



## Responsibility, Safety Skills, Knowledge, and Involvement

Hunter education strives to instill responsibility, improve skills and knowledge, and encourage the involvement of beginner and veteran hunters. Responsible, ethical behavior and personal involvement are both essential to the survival of hunting.

**Responsibility-** A knowledgeable and skillful student of hunting will never be a true hunter unless he or she also behaves responsibly. Responsible behavior includes courtesy, respect of others and of wildlife, and involvement. Responsible hunters do not poach or act carelessly. Responsible hunters obey hunting laws, hunt fairly, practice safety rules, and wait for a clean kill before shooting. How you behave and how other people see you will determine hunting's future.

**Safety Skills-** Hunting-related safety skills are gained through hands-on training and practice. It is most valuable to learn these skills from an experienced hunter.

**Knowledge**—Knowledge is learning and understanding the basics of safe gun handling and hunting. Before being trained in the skill of firearm shooting, you should know how the firearm operates and how to handle it safely.

**Involvement**—Part of the process of becoming a true, responsible sportsman is becoming involved in efforts to keep hunting a respected sport. That includes teaching others, working with landowners, and cooperating with game wardens. It also includes joining conservation organizations, which will help preserve habitat and promote wildlife management.

### Open Hunting Seasons in Pennsylvania

**COYOTES:** No closed season. Unlimited. Outside of any big game season (deer, bear, elk and turkey), coyotes may be taken with a hunting license or a furtaker license, and without wearing orange. During any big game season, coyotes may be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker license.

**CROWS:** July 3-April 11, 2021, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only. No limit.

**OPOSSUM, STRIPED SKUNKS and WEASELS:** No closed season, except Sundays. No limits

**SNOW AND ROSS' GEESE:** see zones around the state

**SPRING GOBBLER (Bearded bird only):** May 1-May 31, 2021. Daily limit 1, season limit 2. (Second spring gobbler may be only taken by persons who possess a valid special wild turkey license.) From May 1-15, legal hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until noon; from May 17-31, legal hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset

**STARLINGS AND ENGLISH SPARROWS:** No closed season, except during the antlered and antlerless deer season. No limit

## Cleaning Reminder—Article from last month

Written by: [Priscilla Cash Guns & Ammo](#)

### ***Clean the Rifle Bore***

First, you'll clean the barrel. Colin Cash (marksman, military surplus rifle collector, and gun aficionado) shares, "The first and last inch of the barrel are the most important to avoid damaging. If damaged at all, accuracy will suffer." Keep that in mind as you approach your rifle. While there's nothing tricky about cleaning a rifle, they do need to be handled with some care.

If at all possible, you want to clean your rifle's bore in the direction that the bullet travels. Some rifles don't allow for straight access, but for those that do, this is the best option. If you have a lever action, a pump action or some semi-automatic rifles that don't allow for straight rear entry, you'll clean from the direction of the muzzle to the chamber. Or you can choose to use a bore snake. Whichever option you choose, soak a patch or a portion of your bore snake with cleaning solvent and run it down through the bore. If you encounter substantial resistance with your rod and patch, remove the rod and trim the patch before running it again. Allow the rifle to rest for five to 10 minutes to give the solvent time to dissolve the fouling.

Next run a bore brush through the bore to loosen any grime. If you can, once the brush pops out the other end, unscrew it and pull the cleaning rod back out. Be gentle during this step. The solvent should have done most of the work for you. Don't "scrub" away at the bore as this can damage the lands and grooves of the bore. Run the brush through and then move onto the next step.

Push another patch wet with solvent through the bore and let your rifle rest for a few more minutes. One to three minutes is plenty. Next grab a dry patch and run it through the barrel. This one should pick up plenty of carbon residue (depending on how dirty the rifle is and how long it's been since it was last cleaned). Continue to run dry patches through until they come out completely clean and dry. If you continue to see dirty patches, you can repeat the above process again with more solvent.

### ***Clean the Chamber and Action***

While there is not much work to be done on the chamber and action, wiping these areas down with a clean rag is a good idea. You can also use a cotton swab to gently pick up any dust and grime in difficult-to-reach places. Be careful that the cotton swab doesn't leave any cotton wisps behind though as this can cause malfunctions and attract dirt. There are chamber brushes and mops that you can purchase to clean out your chamber, as well. While not absolutely necessary, they do come in handy. Dental picks can be especially useful as well for more fine-tuned cleaning. Add these to your gun-cleaning kit as you're able.

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## Musings from Our President

As we get ready for the 2021 season here at ISA, we need to keep a close watch on all the new legislation concerning our Second Amendment rights and how all the new laws that I hope do not get passed will have an impact on how we are able to conduct ourselves. We will move forward.

This Friday will be the last of the indoor 22 pistol pin shoots until the fall. The NRA silhouette shoot will be the first Saturday of each month starting in April. The ladies instructional pistol shoots and the pin shoots will be held again this year.

All those that are holding such shoots need to contact Ron Coiner so that the correct information concerning the shoots as well as the correct contact person is placed on the website and in the newsletters. This will hopefully eliminate the frustration one may incur when asking questions about the particular shoots only to be referred to another person that is not in charge of said shoots and may not be able to answer those questions.

