

Hunting is one of America's oldest and greatest traditions. How well we are able to preserve this tradition may well depend on you. We hope this booklet will help you to remember and practice the important principles of firearms safety and hunter conduct, and to keep everyone aware of the critical role that hunters play in conservation.

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# Ten Commandments of Firearms Safety

A good hunter is a safe hunter. He knows there is no place for horseplay in hunting. He learns and obeys the commandments of firearms safety and insists that his companions know and follow them, too.

Every hunter — whether novice or experienced outdoorsman — should review these commandments before each hunting season to be sure that his gun handling, both at home and in the field, sets a good example for others.

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- **5.** Never leave your gun unattended unless you unload it first.

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- 7. Never climb a tree or cross a fence with a loaded gun.



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**10.** Store guns and ammunition separately, beyond the reach of children.

- **8.** Never shoot at a hard, flat surface or the surface of water. Make sure you have a safe backstop.
- **9.** Carry only empty guns, taken down or with the action open, into your camp, car or home.

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# **Hunting Ethics**

Hunting has two kinds of law.

One is the written law that is enforced by the game warden. The other is unwritten. It is an ethical code or code of honor that the true sportsman places on himself.

Most hunters obey the game laws, but that alone isn't enough. Without ethics, a man can be a licensed, law-abiding hunter and still be a poor sportsman.

There is nothing illegal about shooting at a running deer over 600 yards away or trying to down a duck winging 100 yards high. But it is certainly unethical, and only a poor sportsman would try it.

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In other words, he has respect for his quarry and hunts it only in fair and sporting ways. As an ethical hunter, a real hunter, he believes in "fair chase," and he never takes unfair advantage of the game he hunts. This principle of fair chase is often part of the law. For instance, it is

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Conservation laws and hunting ethics are two sides of the same coin. Do away with either, and we will do away with hunting.

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# **Hunter-Landowner Relations**

Precious few hunters are lucky enough personally to own land that abounds with game. So, for the most part, when today's hunter enters the field, he becomes someone's guest, welcome or unwelcome. His host may be an individual farmer living just down the road or a giant timber company whose offices are a thousand miles away.

But no matter who the host is, the "welcome" aspect is important to hunters because it helps determine how much land will remain open for hunting.

Sportsmen have suffered a harsh blow as suburbs, shopping centers and highways have spilled over millions of acres of once prime hunting ground. But an even greater tragedy has been the posting of "No Hunting" signs on still productive game lands throughout the country.

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These signs go up only when hunters fail to recognize that they are guests, abuse the land upon which they hunt and, in doing so, wear out their welcome.

There are three separate approaches which you, as a hunter, can take to cope with this problem. One is preventive, the second is protective, and the third is corrective.

The preventive approach involves nothing more than doing your best not to harm the welcome you now have to hunt on someone else's property. On farmland especially, this means to ask permission every time you hunt.

Even the farmer who says, "You can hunt here any time," appreciates your dropping by beforehand to say hello and to let him know you will be on his land.

Remember, too, that the farmer who has given you permission to hunt usually does not mind if you bring a friend or two along But you may destroy your welcome if you arrive with a carload of companions.

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Once on a farmer's land, he sure to hunt only where he wants you to, keep safely away from his house, barns and livestock and respect his crops. Be careful never to stretch or break any fences you cross and latch farm gates securely after you have passed through them.

On municipal, state or federally owned land, the preventive approach means respecting the fields, forests and facilities that are there for all of the public — not just hunters — to enjoy. And on land owned by large corporations such as lumber and paper companies, open to multiple use through their cooperation and generosity, it means being doubly careful with fire and respecting the trees which are their crop.

The most difficult aspect of the preventive approach calls for the law-abiding hunter who respects private property to report those hunters who damage it to the landowner, to the game warden or local law

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enforcement official. No man enjoys such a task, but a lot of the future of hunting is up to the sportsman who hunts by the rules, working to bar from hunting the poacher and the selfish individual who abuses his "guest" privileges.

The protective approach means making sure that the landowner knows you appreciate his letting you hunt. It means sharing your game with him, sending him a Christmas card and now and then taking time from your hunting to help him out with his chores.

The last approach, the corrective one, can be the most difficult because it involves changing a landowner's mind. When you find a good hunting area that is posted, look up the owner, ask him for permission to hunt and promise him you will treat his property as you treat your own.

Such sincerity may well open the gate for both you and your fellow hunters.

