

Top 10 most common firearm deer season hunting violations

With Minnesota's firearms deer season getting underway on Saturday, November 5, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' approximately 200 conservation officers will be traveling the back roads, hiking through the woods, or spending endless hours on patrol ensuring that hunters hunt safely and ethically and abide by the state's hunting rules and regulations.

"The vast majority of deer hunters in Minnesota abide by the rules and regulations, while a small percentage run afoul of the law," said Col. Jim Konrad, DNR Enforcement director.

"Hunters can best help us protect and preserve the resource by simply following the rules."

Statistics show conservation officers wrote 1,110 citations or warnings during the 2010 firearms deer season. That compares to 1,035 citations or warnings in 2009.

A large number of citations are written each year for failure to validate a site tag.

Minnesota's Deer License and Site Tag come as a 2-part form. The upper half is the Site Tag for tagging the deer in the field. The lower half is the Deer License and Registration Slip.

Konrad said that at the kill site a hunter must detach the site tag from the deer license/registration slip.

"Before moving the deer, validate the tag by using a knife or similar sharp object to cut out the appropriate notches indicating the month the deer was killed, date it was killed and the time of day it was killed. Mark carefully—if more than one month, date, or time is cut out or marked, the tag becomes invalid," Konrad said.

Remember that the validated

site tag must be attached to the deer when the deer is placed on a motor vehicle or an ATV, a vehicle or a trailer being towed by an ATV or brought into a camp, yard or other place of habitation.

Transporting a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle is another recurring deer hunting violation.

It is unlawful for any person to transport a firearm, including a handgun, in or on a motor vehicle unless the firearm is unloaded and in a case made expressly for that purpose; unloaded and in the closed trunk of a motor vehicle; or carried under a valid permit to carry a pistol or handgun.

However, there are circumstances when a person may transport unloaded, uncased firearms (excluding pistols) in a motor vehicle, including ATVs: while at a shooting range with permission; while lawfully hunting on private or public land or while travelling to or from a site the person intends to hunt or has lawfully hunted that day.

Firearms must be transported unloaded and cased: within Anoka, Hennepin or Ramsey counties; within the boundaries of a home rule, charter or statutory city with a population of 2,500 or more; on school grounds; as otherwise restricted in game refuges, shining or night vision laws.

Other common violations include hunting over bait, license not in possession, shooting from the road right of way at big game and hunting without permission on private property.

"Hunters need to be aware of where they are at all times while hunting, to be sure they are not found trespassing on private property," Konrad said.

And, blaze orange is required on your cap and outer clothing above the waist, excluding sleeves and gloves while hunting deer. Blaze orange includes a camouflage pattern of at least 50 percent blaze orange within each square foot.

While conservation officers are constantly working to protect Minnesota's wildlife, they also depend upon the public to report any instances they might witness of unethical hunters or people who disobey state wildlife laws. Turn-In-Poachers is a non-profit organization also working to protect and preserve Minnesota's natural resources. The program offers rewards to citizens who report poachers or other resources violations. Callers do not have to reveal their names. To report a violation, call 800-652-9093 or #TIP on most cell phones.

Top 10 list of firearm deer hunting violations:	
Violation	Number of citations/warnings for 2010
Fail to validate tag	180
Hunt over bait	150
Untagged	131
Transport uncased/loaded firearm	127
Fail to register	110
Misdemeanor shining	92
License not in possession	89
Trespass	87
Shoot from road right of way at big game	81
No license	63

Deer registrations as reported locally

The numbers were down this year, partially due to hunters taking advantage of being able to register their deer online with the Department of Natural Resources.

The number of deer registered at Eagle Valley Express in Clarissa as of Monday, November 7 was 66.

The winners of the gun raffle at Eagle Valley Express were David Sticha winning the .270 Savage and Paul Schnettler winning the .22.

Shirley's in Eagle Bend reported registering 43 deer over Saturday and Sunday and an additional 20 on Monday.

