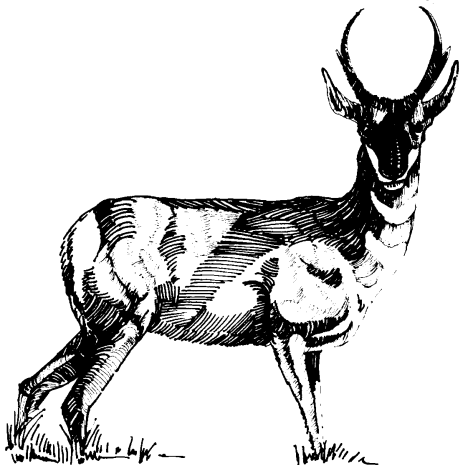


TEN COMMANDMENTS OF FIREARM SAFETY

1. Treat every gun as if it is loaded.
2. Control the gun muzzle at all times.
3. Store guns unloaded and with actions open.
4. Be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions and that only the proper ammunition is carried with every gun in use.
5. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger, and always know what lies beyond the target.
6. Never point a gun at anything you don't want to shoot.
7. Never climb a fence or tree or cross a ditch or other obstacle with a loaded gun; and never pull a gun toward you by the muzzle.
8. Never shoot at water or a flat, hard surface; and always be sure your backstop is adequate.
9. Store guns and ammunition separately, out of reach of people who are unfamiliar with safe gun handling.
10. Never handle a firearm or operate a vehicle while you are affected by alcohol or drugs.



HOW DO I ENROLL?

Instructors advertise their classes in local newspapers, over radio, and on television, post fliers at sporting goods shops or announce them at schools. All courses are also listed on the Department website www.ksoutdoors.com.

Contact a Kansas Department Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) office for information about classes in your area. Pre-registration is required for many courses. Student manuals and other training materials are provided free of charge. Upon successful completion of the course, students receive a certification card. Replacements for lost cards may be obtained for a fee from most KDWP offices, state parks and through the KDWP website.

A HUNTER'S PLEDGE

Responsible hunting provides unique challenges and rewards. However, the future of the sport depends on each hunter's behavior and ethics. Therefore, as a hunter, I pledge to:

- ☞ Respect the environment and wildlife.
- ☞ Respect property and landowners.
- ☞ Show consideration for nonhunters.
- ☞ Hunt safely.
- ☞ Know and obey the law.
- ☞ Support wildlife and habitat conservation.
- ☞ Pass on an ethical hunting tradition.
- ☞ Strive to improve my outdoor skills and understanding of wildlife.
- ☞ Hunt only with ethical hunters.

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, and military or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612-1327. 08/21

HUNTER EDUCATION

... protecting our hunting heritage through safe, knowledgeable and responsible hunters.



**KANSAS
WILDLIFE
& PARKS**

KDWP,
Hunter Education
512 SE 25th Ave.
Pratt, KS 67124
(620) 672-5911

Department Website:
ksoutdoors.com

WHAT IS HUNTER EDUCATION?

Hunter education is a program teaching hunters to be safe, knowledgeable and responsible. By law, the course must be at least 10 hours in length. The courses are organized and conducted by volunteer instructors in many communities across the state. These dedicated men and women believe that hunter education holds the key to the future of hunting. The course includes instruction in hunter responsibility and ethics, history of firearms, firearms basics, ammunition, basic gun safety, alcohol and drugs, bowhunting, conservation and wildlife management, wildlife of Kansas, outdoor emergencies, and boating safety for hunters. Where possible, students may live fire or go through simulated hunting situations.

WHO NEEDS HUNTER EDUCATION?

Anyone born on or after July 1, 1957 must be certified by an approved course in hunter education before they can hunt in Kansas EXCEPT that anyone 15 years old and younger may hunt without such certification if they are under the direct supervision of an adult 18 or older.

Hunters age 12 and older may hunt by themselves if they possess a valid hunter education certificate.

No one under the age of 12 may hunt by themselves, regardless of hunter education certification status. Hunters under age 12 must be under the direct supervision of an adult 18 or older.

No one under the age of 11 will be certified in hunter education, although they may attend a hunter education course on a "space available" basis.

When a hunter turns 16, he or she must complete a hunter education course before purchasing a hunting license.

Individuals 16 or older may purchase a two-time deferral of the hunter Education requirements by purchasing an Apprentice hunting license. Holders of Apprentice hunting licenses must hunt under the supervision of a licensed adult age 18 or older.

HUNTER EDUCATION TEACHES RESPECT . . .

for the sport of hunting

By thorough preparation and by familiarizing yourself with your hunting equipment's characteristics and capabilities and by practicing to develop proficiency with that equipment.

for the resource

By supporting and understanding the work of wildlife biologists and resource managers and by participating in voluntary hunter surveys.

By matching gun and ammunition to the game.

By properly identifying game before the shot.

By supporting the use of non-toxic shot.

By using a bird dog to assist in the retrieval of downed game.

By harvesting only what can be used, and immediately field dressing and cooling game.

By defining real success by the pleasure of the experience, such as watching a dog work, companionship of fellow hunters, watching wildlife, not by the quantity of game bagged.

for the firearm

By ensuring the safe storage of all firearms and ammunition, unloaded, with the gun and shells stored separately.

By unloading firearms when not in use, climbing a fence, jumping a ditch, handling or passing to another, and transporting.

By controlling the muzzle at all times, never pointing a loaded or unloaded gun at anything except the intended target, never playing with a gun, and always treating it as though it is loaded.

for the law

By abiding by bag and possession limits, hunting laws and regulations.

By understanding and supporting the purpose of laws and regulations, protecting and conserving our resources, and promoting safety in the field.

for the Landowner

By acting as a guest and picking up all litter including spent shells.

By obtaining permission to hunt private property in advance, hunting only those areas where permission has been granted, and offering time and labor in return for access.

for yourself

By conducting yourself ethically and responsibly, to ensure the future of the sport.

By knowing where your hunting partners are at all times.

By using ear and eye protection.

By avoiding alcohol and mind-altering drugs (including many cold medications and aspirin) when handling firearms.

for the future of hunting

By acknowledging that hunting is a privilege, not a right.

By understanding that the non-hunting public's attitude toward hunting is influenced by how they view hunters' conduct.