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# Conservation Facts

Every man who likes to hunt and hopes to hunt in years ahead should be aware that his sport is in danger. It is threatened by large, organized numbers of the public who may be well-meaning but are sadly uninformed or misinformed about the hunter's relationship to conservation.

Concerned outdoorsmen who would like to insure a safe future for hunting can take positive action now. They can arm themselves with true conservation facts and pass them along to as many non-hunters and anti-hunters as possible.

Here they are:

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Contrary to posing any threat to wildlife, hunters have done — and are doing right now — more to aid and protect wildlife than any other group in the country. If it were not for hunters, many game species would probably have disappeared years ago.

Hunters were the first to demand an end to commercial market hunting. They were the first to work for regulated hunting seasons and bag limits to insure healthy and continuing game populations. In most instances, hunters today harvest only surplus game to prevent winter starvation and disease which result from overcrowded game habitat.

If more of the public realized that hunting is a vital part of successful, scientific game management, much anti-hunting sentiment would subside. However, if hunters themselves fail to carry that message, no one else will, and the future of hunting will suffer.

The public is largely ignorant of the fact that hunters have contributed — and are still contributing — more money for con-

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servation than any other group in the country.

In less than 50 years, they have provided a massive \$2.7 billion for conservation and for wildlife development. Every concerned hunter should know how this money has been raised and make sure he tells other people about it. Here's how:

### License Fees

As a hunter, you are contributing to conservation every time you buy a hunting license. Your license fees, along with those of other hunters, go to support state game departments which are responsible for the well-being of all wildlife. It is your hunting license money which is spent to improve wildlife habitat and game management, to finance conservation education and to enforce conservation laws.

In explaining this to people who oppose hunting, it should be emphasized that hundreds of types of birds and animals other

than game species benefit from hunters' license fees. In other words, hunters are paying the bills not just for themselves but for everyone.

Hunters' license fees are currently providing state game departments with over \$143 million a year for conservation, and going back as far as 1923 in some states, hunting license revenue has raised \$2 billion for conservation.

# **Excise Taxes**

Every time you buy ammunition or a new gun, you are contributing still more money for conservation. When the Pittman-Robertson Act of 1937 was passed with strong hunter support, it specified that an 11 per cent excise tax on sporting arms and on ammunition was to be spent for conservation. The money, which is prorated to the states, enables them to set aside and improve millions of acres for wildlife.

You and other hunters are now contributing

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nearly \$49 million a year for conservation through such taxes which, since 1937, have raised over \$624 million.

# Federal Duck Stamps

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Hunters contribute again to conservation through their purchase of federal duck stamps. The money you pay for a duck stamp is used to buy or lease wetlands for waterfowl and for waterfowl production. These programs benefit not only ducks and geese but also the many other types of birds and animals that dwell in our marshlands and coastal areas.

Hunters presently contribute almost \$11 million a year through their duck stamp purchases and duck stamp revenue has provided \$153 million in total for waterfowl conservation since 1934.

People who oppose hunting usually have no idea that the hunter's contributions to conservation benefit the entire public. The millions of acres developed and maintained

by hunters' money provide year-round recreational areas for everyone to use and enjoy. People who look forward to leisure time spent camping, hiking or simply sight-seeing rarely realize that hunters have footed the bill for much of the land they

Every hunter owes it to himself, his fellow hunters and to tomorrow's outdoorsmen to tell these facts to as many people as he can.



Federal duck stamp

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# **Hints For Hunters**



# **Basic Sighting In**

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To zero a hunting rifle, pick a safe backstop like a range, abandoned quarry or sandbank, shoot prone over a padded log or pile of boards. From 25 yards with hunting ammunition shoot and adjust sights until the points of aim and impact are the same. Always move your rear sight in the direction you want the impact or bullet holes to move. With a scope, follow the arrows. Now go back to 100 yards. Also from rest, firing shots in pairs, shoot and adjust until the shot group is 3 inches high for a medium high velocity rifle like a .30-06, 11/2 inches above aim for a low velocity type like a .30-30. You now have your rifle targeted for adequately sure hitting without holding over or under

throughout the range of sure bullet expansion.



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# Patterning a Shotgun

One of the best steps a shotgunner can take toward assuring hunting success is to pattern his gun with the various loads he intends to use in the field or blind. It's not hard, and it really pays off.

