

Safety Education Is For Everyone

The four Mandatory Safety Education Programs, boater, hunter, trapper, and snowmobiler are primarily designed to train young people between the ages of 12 and 18; however, we encourage persons of all ages to participate in the programs.

All Mandatory Safety Education classes require minimum hours of instruction by law. The primary objectives of the Safety Education Programs are to teach **USER RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT, AND SAFETY.**

Who Teaches Safety Education Courses?

Department of Natural Resources certified volunteer instructors spend hours teaching safety education classes throughout the state. The volunteer instructor staff is made up of men and women who donate thousands of hours of their personal time offering safety courses to many communities. These dedicated individuals form the backbone of the Safety Education Programs.

What Should You Bring To A Safety Education Class?

Unless specifically directed by the instructor or announced publically, the only items you will need to bring are a pencil and a note pad. Manuals and handouts are provided by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

General Information

- Persons of all ages are encouraged to participate in Safety Education Classes.
- Classes are open to the public and federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color national origin, or disability.
- It is the policy of IDNR that youth under the age of 10 must be accompanied to and during the safety education courses by an adult or guardian at least 16 years of age.

Mere attendance of this safety education training and taking a written test will not guarantee the passing of this course. Multiple criteria such as mental and physical acuity, the ability to demonstrate and recognize safe procedures, attitude, and the maturity level of each individual student will be a factor assessed by the instructors in the final certification process.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Illinois Department of Natural Resources



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Target Illinois Poachers

REPORT VIOLATIONS

1-877-236-7529

www.dnr.illinois.gov

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

For information on Safety Education classes in your area, contact the Safety Education Section Springfield Office, the nearest Natural Resource Region Office or visit our webpage at www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Safety Education Section
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271

1-800-832-2599

www.dnr.illinois.gov



The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is looking for a few good instructors.

Are you interested in helping to preserve your recreational pursuit?

If so... become a Certified Volunteer Safety Education Instructor.

Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175.

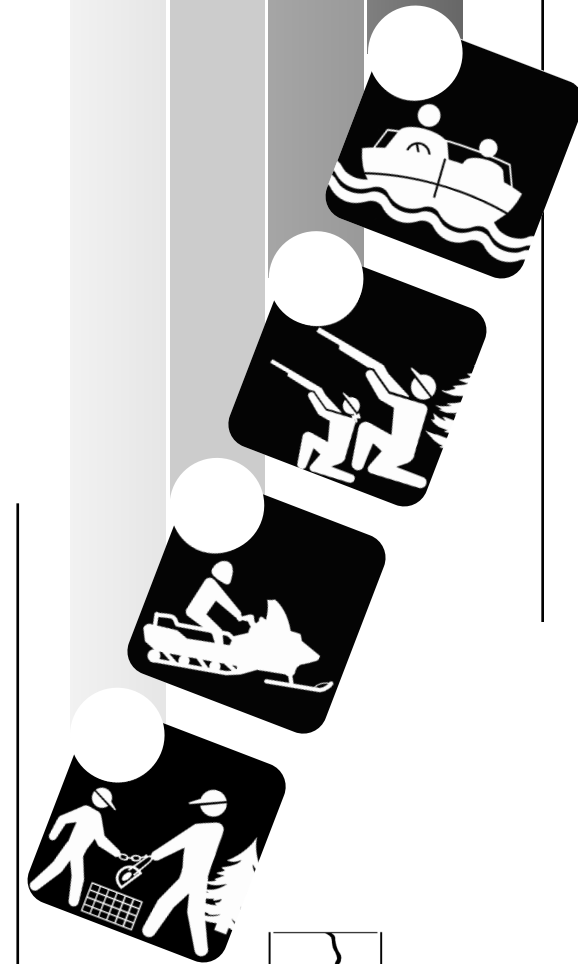
Printed by Authority of the State of Illinois

IOCI 19-0437 • WEB • 01/19 • DNR-SafeEd-19-0096



State of Illinois
Illinois Department of
Natural Resources

Illinois Mandatory Safety Education Programs



Illinois
Department of
Natural
Resources

Boater



What Is It?

The Illinois Boater Education Course consists of a minimum of 8 hours of instruction. These

courses cover the basics of boating, safety, equipment and requirements, navigation, motorboat registration and titling, emergency measures, and the state boating regulations.

Persons 12 and over completing the minimum 8 hours of instruction and successfully completing the final examination will receive a State of Illinois Certificate of Competency.

Students between the age of 11-12 years old will receive their certificate upon their 12th birthday.

Who Must Take The Course?

Persons born on or after January 1, 1998, may operate a vessel powered by a motor of more than 10 horsepower (hp) *only* if they have a valid Boating Safety Certificate accepted by the Department of Natural Resources.

Persons under the age of 10 may *not* operate any motorized vessel, including personal watercraft (PWC).

Persons at least 10 years old but less than 12 years old may operate a motorized vessel with more than 10 hp, including a PWC, *only* if they are accompanied by and under the direct control of a parent, a guardian, or a person at least 18 years old designated by the parent or guardian.

