



Media Release

News Release No. 2008-11.1

For Immediate Release: November 25, 2008

Local Youth Deer Hunting Workshop a Huge Success

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF), in cooperation with the Virginia Hunter Education Association Inc., conducted a Youth Deer Hunting Workshop on Saturday, November 22, 2008. This workshop was conducted on property belonging to the Bedford County Economic Development Authority and was hosted by the New London Emergency Services Volunteer Fire Station, both located in the New London area of Bedford County. The partnership with the Economic Development Authority was instrumental in this event being offered. This workshop created an incredible opportunity for some area youth to experience hunting in a safe, controlled and learning environment. Ten youngsters, ages 12 to 15, participated in the all day event, beginning with an instructional session on deer biology, deer hunting techniques, and firearms safety and ended with a demonstration in proper field dressing techniques. This was followed with each youth patterning their shotgun before sharing in a hearty lunch of venison stew and hot dogs.

The hunt began at approximately 1:00 P.M. with each youth being accompanied by a parent/guardian and supervised by a certified Virginia Hunter Education Instructor. Each hunting location had been predetermined, with ground blinds set up to accommodate all participants. Each blind was marked off with predetermined shooting lanes and properly displayed the required blaze orange. The hunt continued until the close of legal hours with one deer harvested, many deer seen and smiles all around.

A hearty thanks go out to the VDGIF employees, the members of the Virginia Hunter Education Association and all other volunteers who were instrumental in successfully providing this youth deer hunting workshop. Additionally, thanks go out to the Association for their fund raising efforts and to all the vendors who so graciously provided donations. The numerous donations received made it possible to provide lunch, snacks, and hunting related door prizes for all the youth participants at no charge.

The icing on the cake for the day has to be the participant's consensus that they can't wait for the next hunt!!!

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