The pattern percentage of a shotgun is the number of pellets it puts in a 30-inch circle at 40 yards divided by the number of pellets in the charge. If 70%, it is designated full choke; if 60%, modified; if 50%, improved cylinder.

To determine the percentage your gun delivers, tack up a large sheet of paper at 40 yards. Fire at it and swing a circle of 15-inch radius around the greatest concentration of holes. Count the holes on or

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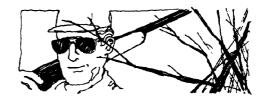
inside the circle. Then count the number of shot in the type of shell you used and divide it into the number of holes to obtain your percentage. Repeat the firing for at least five samples to obtain a reliable average percentage.



# **Hunter Orange**

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That's the name of the intense, fluorescent orange color seen on a lot of hunting clothes nowadays. There's a good reason for it. Hunter orange is more easily spotted than any other color in the field, particularly in the dim light before dawn and near sunset. States that have made hunter orange mandatory for wear in the field report sharp reductions in hunting accidents, so wise hunters are wearing hunter orange hats and vests even when not required to.

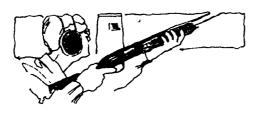


# **Shooting Glasses**

Smart gunners know that good, impactresistant shooting glasses are an absolute
safety requirement whether on the range
or in the field. They also know that on
sunny days green or gray lenses will keep
their eyes fresh and untired by glare,
helping them get on target faster, while
yellow glasses which brighten up the
landscape will sharpen their shooting in
dim or fading light. They know too that by
wearing shooting glasses they avoid the
risk of being painfully "twigged" in the
eye while hunting in brushy cover so they
never go afield without them.

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# **Hearing Protection**

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Hearing guards are not too practical for most hunting, but the man who likes to sharpen his skills on the target range should never be without them. Heavy, repeated exposure to the sound of shotguns, center fire rifles or handguns causes permanent hearing damage which may not be discovered until it's too late. Whether muff type, plug, valve or custom molded insert, every target shooter can find a kind of hearing guard he'll find comfortable and easy to wear.



America's Oldest Gunmaker... and Still Made in the U.S.A.

A Lifetime Investment in Shooting Pleasure...

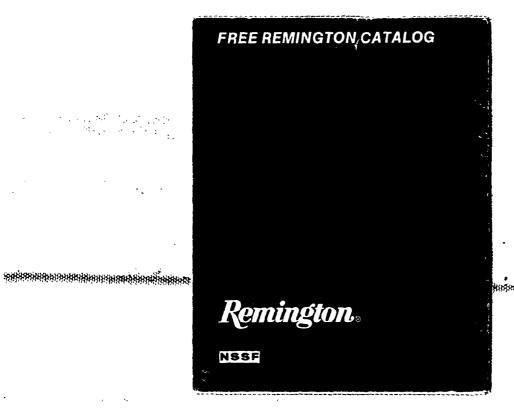
Remington shotguns and rifles are made for a lifetime of shooting pleasure. "Owning a Remington" means possessing a gun made by America's oldest firearms manufacturer, with value, performance and dependability backed by a tradition of craftsmanship that goes back to 1816.

You get excellent value when you buy a Remington . . . you receive continuing enjoyment through season after season of shooting . . . and you have the lasting satisfaction of knowing that, should it ever need service, you can obtain such service from the Arms Service Division, Remington Arms Company, Inc., Ilion, New York 13357, U.S.A.

Remington rifles and shotguns: Made and serviced right here in the U.S.A.

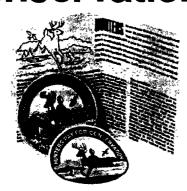
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# Hunters pay for Conservation



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PAY FOR
CONSERVATION<sup>18</sup>
is a public information program of the
National Shooting
Sports Foundation, Inc.

NSSI

# You know it. Show it.



Every time you buy a hunting license, duck stemp, new gas or box of amme, you're paying for conservation. You probably know this but do you know how much 3 long with other hunters, you're contributing a huge \$157 million a year for conservation. That's more than any other group in the country.

At a hunter you should be proud of this fact. But there's something more you should be doing. And that's tall-

You can do it by ordering special HUNTERS PAY

TOU CON GO IT ON ORDERING SPECIAL FOR EXECUTION CONSERVATION. I terms from the non-profit National Shooting Sports Foundation. For \$2.00 you'll receive a lut containing a notify embroidered, multicolored 4-inch emblem. A marchine surto decil and a fact IIII had brochure.

