

What NRA Does For Hunters

NRA Bylaws, Article II, Section 5: To promote hunter safety, and to promote and defend hunting as a shooting sport and as a viable and necessary method of fostering the propagation, growth and conservation, and wise use of our renewable wildlife resources.

*Wayne LaPierre
NRA Executive
Vice President*



*Sandra S.
Froman
NRA President*



“FROM HUNTING, I UNDERSTAND THE CYCLE OF NATURE, WHERE ALL OTHER HUMANS AND I FIT INTO THE GREAT CYCLE OF LIFE. IT IS A TEST OF MYSELF, OF MY SKILLS AND ENDURANCE.”

“MILLIONS OF HUNTERS ARE A VITAL PART OF THE NRA FAMILY.”

Introduction

NRA is the largest pro-hunting organization in the world. Through programs, legislation, grant funding and publications, NRA efforts have strengthened the rich tradition of hunting for generations.

The summaries below provide a brief, historical overview of some of the services NRA has provided hunters over many years. Not all of the programs mentioned are still active, as priorities and resources have shifted over the years. But NRA's commitment to defend hunting has not, and shall not, ever diminish.

NRA STANDS UP FOR HUNTERS IN CONGRESS AND THE LEGISLATURE

As the political arm of NRA, the Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA) has a long history of protecting hunting by sponsoring legislation and referenda promoting hunting opportunities and stopping anti-hunting laws and regulations.

- Passed Right-To-Hunt Constitutional amendments and laws
- Passed dove hunting legislation and referenda
- Passed bear hunting
- Passed Sunday hunting
- Passed Hunters Bill(s) of Rights
- Passed No-Net-Loss of public hunting lands
- Passed laws allowing handgun deer hunting
- Passed laws protecting hunting guns

“IN MANY STATES, THE FINAL AND MOST INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLE TO RECRUITING A NEW HUNTER IS NOT OUR CULTURE OR SOCIETY—IT IS THE BUREAUCRACY AND RED TAPE THAT

DISCOURAGES MANY FOLKS FROM ENJOYING OUR HUNTING HERITAGE.”

*Chris Cox
Executive Director,
NRA-ILA*



- Protected ammunition by stopping many bans of hunting ammunition
- Passed laws allowing a person to travel on a hunting trip, with a gun, even through states with bans
- Saved hunting-related shooting ranges
- Created centerfire rifle seasons where previously banned
- Allowed possession of game meat for more than 30 days
- Simplified licensing and tagging rules
- Blocked .50 caliber ban; protected deer slug guns and blackpowder guns
- Stopped mandatory licensing of duck hunters as boat operators
- Passed lawsuit abuse reform in 34 states and federally that saved responsible hunting-gun manufacturers like Remington, Beretta, Ruger, and Browning from being driven out of business by carefully designed, predatory gun ban lawsuits
- Stopped Kerry bill to ban Remington 1187 and other hunting shotguns
- Stopped bans of semi-auto hunting rifles made by Remington and Browning
- Stopped Kerry-Kennedy bill to ban hunting ammunition such as .30-30 rifle cartridges
- Stopped waterfowl regulations that would subject hunters to arrest for possessing more than 25 shotgun shells
- Embarked on a program to protect and build many new informal ranges on public lands, where hunters can sight-in prior to hunting season, practice marksmanship and train new hunters
- Sponsored laws prohibiting “hunter harassment” in all 50 states

“HUNTERS’ RIGHTS WILL EITHER BE DEFENDED OR THEY WILL BE LOST.”

*Kayne Robinson
Executive Director,
NRA General
Operations*



NRA BATTLES THE U.N.

NRA has led the fight to stop the U.N. from banning our guns. U.N. meetings in New York in July 2001 and July 2006 were held to sell a U.N. treaty on banning guns—typical guns owned and used by law-abiding Americans, including all hunting guns and ammunition. The U.N. calls individually owned rifles, pistols and shotguns, “small arms.” Their definition of “small arms” is “weapons designed for individual use, any man-portable lethal weapon that expels or launches a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of an explosive. They include revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines. (Source: U.N. Small Arms Review Conference 2006 Fact Sheet)

As a practical matter, the U.N. is proposing bans and severe restrictions on:

