 21.**

**Persons interested in learning more about this special hunt can contact:**

**Brent Konen – Council Grove Wildlife Area Manager**

**#620/767-5900**



2012 Youth Turkey Hunt Participants



2013 Youth Turkey Hunt Participants

Would you like more information about the Council Grove or El Dorado Wildlife Areas?

Please contact:

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