The future of hunting is up to you. A lot of people aligned with organizations dedicated to outlewing your sport would change their stands if they knew who was paying for conservation.

National Sheeting Sports Foundation, Inc.

1675 Post Road, Riverade, Connecticut () Gentlemen:

Street Address
City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_

# HUNTANGIANDESHOOTENE SESPORTSMANSHIP

THE TRUE SPORTSMAN:

- Treats his gun with respect and is always careful where he points the muzzle.
- Keeps the safety on until ready to fire and is positive of his target. To keep bullets from ricocheting, he never shoots at water or a hard, flat surface.
  - Loads his gun only when in the field or ready on the range. He never climbs or jumps over obstacles with a loaded gun.

Unloads his gun when not in use and leaves the action open. He stores guns and ammunition separately.



# A HERITAGE OF FREEDOM

The right of Americans to own and use firearms is a cherished part of our heritage and has kept us a free people. In much of the world it's a rare privilege to own firearms, even to protect one's family and home.

The true sportsman realizes his duty to handle firearms properly. He gladly teaches the younger generation the responsibilities of gun ownership. The finest example of freedom in action is that millions of Americans are free to keep firearms and more than 20 million citizens enjoy recreational hunting and shooting.

# SHOOTING'S FUN FOR EVERYONE



- 100 miles

From the turkey shoots of our earliest settlers to the Olympic games of today, shooting has been a favorite sport of Americans. It is healthful recreation easily learned at an early age and enjoyed year-round throughout a lifetime. Boys and girls learn responsibility through supervised shooting at schools, Police Athletic Leagues, Boy Scouts and other programs.

Some people, especially in large cities, are not familiar with sporting firearms. They do not understand that hunting and shooting for recreation has no connection with the misuse of guns by law-breakers. The unlawful element is a social problem all Americans must work together to solve.

The true sportsman cooperates with all wildlife and law enforcement agencies.

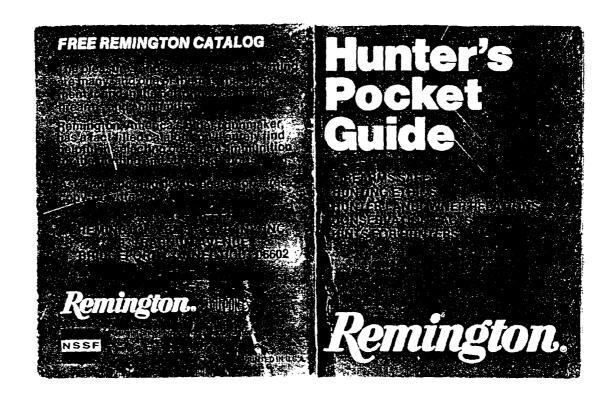
# A GUN OWNER'S CREED

- I accept the responsibilities that go with owning a gun and pledge myself to know and obey the laws governing the ownership and use of firearms;
- I recognize that my gun manners reflect on all gun owners and I pledge to handle my firearms safely and courteously;
- I respect the rights of others to enjoy the outdoors in their own way and I will be considerate of private and public property;
- I will work for the future of wildlife and other natural resources and for their wise use and enjoyment by all Americans;
- I will walk with pride in the path of those who created our great outdoor heritage, always working to improve the welfare of our people through an appreciation and enjoyment of nature.



# **WEAR A SAFE COLOR**

It has always been a primary safety rule for hunters to wear a color that contrasts with their surroundings. The best color to come along so far is daylight fluorescent HUNTER ORANGE, similar to the color used in this leaflet. Hunter Orange does not appear anywhere in nature and is recommended for hunting in any background.



Hunting is one of America's oldest and greatest traditions. How well we are able to preserve this tradition may well depend on you. We hope this booklet will help you to remember and practice the important principles of firearms safety and hunter conduct, and to keep everyone aware of the critical role that hunters play in conservation.

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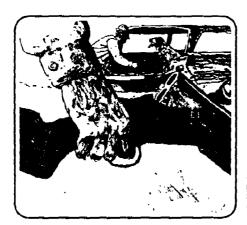
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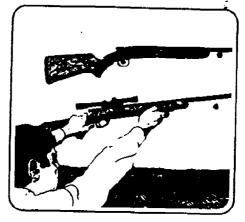




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# **Hunter-Landowner Relations**

Precious few hunters are lucky enough personally to own land that abounds with game. So, for the most part, when today's hunter enters the field, he becomes someone's guest, welcome or unwelcome. His host may be an individual farmer living just down the road or a giant timber company whose offices are a thousand miles away.

