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NETTLETON FOX HUNTING & FISHING ASSOCIATION

est. 1904

A monthly insight into whats happening at Nettleton Fox Hunting and Fishing Association



August/September 2024



Current Topics >>>

Upcoming Events:

- **September 1:** Dove/Goose Season begins
- **September 14:** Hunters Supper
- **September 14:** Sept. Teal Season begins
- **September 13-15:** Early Velvet Buck season (archery)
- **September 24-30:** Youth Squirrel Season
- **October 1:** Regular Archery Season and Fall Squirrel Season begin
- **October 12:** Rabbit season begins
- **November 9-22:** Youth Deer Season
- **November 11-22:** Antlerless Primitive Weapon

Club host annual Hunters Ed Course

On August 24, 2024, the club hosted a Hunters Education Course in conjunction with MDWFP. The course is available to members and well as the public.

The hot and muggy August weather didn't hinder attendance at the Club's annual Hunters Education Course the next to last Saturday of the month. The final count in attendance for the course was 37 people. The hunter education course is important for many reasons (safety being the main one) and covers many topics such as ethics, responsibility, firearm safety, archery, wildlife management, first aid, treestand safety and more. More on this course on page 4.



For a full list of hunting season dates from MDWFP, please scan this QR Code:



Fall food plot update >>>

Over labor day weekend, club members joined together to plant 47 food plots in preparation for the upcoming deer season. With adequate rain, the plots should be coming up by regular bow season. Food plots provide nutritional value for a lot of wildlife and assist with nutritional gaps from natural browse and forage.

Please be mindful of food plots when out scouting or riding around being careful not to drive on them or disturb them in any way.

A special thanks to all club members who helped in preparing and planting the food plots this year (Bobby Sprayberry, Andy Underwood, Rob Sargent, Brandon Sargent, Russell Taylor, John Austin Taylor, Mike Loden, Michael Loden Jr., Wayne Conwill, Terry Conwill, Darrell Barnes, and James Warren). This is a major undertaking for the club each year and couldn't be done without the help of those willing to volunteer their time and equipment!



Watch your step!

Over the last few weeks, multiple rattlesnakes have been found on the club. As members begin scouting for upcoming hunting seasons, please watch your step for snakes and wear proper footwear to help protect against snake bites.



Keeping Safety in mind as you prep for hunting



As September starts, many members hit the woods scouting for the upcoming seasons, hanging stands, putting out cameras, etc.. A couple tips for staying safe can be found below:

- 1. Stay Hydrated:** The late summer months in Mississippi can be brutal with temps still in excess of 100 degrees. It is important to stay hydrated while out prepping for hunting seasons. Schedule the most physically demanding tasks in the morning when it's cooler, and take frequent breaks to allow your body time to rest and cool down.
- 2. Eat the elephant one bite at a time:** Don't try to do too much at one time. Many accidents are caused by poor decision-making linked to fatigue.
- 3. Watch for snakes, ticks and other critters:** Watch for these critters, wear PPE, and use repellent. If bit by a snake, do not apply a tourniquet, do not cut the wound, and do not apply ice. Seek medical help immediately.
- 4. Wear fall protection if working on stands:** Harnesses and safety lines should be used if working on deer stands. Also, be mindful of weathered parts or straps on stands that have been up all year. It is a good idea to replace straps annually.
- 5. Watch for others:** Many members, especially on weekends, will be out on the club preparing for hunting seasons. Please use caution when operating vehicles, utvs/atvs, and other equipment and go slow to avoid accidents.
- 6. First aid:** If you find yourself needing first aid, a first aid kit is available at the clubhouse. Please contact Russell Taylor if needed.

Check your license! >>>



Most hunters buy their hunting license prior to labor day weekend or right before deer season. With this in mind, it is likely your current license expires in the next few months. Please take a minute to check the expiration of your license to make sure you stay legal.

Also, be sure to buy appropriate stamps and/or passes if you plan to hunt waterfowl, public land, etc.



To purchase a Mississippi hunting license, scan this QR Code

Hunters Education Course- Continued



While the class couldn't be a success without participants, it also couldn't be a success without the help of members volunteering their time and effort to help. Members Bill Harrington, Darrel Barnes, and Terry Conwill cooked pulled pork and hot dogs. Michael Loden Jr., Brandon Sargent, and Justin Rhudy helped set up tables and clean up. Bobby Sprayberry, Russell Taylor, Rob Sargent, Wayne Conwill, and WO Jones assisted in instructing the class. Several members donated money at the annual shareholder meeting to provide the meals. Also, thanks to Steve Driskell for donating the hot dogs and Mathew Hill, Mark White, Justin Rhudy and Mar Dans for donating the boston butts.

Thanks to each and every one of you for your support. The annual event may best be summed up in the words of long-time Monroe county game warden, Dean Hudson, in a recent facebook post: *"This is one of the best and longest consecutive classes in the county. We really appreciate them doing it every year."*

A special thanks also is due to members of the Nettleton FFA chapter for helping with this event. Members of the Nettleton FFA chapter helped with handing out materials and serving lunch. These individuals are pictured below.



Pictured above:

Russell Taylor and Wayne Conwill discussing firearm safety with a shotgun for demonstration.

Did you know???

Hunter Education works. Since 1950, when formal hunter safety programs were introduced, the number of hunting and firearms-related accidents has declined dramatically nationwide. In Mississippi, we know that our hunter education efforts have reduced firearms accidents and saved lives. The hunter education course includes 10 hours of instruction. To obtain hunter education certification, students must be at least 10 years of age and must attend all classroom hours and pass written exam.

All persons born after January 1, 1972 are required to complete a hunter education course before purchasing a Mississippi hunting license. Also Effective July 1, 2000, anyone twelve (12) years of age and under sixteen (16) years of age must have a certificate of satisfactory completion of a hunter education course approved by the Department before hunting alone in this state. A child at least twelve (12) years of age and under (16) years of age may hunt without having the certificate of hunter education if the child is in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when hunting. (Source: MDWFP)

Being mindful of fawns

As summer wears on, you may encounter fawns across the club. Many have already been seen in person and on camera (see pics from trail cameras across club recently). It is very important to not disturb a fawn if you happen across one.



Newborn fawns are alone and separated from the doe by design. This behavior allows fawns to hide from predators before the fawns

are developed enough to outrun them. Approaching or handling newborn fawns increases their stress level and threatens their survival. People often pick up fawns that are alone, thinking they need help, and bring them to local wildlife agencies for care.

Although well intentioned, removing a fawn from its hiding place separates it from the doe and severely changes the animal's life. Big game species employ two different behaviors after giving birth to maximize survival of their offspring. Newborn young that walk with their mothers shortly after birth, such as bison and bighorn sheep, are called "followers."

Conversely, offspring such as deer fawns and elk calves that hide and lay still during the first week of life are referred to as "hidiers." Every year, wildlife biologists receive numerous phone calls from the public concerning abandoned newborn fawns. In almost every instance, the fawns have not been abandoned and are waiting for the doe to return to nurse. People who find newborn fawns should never approach or pick them up—doing so dramatically decreases the probability that fawns will survive.

(source: WAFWA)



Final thoughts...

If you have any recommendations for the website, newsletter, or for anything related to the improvement of the club or it's resources, please contact Russell Taylor at 662-507-8161.

Below are a few pictures submitted by club members recently.