- Production, export, import, transit or transfer of rifles, pistols and shotguns.
- Severe restrictions on “brokering,” which means dealers and retailers
- Comprehensive registration of guns and owners
- Marking and tracing of individual cartridges
- End-user certificates-- before a gun could be made, the buyer would be identified
- All surplus guns destroyed

The leading U.N. gun ban affiliate, International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) which sets the U.N. gun ban agenda, is working toward a ban on any gun that can shoot more than 100 meters, and within that restriction al-

“NRA BYLAWS STATE THAT AMONG THE PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF



THE ASSOCIATION ARE...“TO PROMOTE HUNTER SAFETY AND TO PROMOTE AND DEFEND HUNTING...”

*Edward J. Land
NRA Secretary*

lowing only single shot guns. They also are promoting bans of air guns and non-firing replicas.

This gang is closely tied to the animal-rights anti -hunting network. The combination of severe restrictions on guns, ammunition and repair parts, along with other anti-hunting measures will end hunting. So far, NRA has effectively battled the well-funded anti-hunting movement to a standstill.

NRA HUNTING ALLIES

Many NRA staff members hold seats on the boards or committees of other pro-hunting organizations. A few examples include:

- Wayne LaPierre, NRA CEO (National Fish and Wildlife Foundation)
- Randy Kozuch, Director, State and Local Affairs, NRA-ILA (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Commission)
- Susan Recce, Director of Conservation, Wildlife and Natural Resources, NRA-ILA (Sporting Conservation Council, U.S. Department of the Interior; American Wildlife Conservation Partners)
- Bill Poole, Director, Education and Training Division (International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies)

NRA HUNT CLUB

The NRA Hunt Club seeks to consolidate and strengthen American hunters’ political power through a unified, nationwide advocacy group that stands for the rights of American hunters.

“I WOULD NOT TRADE THE TIME I HAVE SPENT IN THE FIELD HUNTING WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY FOR ANYTHING. THESE ARE AMONG MY MOST TREASURED MEMORIES.”



*Wilson Phillips
NRA Treasurer*

Hunting Programs

NRA offers programs that benefit every hunter - from the youngest, wide-eyed child who sees his first buck to the veteran big game hunter.

Hunter Education — NRA has held a leadership role in hunter education since 1949. Hunter education instructors play a key cooperative role in many NRA programs.

Youth Hunter Education Challenge — Launched in 1985 as an advanced hunter education program, YHEC builds on the skills taught in basic hunter education and helps retain youngsters' interest in the sport. Since 1985, 1.2 million youths have participated in YHEC. Documented declines in hunting accidents bear out the value of hunter education.

NRA Hunter Clinics — Using NRA-supplied educational materials, instructors certified by NRA teach hunting clinics for whitetail deer, wild turkey and western big game. The clinics are supported by the NRA Hunters' Skills Series of books, which include all the species above, plus upland birds, waterfowl, muzzleloading and even a text on bowhunting.

Women On Target® — Women On Target is the foremost women-only hunting program in the nation. Since 1998, NRA has worked with carefully selected outfitters to offer hunts for deer, antelope, black bears, javelina, turkeys, ducks, geese and rail; coyotes, bobcats and other species.

Hunters for the Hungry — NRA serves as a clearinghouse for the Hunters for the Hungry program. Hunters can share their game with those less fortunate by browsing an online list of more than 120 game-sharing programs and networks throughout the country.

Great American Hunters' Tour—This program combines replica displays of more than 40 of the finest whitetails ever taken in North America with seminars hosted by some of the country's foremost hunting experts. Just a few of the speakers who have been part of this program include: Jim Zumbo, Mark Drury, Ray Eye, and Dwight Schuh. More than 1.6 million hunters

annually attend. The deer mounts, dubbed the Great American Whitetail Collection, may travel separately from the seminars on occasion. (Other notable outdoor writers have agreements with NRA for other services, including Craig Boddington and Ross Seyfried.)

Great American Game Calling Challenge — Unlike most calling contests, this one required that participants imitate the sounds of at least four out of seven game species. The victors could truly be called "World Champions."

Shooting Sports Camps — Primarily devoted to youth firearms education, NRA's diverse slate of Shooting Sports Camps includes offerings specifically devoted to hunting. In 2006 alone, 135 Shooting Sports Camps attracted 14,000 participants.