But no matter who the host is, the "welcome" aspect is important to hunters because it helps determine how much land will remain open for hunting.

Sportsmen have suffered a harsh blow as suburbs, shopping centers and highways have spilled over millions of acres of once prime hunting ground. But an even greater tragedy has been the posting of "No Hunting" signs on still productive game lands throughout the country.

These signs go up only when hunters fail to recognize that they are guests, abuse the land upon which they hunt and, in doing so, wear out their welcome.

There are three separate approaches which you, as a hunter, can take to cope with this problem. One is preventive, the second is protective, and the third is corrective.

The preventive approach involves nothing more than doing your best not to harm the welcome you now have to hunt on someone else's property. On farmland especially, this means to ask permission every time you hunt.

Even the farmer who says, "You can hunt here any time," appreciates your dropping by beforehand to say hello and to let him know you will be on his land.

Remember, too, that the farmer who has given you permission to hunt usually does not mind if you bring a friend or two along But you may destroy your welcome if you arrive with a carload of companions.

Once on a farmer's land, be sure to hunt only where he wants you to, keep safely away from his house, barns and livestock and respect his crops. Be careful never to stretch or break any fences you cross and latch farm gates securely after you have passed through them.

On municipal, state or federally owned land, the preventive approach means respecting the fields, forests and facilities that are there for all of the public — not just hunters — to enjoy. And on land owned by large corporations such as lumber and paper companies, open to multiple use through their cooperation and generosity, it means being doubly careful with fire and respecting the trees which are their crop.

The most difficult aspect of the preventive approach calls for the law-abiding hunter who respects private property to report those hunters who damage it to the landowner, to the game warden or local law

enforcement official. No man enjoys such a task, but a lot of the future of hunting is up to the sportsman who hunts by the rules, working to bar from hunting the poacher and the selfish individual who abuses his "guest" privileges.

The protective approach means making sure that the landowner knows you appreciate his letting you hunt. It means sharing your game with him, sending him a Christmas card and now and then taking time from your hunting to help him out with his chores.

The last approach, the corrective one, can be the most difficult because it involves changing a landowner's mind. When you find a good hunting area that is posted, look up the owner, ask him for permission to hunt and promise him you will treat his property as you treat your own.

Such sincerity may well open the gate for both you and your fellow hunters.



## **Conservation Facts**

Every man who likes to hunt and hopes to hunt in years ahead should be aware that his sport is in danger. It is threatened by large, organized numbers of the public who may be well-meaning but are sadly uninformed or misinformed about the hunter's relationship to conservation.

Concerned outdoorsmen who would like to insure a safe future for hunting can take positive action now. They can arm themselves with true conservation facts and pass them along to as many non-hunters and anti-hunters as possible.

### Here they are:

Contrary to posing any threat to wildlife, hunters have done — and are doing right now — more to aid and protect wildlife than any other group in the country. If it were not for hunters, many game species would probably have disappeared years ago.

Hunters were the first to demand an end to commercial market hunting. They were the first to work for regulated hunting seasons and bag limits to insure healthy and continuing game populations. In most instances, hunters today harvest only surplus game to prevent winter starvation and disease which result from overcrowded game habitat.

If more of the public realized that hunting is a vital part of successful, scientific game management, much anti-hunting sentiment would subside. However, if hunters themselves fail to carry that message, no one else will, and the future of hunting will suffer.

The public is largely ignorant of the fact that hunters have contributed — and are still contributing — more money for con-

servation than any other group in the country.

In less than 50 years, they have provided a massive \$2.7 billion for conservation and for wildlife development. Every concerned hunter should know how this money has been raised and make sure he tells other people about it. Here's how:

### License Fees

As a hunter, you are contributing to conservation every time you buy a hunting license. Your license fees, along with those of other hunters, go to support state game departments which are responsible for the well-being of all wildlife. It is your hunting license money which is spent to improve wildlife habitat and game management, to finance conservation education and to enforce conservation laws.

In explaining this to people who oppose hunting, it should be emphasized that hundreds of types of birds and animals other

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than game species benefit from hunters' license fees. In other words, hunters are paying the bills not just for themselves but for everyone.

Hunters' license fees are currently providing state game departments with over \$143 million a year for conservation, and going back as far as 1923 in some states, hunting license revenue has raised \$2 billion for conservation.