★ Bowling

Monday Nite Ladies
Results from October 31:

	W	L
Shirley's Gas & Grocery	26.5	9.5
Baso/Cuchna Insurance	23	13
Beauty Inn	22	14
Klein Insurance	21	15
Bob's Team	18.5	17.5
Clarissa Family Dental	17	19
Eagle Lanes	16	20

High games: Stacey Kneisl 192; Amy Irlbeck 190; Darla Thompson 190

High series: Stacey Kneisl 533; Darla Thompson 486; Kim Murphy 468

Splits: Sharon Milbrett 2-6-10

Friday Daytimers
Results from November 4:

	W	L
Creative Floors	20	16
Al's Repair	19	17
Gene Captain's Pro Shop	17	19
Stampin' Up	16	20

High games: Helen Husfeldt 202, 179, 170; Betty Woida 159; Carolynne Bisel 154

High series: Helen Husfeldt 551; Betty Woida 443; Berniece Mansager 399; Lavinia Whitaker 399

EV Hall of Fame nominations

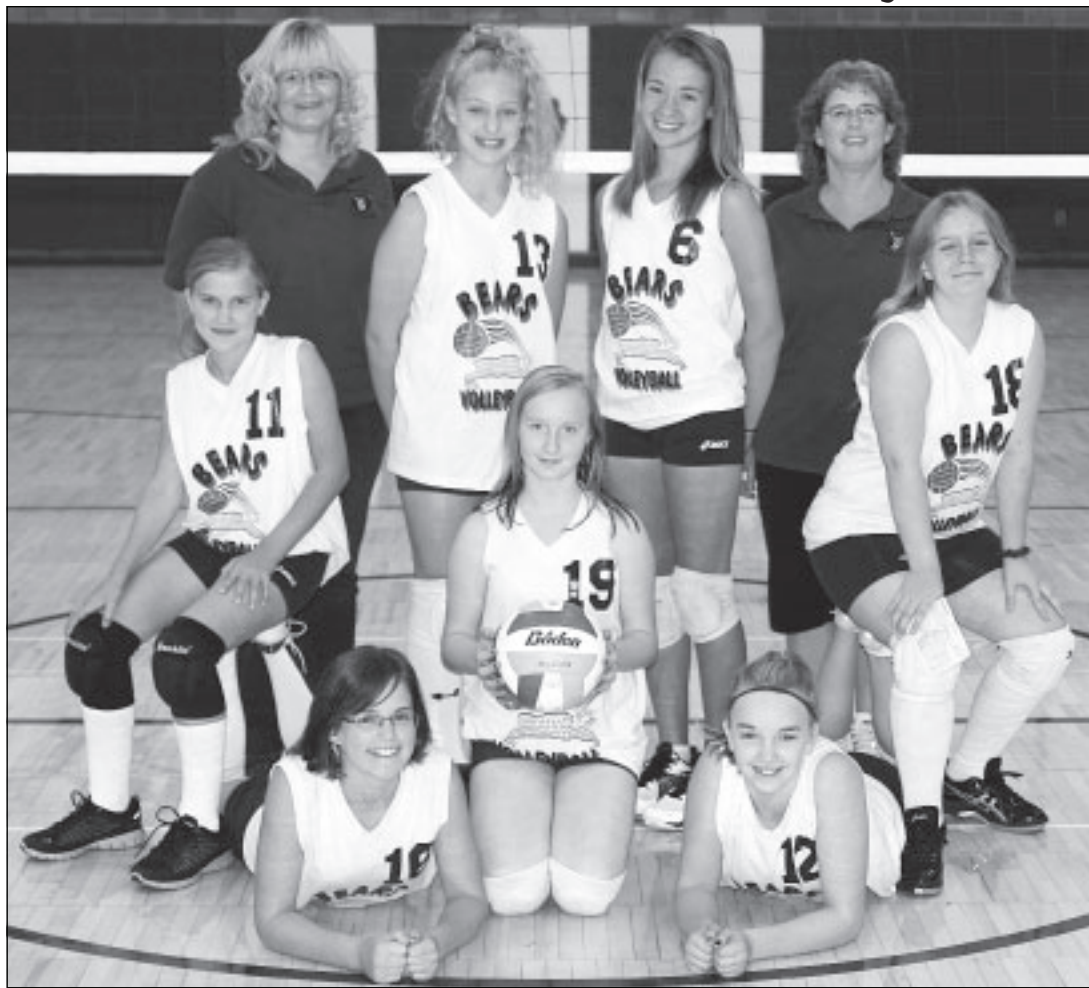
It is time to send in your nominations for Eagle Valley's Hall of Fame. Nomination forms can be picked up at the school, or you can go online at www.evps.k12.mn.us (school's web site) under athletics and download the form. The deadline for all nominations is December 1, 2011.