Ranges — NRA's Range Technical Team and Range Development Conferences provide technical, regulatory and business advice to help keep shooting ranges open to hunters.

NRA Disability Advisory Services — Service whereby a person can call and receive expert advice with a disability related to hunting or shooting sports challenges. The service currently receives over 5,000 requests annually for such guidance and 75% of those calls come from hunters.

Sighting-In Days — NRA encourages its 11,000 affiliated clubs to open their facilities to non-members in order to sight-in their firearms prior to hunting season.



Nearly 3.5 million youngsters take part in hunting and shooting programs conducted by or supported by NRA.

Cooperative Programs — NRA’s youth programs began in 1903, with a resolution to encourage rifle practice in American schools. Today, NRA continues its own youth programs and provides financial support, training, educational materials, program development, record-keeping and publicity to other major youth groups with shooting education programs. Among the groups NRA works with the closest are: Boy Scouts and Venturers, 4-H, the American Legion, DeMolay, National FFA, JROTC, VFW, the U.S. Jaycees and the National High School Rodeo Association. Nationwide, nearly 3.5 million youngsters benefit from these hunting and shooting programs.

Environment, Conservation and Hunting Outreach — ECHO distributed 163 grants totaling more than \$372,000 in support of a wide variety of projects such as habitat improvement, disabled hunter access, etc.

Competitive Shooting — NRA competitive shooting events directly related to hunting include silhouette matches that require typical sporting rifles, pistols and air guns. These matches may be local club events on up to national championships. A youth event called Light Rifle requires sporting rifles as well.

Awards Programs — Over the years, NRA has conducted a variety of programs to recognize successful hunters as well as wildlife agencies with effective hunter education programs and hunting range development initiatives. Other activities such as the Youth Hunter Marksmanship Program and the Marksmanship Qualification Program reward participants as their shooting skills advance through progressively higher levels.

Hunting Publications, Videos and TV

- *American Hunter*
- *Free Hunters*, and its website, www.freehunters.org
- *Woman’s Outlook*
- Annual (“One-Shot”) *Big Game Guides and Outfitters Guidebooks*

- *The Hunters’ Guide* covers a broad range of basic hunting topics and is widely used by hunter education instructors in 4-H and in state game and fish agencies.
- *NRA Members Wild Game Cookbook*
- *The Hunter’s Planning Guide and Directory* listed places to hunt and guides and outfitters by state.
- *Hunter Educational Brochure Series*
- *The NRA Firearms Sourcebook*
- “Hunting With the Women of the NRA” is one of several videos NRA produced to educate hunters.
- “*American Hunter*” TV Show
- “*Under Wild Skies*” TV Show

The NRA Whittington Center — The 52-square-mile Whittington Center near Raton, N.M. offers superb hunting opportunities and is one of the finest, most complete shooting facilities in the country.

The NRA Foundation Grant Funding

The NRA Foundation is the country’s leading charitable organization in support of the shooting sports, awarding more than \$91 million since inception in 1990. The foundation supports programs that ensure the continuation of our hunting and shooting heritage. State game and fish departments and many conservation groups have benefited from NRA Foundation grants.

Examples of NRA Foundation Allocations

• NRA Shooting Sports Camps	\$327,778
• NRA Disabled Shooting Services	\$596,121
• Whittington Adventure Camp	\$137,190
• FFA	\$390,945
• Habitat Restorations	\$86,637
• Range Development/Improvement	\$7,599,681
• 4-H	\$6,019,412
• BSA Program	\$3,186,955
• Youth Conservation	
• Clubs Programs/Camps	\$559,251
• NRA Hunters for the Hungry	\$172,325
• NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC)	\$892,030



NRA DOES NOT OVERLOOK THE IMPORTANCE OF REACHING SMALL CHILDREN LOOKING FORWARD TO HUNTING. FROM DAVID'S FIRST HUNT, A HUNTING COLORING BOOK, TO A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED YOUTH WILDLIFE ART CONTEST, NRA RESPONDS TO EVEN THE YOUNGEST CHILD'S DESIRE TO LEARN THE SPORT.



NRA

NRA Hunting Contacts

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*For more information on any NRA program, call 703-267-1595.
Political or legislative questions should be directed to 703-267-3820.*