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Oswego County 4-H Shooting Sports 2007-2008 Report

The Oswego County 4-H continued its 4-H Shooting Sports Program in 2007-08. This program was designed as a six-eight week course to introduce or improve shooting skills and ethics in young adults. It was taught by a team of specially trained volunteer instructors who gave generously of their time and expertise to provide the best learning opportunity possible. Archery, black powder, rifle and shotgun were the disciplines offered. Lower registration numbers only allowed for Rifle and Archery to be held.

Classes were held at two separate sportsmen's clubs: Deerslayers Bowmen's Association, and Pathfinder Fish and Game Club. Each class provided an opportunity for youth to learn how to care for the firearms and laws governing them, and to identify safety issues. But most of the time the youth were doing what they liked the best, shooting.

The Oswego County 4-H Shooting Sports Program provided an opportunity for 12 youth to explore this traditional past time in a safe environment. The discipline and self-control required for responsible firearms use carries over into many other aspects of life. The instructors' positive comments and words of encouragement helped the young adults gain the confidence to improve their aim and shooting ability. Thus they became more self-confident, better team players and sportsmen by the positive experience.

The Oswego County 4-H Shooting Sports Program ended with the Field Event held at the Pathfinder Fish and Game Club. This event was filled with the youth shooting in their discipline and then trying the disciplines they were unfamiliar with. The youth also taught their parents how to shoot. All Oswego

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Cornell Cooperative Extension in Oswego County provides equal program and employment opportunities.

County 4-H Shooting Sports Program participants received a Certificate of Achievement , patch and rocker along with a gun lock.

Enrollment for the six week shooting sports was lower then anticipated. It has been determined that the program should begin advertising in January for an April start. This may help boost the registration.

This past year saw the formation of another shooting sports 4-H club, Albion Fish and Game Shooting Sports 4-H Club. This club has a membership of 16 individuals. This is the second shooting sports 4-H club in Oswego County.

The Oswego county 4-H Shooting Sports Program also participated two outreach programs, Oswego County Fair and Salmon River Hatchery Open House.

The Oswego County 4-H Shooting Sports Program was funded with registration fees and through grants, services or equipment from Long Hunter's Emporium, and Oswego County Federation of Sportsmans Clubs.

2007-2008 Oswego County 4-H Shooting Sports Program

Discipline	6 week Program	4-H Clubs
Rifle	6	8
Muzzleloading	0	0
Shotgun	0	16
Archery	6	0
Total Participants	12	24

Outreach Programs

Program	Youth	Adults
Oswego County Fair	400	150
Hatchery Open House	127	35
Total	527	185