Submit your deer hunting photos for publication!



You may e-mail your photos to us at: news@inhnews.com or bring your digital camera or card in and we will download them for you. You may also bring your prints into the news office in Clarissa and we will scan them. Please submit the hunters name, where they are from and the size of the deer and when bagged, also.

Season comes to an end for Lady Bears



Seventh grade team. Front row: Tapanga Flanery, Adison Laust and Paige Ganz. Back row: Emily Boldt, Coach Hurtig, Jade Christl, Allysa Kimber, Coach Miller and Cori Morris.



Eighth grade team. Front row: Heather Gavin, Paige Gesme, Skylar Whitaker, Sammy Burrows, Jenissa Jasmer. Back row: Coach Hurtig, Taylor Shamp, Chasidy Greenwaldt, Madison Valley, Michaela Powers, Jessica Nelson, Abby Foy, Manager Samantha Hartman and Coach Miller.

by Coach Hurtig and Coach Miller

The junior high volleyball season has just ended at Bertha-Hewitt. We had a good year with improvement shown throughout the season. We really worked on the basic fundamentals of setting up the ball. We focused on getting a good pass to the setter so we could set the ball up to our hitters. The girls worked hard

and made the season very enjoyable.

The 7th grade team includes: Jade Christl, Allysa Kimber, Adison Laust, Paige Ganz, Emily Boldt, Cori Morris and Tapanga Flanery.

The eighth grade team ended their season with a 7-4 record. The 8th grade team includes: Jessica Nelson, Chasidy Greenwaldt, Madison Valley, Taylor

Shamp, Abby Foy, Michaela Powers, Jenissa Jasmer, Heather Gavin, Sammy Burrows, Paige Gesme and Skylar Whitaker.

Thank you to all our parents and fans that supported us throughout the season. It was great to have you at the games and your positive encouragement was greatly appreciated.

DNR warns poachers to beware

Deer poachers take note: That buck in your crosshairs may not be a deer at all, but a decoy used by conservation officers with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to catch people illegally taking deer.

"It's the firearm deer season and some hunters don't want to return home empty handed," said Col. Jim Konrad DNR enforcement director. "Although the vast majority of hunters abide by the rules there are some that resort to poaching to fill their tag."

With only 140 field conservation officers across the state, help from law-abiding outdoorsmen and women, as well as the general public, is welcomed.

"If people see suspicious activity, such as a vehicle driving slowly at night shining a spotlight into a forest or field, they should contact a conservation officer or other law enforcement officer with as much detail as possible," Konrad said.

He suggested noting the time the incident occurred, type of vehicle, any characteristics about the people involved, license plate number or direction they were heading.

Time is also a major factor.

"Let us know as soon as possible," Konrad said. "The longer someone waits to report the activity, the less chance we have of stopping it. Almost everyone has a cell phone, so we hope they put them to good use."

The Turn-In-Poachers program offers rewards to citizens who report poachers or other resources violations. To report a violation, call 800-652-9093 or #TIP on most cell phones.

"The public—hunters and non-hunters—must get involved. We all have a vested interest in the wildlife in this state and if we are going to protect it, we have to depend on the public to help us to do that," Konrad said.

Finding a Minnesota conservation officer is just a click away at www.mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas. Click on the map, and a balloon will pop up that shows the officer phone number and State Patrol dispatch number.