Persons at least 12 years old but less than 18 years old may operate a motorized vessel with more than 10 horsepower, including a PWC, *only if*:

- They complete a boating safety course and possess a Boating Safety Certificate accepted by the Department of Natural Resources *or...*
- They are accompanied by and under the direct control of a parent, a guardian, or a person at least 18 years old designated by the parent or guardian.

Parents, guardians, or designees born on or after January 1, 1998, must have a valid boating safety certificate to supervise a person 10 to 17 years old who is operating a motorized vessel with more than 10 hp.

Where Are Courses Available?

Many civic organizations, park districts, schools, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadrons, along with other interest groups sponsor classes throughout the state. Online courses are now available at boat-ed.com and at boaterexam.com.

Hunter



What Is It?

The Illinois Hunter Education Program consists of a minimum of 10 hours of instruction. These

courses cover the basics of hunter responsibility, tree stand safety, wildlife conservation, firearms and ammunition, field safety, wildlife management, bowhunting, muzzleloading, and state regulations.

Persons completing the minimum 10 hours of instruction and successfully completing the final examination will receive a State of Illinois Certificate of Competency.

Who Must Take The Course?

On January 1, 1996, Illinois law was passed that requires anyone born on or after **January 1, 1980** may not be issued a hunting license unless they present a valid Hunter Education Certificate of Competency issued by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Safety Education Division or another state.

Where Are Courses Available?

Courses are sponsored by various conservation clubs, public service and outdoor organizations, park districts, schools, and other interest groups throughout the state.

Online Self-Study/Field Day Course—Students 17 years old and younger may study and complete each section of the course online, taking exams as they proceed. This option is provided by outside companies. The student must also attend a Field Day which includes hands-on participation and a final exam.

Online Certification—If you are 18 years old or older you may complete the online course and receive your Hunter Education certification. This option is provided by outside companies.

The Illinois authorized providers are, huntercourse.com and hunter-ed.com.

Why Take This Course?

Many states are now requiring adult hunters to furnish evidence of having completed a Hunter Education Course prior to issuance of non-resident license. The shooting sports, both hunting and target, are lifetime recreational activities enjoyed by millions of Americans. The Illinois Hunter Safety Education Program was designed to improve safety and to develop an attitude of respect for wildlife and the environment.

Snowmobiler



What Is It?

The Illinois Snowmobiler Education Course consists of a minimum of 8 hours of instruction.

These courses cover the basics in maintenance and repair of snowmobiles, proper and safe operation, history of snowmobiling, first aid, protection of the environment, and the state regulations.

Persons 12 and over completing the minimum 8 hours of instruction and successfully completing the final examination will receive a State of Illinois Certificate of Competency.

Students between the age of 11-12 years old will receive their certificate upon their 12th birthday.

Who Must Take The Course?

On October 2, 1975, Illinois law was passed that requires persons at least 12 years of age and less than 16 years of age may operate a snowmobile *only if*:

- They have in their possession a valid Snowmobile Safety Education Certificate of Competency sanctioned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Safety Education Section.
- Or they're accompanied on the snowmobile by a parent or guardian or person at least 16 years of age designated by a parent or guardian.

Persons under the age 10 may *not* operate a snowmobile.

Persons at least 10 years old but less than 12 years old may operate a snowmobile *only* under a parent or guardian's direct control.

Where Are Courses Available?

Courses are sponsored by various snowmobile clubs, public service organizations, park districts, schools, and other interest groups throughout the state. Online courses are now available at snowmobilecourse.com and snowmobile-ed.com.

Why Take This Course?

Illinois winters are very unpredictable and when we receive enough snow for snowmobiling, everyone is anxious to ride. Courses should be taken before the snow arrives. Besides teaching basic safety principles, the course attempts to develop the proper attitude of respect for the student's fellow person and for the environment. The development of this respect and correct safety procedures are essential if snowmobiling is to continue to grow and give hours of enjoyment as a leisure time recreational activity in Illinois.

Trapper



What Is It?

The Illinois Trapper Education Course consists of a minimum of 8 hours of instruction. These

courses cover the basics in equipment and trapping techniques, trap and pelt preparation, wildlife and furbearer management, reporting requirements, trapper ethics, game identification, and state regulations.

Persons completing the minimum 8 hours of instructions and successfully completing the final examination will receive a State of Illinois Certificate of Competency.

Who Must Take The Course?

Effective January 1, 2017, trappers born on or after **January 1, 1998** are required to complete a trapper education course before purchasing a license.

Where Are Courses Available?

Courses are sponsored by various conservation clubs, park districts, public service organizations and other interest groups throughout the state. An online course is now available at www.trapped.com.

Why Take This Course?

This course is designed to teach new or inexperienced trappers the most ethical and humane procedures for trapping Illinois furbearers. Conservationists, wildlife managers, and others who believe in protecting and enhancing wildlife, recognize trapping as one of the most suitable means of harvesting furbearers and controlling predators when it is conducted by responsible trappers. The course will provide a solid beginning to your trapping education – an education that will continue every day you are on your trapline.