

James E. McGreevey

Department of Environmental Protection

Bradley M. Campbell Commissioner Designee

Division of Fish & Wildlife
P. O. Box 400
Trenton, N.J. 08625-0400
Visit our Website: www.nifishandwildlife.com

MAJOR CHANGE IN HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Division's Hunter Education Program will now be offered as a modified home- study video based course, with one-day testing and field sessions conducted at centralized teaching locations throughout the state. The Division recognizes that course scheduling, as currently conducted, can be difficult to fit into the hectic schedules of today's lifestyles. In response, we have developed a program that will allow easier access and produce a more advanced hunter ready to meet the serious responsibilities facing all New Jersey hunters.

The Hunter Education Unit has developed a videotape, manual and workbook series designed to cover shotgun, muzzleloading/modern rifle and bow and arrow courses. The video covers information currently provided in the traditional courses while adding new hunting scenarios designed to test the students split second decision making ability all responsible hunters must have. Videotapes and workbooks are now available at license agents and Division field offices. Materials are also available through the mail by sending \$3.95 in postage (no money or checks) with your name and address to:

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife Hunter Education Home Study 220 Blue Anchor Rd. Sicklerville NJ 08081

The first field session is scheduled for March 16 at the Division's Northern Region office in Hunterdon county. A schedule of testing facilities and field session dates for March through June for the entire state is available at these locations and on the Division's web page at www.njfishandwildlife.com.

Home study will allow students to learn the classroom material at their own pace, at home, and select the location and date for a one-day course, for archery, shotgun, rifle/muzzleloader or all three classes (if they are prepared to do so) which best suits their own schedule. During the one-day field session the student will be placed with an instructor to complete an extensive field walk and mandatory live-fire session. A review of the home study material and homework will be offered before the day concludes with a mandatory written exam.

The Division is extremely proud that our program is continually recognized as one of the top programs in the country. The future of hunting in New Jersey remains hunter education.

Individuals interested in becoming an instructor with this new Hunter Education program can download an application at www.njfishandwildlife.com or call 877-2HUNTNJ for further information.