#### **Excise Taxes**

Every time you buy ammunition or a new gun, you are contributing still more money for conservation. When the Pittman-Robertson Act of 1937 was passed with strong hunter support, it specified that an 11 per cent excise tax on sporting arms and on ammunition was to be spent for conservation. The money, which is prorated to the states, enables them to set aside and improve millions of acres for wildlife.

You and other hunters are now contributing

nearly \$49 million a year for conservation through such taxes which, since 1937, have raised over \$624 million.

#### Federal Duck Stamps

Hunters contribute again to conservation through their purchase of federal duck stamps. The money you pay for a duck stamp is used to buy or lease wetlands for waterfowl and for waterfowl production. These programs benefit not only ducks and geese but also the many other types of birds and animals that dwell in our marshlands and coastal areas.

Hunters presently contribute almost \$11 million a year through their duck stamp purchases and duck stamp revenue has provided \$153 million in total for waterfowl conservation since 1934.

People who oppose hunting usually have no idea that the hunter's contributions to conservation benefit the entire public. The millions of acres developed and maintained

by hunters' money provide year-round recreational areas for everyone to use and enjoy. People who look forward to leisure time spent camping, hiking or simply sight-seeing rarely realize that hunters have footed the bill for much of the land they

Every hunter owes it to himself, his fellow hunters and to tomorrow's outdoorsmen to tell these facts to as many people as he can.



Federal duck stamp

# **Hints For Hunters**



## **Basic Sighting In**

To zero a hunting rifle, pick a safe backstop like a range, abandoned quarry or sandbank, shoot prone over a padded log or pile of boards. From 25 yards with hunting ammunition shoot and adjust sights until the points of aim and impact are the same. Always move your rear sight in the direction you want the impact or bullet holes to move. With a scope, follow the arrows. Now go back to 100 yards. Also from rest, firing shots in pairs, shoot and adjust until the shot group is 3 inches high for a medium high velocity rifle like a .30-06, 11/2 inches above aim for a low velocity type like a .30-30. You now have your rifle targeted for adequately sure hitting without holding over or under

throughout the range of sure bullet expansion.



# Patterning a Shotgun

One of the best steps a shotgunner can take toward assuring hunting success is to pattern his gun with the various loads he intends to use in the field or blind. It's not hard, and it really pays off.

The pattern percentage of a shotgun is the number of pellets it puts in a 30-inch circle at 40 yards divided by the number of pellets in the charge. If 70%, it is designated full choke; if 60%, modified; if 50%, improved cylinder.

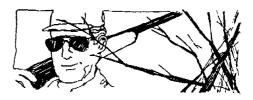
To determine the percentage your gun delivers, tack up a large sheet of paper at 40 yards. Fire at it and swing a circle of 15-inch radius around the greatest concentration of holes. Count the holes on or

inside the circle. Then count the number of shot in the type of shell you used and divide it into the number of holes to obtain your percentage. Repeat the firing for at least five samples to obtain a reliable average percentage.



## **Hunter Orange**

That's the name of the intense, fluorescent orange color seen on a lot of hunting clothes nowadays. There's a good reason for it. Hunter orange is more easily spotted than any other color in the field, particularly in the dim light before dawn and near sunset. States that have made hunter orange mandatory for wear in the field report sharp reductions in hunting accidents, so wise hunters are wearing hunter orange hats and vests even when not required to.



# **Shooting Glasses**

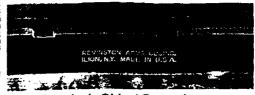
Smart gunners know that good, impactresistant shooting glasses are an absolute
safety requirement whether on the range
or in the field. They also know that on
sunny days green or gray lenses will keep
their eyes fresh and untired by glare,
helping them get on target faster, while
yellow glasses which brighten up the
landscape will sharpen their shooting in
dim or fading light. They know too that by
wearing shooting glasses they avoid the
risk of being painfully "twigged" in the
eye while hunting in brushy cover so they
never go afield without them.

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## **Hearing Protection**

Hearing guards are not too practical for most hunting, but the man who likes to sharpen his skills on the target range should never be without them. Heavy, repeated exposure to the sound of shotguns, center fire rifles or handguns causes permanent hearing damage which may not be discovered until it's too late. Whether muff type, plug, valve or custom molded insert, every target shooter can find a kind of hearing guard he'll find comfortable and easy to wear.



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