

DESOTO PARISH

Outdoor Skills

Handbook

2009

## CONTACTS

Parish 4-H Agents:

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## **CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS**

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**Bryan Cobb-Archery**

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**Benny Bell- Rifle**

**Tommy Williamson- Shotgun**

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## 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Individual Discipline Trainings.....Check with Discipline Coordinators

Northern District Shoot (Grand Cane, LA & Shreveport Gun Club) ..... April 17-19

Archery, air rifle, .22 rifle, air pistol, muzzle loading and hunting skills.

Northern District Shotgun (Shreveport Gun Club).....April 17-19

State Shoots (Lake Charles, La) .....May 1-3

YHEC.....June 6-8

4-H University (And National 4-H Shooting Sports) ..... June 17-20, 2008

ATV, Outdoor Skills & Wildlife

National YHEC.....TBA

\*\*\*\*\* (National Shooting Sports Competition is the same week as 4-H University this year!!)\*\*\*\*\*

# INTRODUCTION

## DESOTO Parish 4-H Outdoor Skills

The DeSoto Parish 4-H Outdoor Skills program encompasses the initiative goals of volunteer leadership, capacity building for youth and families, and the environmental stewardship with commitments from the Louisiana State University AgCenter. The 4-H Outdoor Skills Program is an active program that is attractive to both youth and adults. The program uses positive learning and interaction with youth and adult role models. The disciplines are modeled after the National 4-H Shooting Sports Program and are administered by nationally certified-state leaders consisting of extension personnel and volunteers.

The 4-H Outdoor Skills is an activity for everyone – girls, boys, young, old, urban and rural. Participation in the program is not limited by skill or physical abilities. The 4-H Outdoor Skills program is open to any youth ages 9-19 regardless of where they attend school. It is a fun, action-oriented program.

***MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Parish 4-H Outdoor Skills Program is to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes so that they may become self-directing, productive, and contributing members of society.***

The program is designed to:

1. Assist youth to learn safe and responsible use of shooting equipment;
2. Promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship and ethical behavior;
3. Enhance self-confidence, self-concept, decision making, character, personal development, responsibility, and sportsmanship;
4. Develop leadership and citizenship within 4-H parameters for youth and adults;
5. Expand 4-H membership and involve more volunteer adult leaders;
6. To strengthen families through participation in life-long recreational activities;
7. Create an appreciation and understanding of natural resources;
8. To encourage participation in natural resources and related natural science programs by exposing participants to the content through hunting/fishing and related activities.
9. To develop an understanding of the principles of wildlife management;
10. To complement and enhance the impact of existing safety, shooting and hunter educational programs (Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries).



The program relies on state 4-H certified/ trained instructors to conduct classes in the various disciplines (archery, air rifle, .22 rifle, shotgun, muzzle loading and hunting/outdoor skills).

The program requires 4-H certified instructors to adhere to the safety rules and regulations as dictated by the program to decrease the probability of accidents and injuries as well as enhance the educational experience.

## Philosophy

- All instructors in the program will be certified by the state committee to teach specific course(s). Instructors shall participate in an update when new material or new instructions methods are developed.
- The shooting sports program is not an individual 4-H project. It shall be taught as a group project activity, or in sessions such as camp or special interest clubs.
- The enrollment in the program has the potential of reaching new youth audiences as well as new volunteer leaders.
- The program is open to all 4-H members (9 – 19)
- A 4-H Shooting Sports instructor of a discipline has the right to refuse any participant from the shooting sports activity in the interest of safety for the participant and others in the class.
- A sponsor or schedule 4-H shooting sport activity shall be conducted by a 4-H Shooting trained/certified instructor.

## Discipline Opportunities

Parents and youth are asked to review each discipline as to the participant's responsibility for appropriate supplies and expenses before registering;

### Shotgun

Sign Up fee - \$25

Must supply own shells (25 to 50 shells per shoot) \*\* Will be turned into box at beginning of practice!!

Ear Protection

Eye Protection

May utilize personal firearms (approved by instructor)

Firearms available for use if needed

Transportation to and from events

### Hunting Skills

Sign up fee - \$25

Educational material will be supplied

Transportation to and from events

Will need ear and eye protection

Parent must be present for children 16 and under

Must complete study guide before practices or they will not shoot

Must be at 80% of all practices to be eligible to compete

Must complete and pass hunters education

### Excused Absentees

Sickness, Death of Family, Other Competitions (**Not Practices**), other 4-H events/ competitions, School Academic Events, other situations at the discretion of the coaches.

## Events Opportunities

Youth may participate in more than one discipline as listed in the discipline opportunities. Upon successful completion of a discipline program, youth may enroll to compete at the District level.

District Competition eligibility will consist of;

**Completion of Hunter Safety Course**

**Attendance of no less than half of the scheduled training sessions per discipline on the Parish level.**

**Participants may compete in no more than 2 disciplines at the District level.**

**District Competition - Matches will be held for each discipline. Participants will again be responsible for any entry fees and appropriate equipment as listed under each discipline.**

**North Louisiana District Matches will be held April 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> in Grand Cane, La. at the Long-Range Alley facility for all disciplines excluding shotgun. The District Shotgun match will be held at the Shreveport Gun Club in Shreveport, La. on April 19th. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation and accommodations. Participants must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.**

**Participants that place and/or score in the top 15 will be eligible to compete at the State Level of Competition to be held in Lake Charles, La. on May 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup>. Additional information will be provided for participants at the time of advancement to the State Level of competition.**



# DeSoto Parish Outdoor Skills

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ (as of Jan 1, 2008)

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Member    yes    no

Completion of Hunter Safety Course    yes    no    If yes, date completed \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size    S    M    L    XL    XXL

Disciplines:

Shotgun \_\_\_\_\_ Archery \_\_\_\_\_ n/a \_\_\_\_\_ Muzzle Loading \_\_\_\_\_ n/a \_\_\_\_\_

Rifle \_\_\_\_\_ n/a \_\_\_\_\_ BB Gun \_\_\_\_\_ n/a \_\_\_\_\_ Hunting Skills \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# PARENTAL PERMISSION

## *Waiver of Liability*

(This form must be completed before the child can participate in any 4-H Outdoor Skills activities)

We, the parents (legal guardians) of \_\_\_\_\_ (Child's Name) grant permission for his/her participation in the 4-H Outdoor Skills program; and approve of the use of firearms, live ammunition, and/or archery equipment while participating under the supervision of a 4-H certified shooting sports leader. I understand that the shooting sports are potentially hazardous activities and certain risks are involved with this activity. These potential hazards include gunshot or archery wounds and can result in paralysis, loss of vision, limb, or life. I agree that participation in this activity is entirely voluntary and agree that I will not hold the 4-H project leaders, State 4-H staff, local extension staff, or the L.S.U AgCenter liable for any accidents.

I also understand that safety procedures and practice will be strictly adhered to and that our child (guardian) may be immediately expelled, without recourse, from the program as a result of horseplay, inattentiveness, inappropriate conduct, violation of safety rules, or failure to follow the range officer's directions.

I will abide by all safety procedures with the possibility of being expelled from the program if I do not follow these procedures.

Child's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town, State, and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_