Also remember that these shoots are held by members that are giving their time and many times their equipment to have the shoots. If you can help at any of the shoots please contact the person in charge and let them know that you are available. This gives you an opportunity to meet some great members, help out your fellow members and gives more opportunities to get in some work party credits.

Joyce

There is no need for anyone to work alone. Please call one of the following so that they can assist and provide additional safety.  
Smokey Burdin 724-396-9627 M-F 9-5  
Kevin Kennelty 724-640-0726  
Rich Boehm 724-953-4778

Did you change your phone number, email account, or address? Please tell us so that we can communicate

"The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun." And, for those that carry or have a defense weapon available, practice at the club makes for that perfect shot when required.

[www.HuntFish.pa.gov](http://www.HuntFish.pa.gov) Look it up, its interesting!

*(continued from page 2)*

**Clean the Stock and Barrel**

When you are finished cleaning your rifle and readying it for storage, take a clean rag and wipe down the rifle barrel with a very light coat of gun oil. This helps remove any water or fingerprint residue that may have gotten on your rifle during the cleaning process. Remington Gun Oil works well, but any kind of gun oil should do the trick. Stocks don't generally need cleaning if they have a waterproof finish (all synthetics, and sealed wooden stocks). You can wipe them down with a clean rag and brush off any dirt that may have accumulated. Before you store your rifle, wipe off any excess gun oil from the barrel. Close the action and safely drop the firing pin to release any tension in the rifle before storage.

**Store in a Dry and Safe Place**

Perhaps even more important than proper gun cleaning is the safe and dry storage of your rifle. Rust can be an ever-present enemy to rifles, and proper storage is essential to keeping it at bay. Choose a gun safe that fits your rifle collection. It is also a good idea to place some sort of dehydrator within your safe and check it periodically.

You can make your own dehydrator by collecting silica gel packets (like the ones you find in shoes). Cut them open and dump the beads into a tin or aluminum can. To reactivate the beads, simply put them in a 250 degree Fahrenheit oven for three hours. After that, place the open can in your gun safe. Depending on your environment and the size of your safe, you can hope to get anywhere from two weeks to a month or more of protection before needing to remove the moisture from the beads again in the oven.

Keeping a rifle in tip-top working condition is not difficult. A thorough cleaning every once in a while should be more than enough to deal with moisture-attracting carbon buildup and keep rust at bay. Using the proper tools and supplies will ensure that you don't damage your rifle and should make cleaning a quick and simple process. Storing your rifle in a dry and locked area ensures that your rifle will be ready for use for years to come.

(end)



While hunting laws preserve wildlife, ethics preserves the hunter's opportunity to hunt. Because ethics generally govern behavior that affects public opinion of hunters, ethical behavior ensures that hunters are welcome and hunting areas stay open.

Ethics generally cover behavior that has to do with issues of fairness, respect, and responsibility not covered by laws. For instance, it's not illegal to be rude to a landowner when hunting on his or her property or to be careless and fail to close a pasture gate after opening it, but most hunters agree that discourteous and irresponsible behavior is unethical.

Then there are ethical issues that are just between the hunter and nature. For example, an animal appears beyond a hunter's effective range for a clean kill. Should the hunter take the shot anyway and hope to get lucky? Ethical hunters would say no.

**The Hunter's Ethical Code**

As Aldo Leopold, the "father of wildlife management," once said, "Ethical behavior is doing the right thing when no one else is watching—even when doing the wrong thing is legal."

The ethical code hunters use today has been developed by sportsmen over time. Most hunting organizations agree that responsible hunters do the following:

- Respect natural resources
- Respect other hunters
- Respect landowners

**Welcome New Members**

Enjoy your membership...participate as possible

**ISA Info**

- All Times, No Dumping on Property
- Gate open whenever anyone is on property to allow emergency vehicles access as needed
- Gate closed and clubhouse door locked if you are the last one to leave
- Go to our webpage for a calendar and more information on events.

**POPULATE OUR EXCELLENT SPONSORS**

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724-527-2802

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Revolution Arms, Charles Laughery,  
724-527-2045

Roberts Roofing Experts,  
412-353-7663

Scott Electric, Chuck Konkus,  
412-389-9181

Westmoreland Equipment, Rental Sales &  
Service, Ernie Graham 724-744-3130

Varine-Slavin Insurance, Eric Slavin, Agent,  
724-527-2802

All Vehicle Service, Shawn Mason,  
724-863-6424

Bell-View, Lee-Thompson-Fawcett Co, Robert  
Fawcett, 724-523-5406

Vasko Tree Service, Robert Vasko,  
724-515-7823

A Better Choice Inc., Richard Pack  
724-516-5000

ChooseAVintageLife, Bill & Rose Omalacy,  
724-880-5832

**FOR SALE**

I have four Ruger 22 target pistols @ \$225 each. All are standard model, blue finish, excellent condition, and come with one magazine.

MK 1 6 7/8 inch barrel

MK 1 6 inch barrel

MK 1 4 3/4 inch barrel

MK 11 4 3/4 inch barrel

Contact Rege Byerly

rsbyerly@comcast.net 724-733-4715

You could use one of these  
for the Pistol Pin Shoot—2nd  
and last Friday of the month

**\*\*\*\*\* 2021 ISA OFFICERS \*\*\*\*\***

PRESIDENT	JOYCE LICHTENFELS	724-863-6940
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