

Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports

Annual Report - 2005



Mission Statement:

The mission of the Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports is to foster youth development in participants using the tools of safety, shooting sports, and natural resource education. The primary focus will always be safety of participants, volunteers, and instructors in an educational, shooting sports setting.

Objectives:

- To enhance the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development of youth through safe educational and socially acceptable involvement in shooting related activities.
- To teach safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment. This is to include sound decision-making, self-discipline, and concentration.
- To promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, and ethical behavior.
- To encourage an understanding of NYS' natural resources and the development of a personal environmental stewardship ethic by young people through participation in shooting, hunting, and related activities both consumptive and non-consumptive in nature.
- To strengthen family, personal, and professional relationships through life-long learning activities.
- To expose participants to the broad array of vocational and lifelong avocational activities related to natural resource activities (i.e., shooting, hunting, fishing, forestry, etc.).
- To complement and enhance the impact of previously existing safety and hunter education programs. In NO way is 4-H shooting sports meant to replace these programs.

Program Goals

The Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports program will:

- Host at least one 50-60 hour multi-discipline 4-H Shooting Sports training program per year. Preferably, to broaden the audience, the program will host two programs located at least 20-30 miles distant from one another.
- Train at least 30 youth per year in the 50-60 hour fundamentals program.
- Have at least one shooting sports related club functioning at all times.
- Work with other counties, NYS 4-H Shooting Sports, and the VT 4-H Shooting Sports to allow Washington County youth to attend at least one regional/multi-county/regional 4-H Shooting Sports event per year.
- Disciplines in the fundamentals program will include a minimum of archery, muzzleloading, shotgun, rifle, and Sportsman Education/Bowhunter Education.
- Additional programming will be based on current NYS legislation, instructor availability, and equipment availability.
- Club programming will be based on youth demands as much as possible.

2006 Highlights:

	2004 Youth	2004 Adult	2004 Instr.	2005 Youth	2005 Adult	2005 Instr.	2006 Youth	2006 Adult	2006 Instr.
North	21	6	7	21	2	7	24	16	8
South	9	3	5	6	1	7	23	13	7
Spcl.	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	0	2	17	6	3
Club	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	4	2	10	3	5
Instr Train							0		9

- Offers two 50-hour courses concurrently at two sites that reach a larger percentage of the overall population.
- Program attendance: 47 youth and 29 adults during their “fundamentals” program (“fundamentals” are equal to 45-50 hour training program and includes both Sportsman Education and Bowhunter Education certificates).
- Southern Program attendance: 23 youth and thirteen parents for the “fundamentals” program. That is nearly a 300% increase in youth participation.
- Special Program Request: Archery principles for Adirondack School (10 male & 1 female youth)
- Overall increase of youth attendance by 100%. Increase in active instructors by 15%.
- The overall program receives several compound bows and other miscellaneous equipment. Grants from NRA \$1800 and Leo Cox Beach Foundation for \$2800.
- Staff member active in NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Advisory Committee.
- Program hosts the first NYS Intra-county instructor training and trains nine overall instructors, five of which are new instructors.
- ^{3rd} Annual 4-H Shooting Sports Fair Booth raises over \$1000.
- Conducts first living history fun day, featuring programs on muzzleloading, tin punching, cast iron cooking, and heritage breeds of livestock.

Gallery:

