



Illinois
Department of
**Natural
Resources**

JB Pritzker, Governor • Natalie Phelps Finnie, Director
One Natural Resources Way • Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

TO: Hunters Wingshooting Clinic Registrant
SUBJECT: Des Plaines State Fish & Wildlife Area – Hunters Wingshooting Clinic

The Illinois Conservation Association, in conjunction with the Illinois DNR, is hosting a Hunters Wingshooting Clinic at the **Des Plaines State Fish & Wildlife Area** on **Saturday, September 20, 2025**, or **Sunday, September 21, 2025** (Sunday AM only). To register, please read and follow the instructions on the attached Instructions for Participants sheet and complete the attached Skill Level Assessment Form. There is also a permission form attached that must be signed by a parent or guardian for any participant under 18 years of age.

The participation fee for each session is \$30 per person. The fee is non-refundable. All fees are donated to the Illinois Conservation Foundation to further support shooting sports and other Illinois DNR programs. To secure your reservation, send a check payable to the **Illinois Conservation Foundation** along with your completed Skill Level Assessment Form and permission form, if necessary. Your reservation will be confirmed upon receipt of your check and Skill Level Assessment Form.

Please mail your form(s) and check to:

Des Plaines State Fish & Wildlife Area (**please make check payable to “Illinois Conservation Foundation”**)
Attn: Jeff Wepprecht/Wingshooting
28163 N River Rd
Wilmington, IL 60481

Please be on time for your session. The morning sessions start promptly at 8:00 a.m. and the afternoon sessions start promptly at 1:00 p.m. You will need to be there to check-in at 7:30 a.m. for the morning session and 12:30 p.m. for the afternoon session.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact us by phone at 815/423-5326.

Sincerely,

Jeff Wepprecht

Jeff Wepprecht
Site Superintendent
Des Plaines State Fish & Wildlife Area
815/423-5326
jeff.wepprecht@illinois.gov

Attachments

**Des Plaines State Fish and Wildlife Area
HUNTERS WINGSHOOTING CLINIC**

**Participant Skill Level Assessment
One Form Per Session, One Form Per Person**

Saturday, Sept 20th

☐ A.M. ☐ P.M.

Sunday, Sept 21st

☐ A.M. (No PM)

Please print the following information legibly.

Name: _____

Age group:

☐ 18-30 ☐ 31-50

☐ 51-70 ☐ Over 71

Age if under 18: _____
(Parent or Guardian must accompany.)

Street
Address _____

City _____

State & Zip _____

Phone #: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

1 Do you hunt with a shotgun?

☐ Yes ☐ No

2 Do you participate in any of the following clay target sports? Check all that apply.

☐ Trap ☐ 5-Stand
☐ Skeet ☐ Sporting Clays

☐ Informal Hand Trap Clays

☐ Other _____

4 How often do you practice shooting clay targets? Check only one box.

☐ One to Three Times a Month
☐ A Few Times a Year
☐ Only Just Before Hunting Season
☐ Do Not Practice

5 Rate your approximate success rate hitting a moving object with a shotgun (wingshooting).

☐ Hit 25% or less.
☐ Hit 25-50%
☐ Hit 50-75%.
☐ Hit 75% or more.

6 Have you worked with a shotgun instructor before?

☐ Yes ☐ No

How did you find out about this clinic?

☐ IDNR Web Site ☐ Social Media
☐ I Attended Before ☐ Friend Told Me

Other _____

Other participants you would like in your group if possible. (We try to limit groups to four. We may split groups at check-in.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

We cannot guarantee which instructor you will have but you may request a specific one here:

Des Plaines SF&WA

Hunters Wingshooting Clinic

I am the parent/guardian of: _____, and I give permission for my shooting student to participate in the wingshooting clinic at the Des Plaines State Fish & Wildlife Area on:
(Circle One) ☐ Saturday, September 20, 2025 ☐ Sunday, September 21, 2025

I understand part of the clinic will include shooting shotguns at clay targets, and I hereby specifically give permission for my shooting student to participate in this activity.

Safety is very important to all of us. In the space provided below on this Parental Permission Form, please list (print) any chronic medical conditions your son or daughter currently has including allergies, behavioral disorders, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders, seizure disorders, diabetes, or others. If your son or daughter has no chronic medical conditions, please list N/A. This information will be kept confidential by the instructor staff.

Having a medical condition, such as those listed above, does not necessarily disqualify an individual from participating provided that the medical condition is well controlled.

Medical Conditions:

Note: The Department of Natural Resources, the Safety Education Instructor, or the Wingshooting Instructor will remove any participant from the Wingshooting Clinic for disruptive or unsafe behavior.

Parent's Signature: _____

Parent's Name (Please Print): _____

Date: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone Number(s) (Include Area Code):

Residence: _____

Cell: _____

E-mail Address: _____

DES PLAINES STATE FISH & WILDLIFE AREA

HUNTERS WINGSHOOTING CLINIC

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

DATES AND TIMES: Saturday, September 20th and Sunday, September 21st (AM Only), 2025

Morning Sessions: Check-in time 7:30-8:00 a.m. Instruction & Shooting 8 a.m. - 12 noon

Afternoon Sessions: Check-in time 12:30-1:00 p.m. Instruction & Shooting 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

LOCATION: Des Plaines State Fish & Wildlife Area, Wilmington, IL (815/423-5326). The sporting clays course will be located on that part of the SF&WA east of I-55.

DIRECTIONS: From I-55 north or south, exit at Interchange 241. Proceed left (east) 1½ miles on New River Rd. to Boathouse Rd. Turn right (south) on Boathouse Rd. and proceed ¼ mile and turn left into gated parking area.

COST: The fee for each session is \$30 per person. **The fee is not refundable.** To secure your reservation, send a check payable to the Illinois Conservation Foundation within the next few business days. Your reservation will be confirmed when your check has been received. **The last day reservations will be accepted is Wednesday, September 17, 2025.**

Mail your check and forms to:

Des Plaines State Fish & Wildlife Area (please make check payable to "*Illinois Conservation Foundation*")

Attn: Jeff Wepprecht/Wingshooting

28163 N River Rd

Wilmington, IL 60481

APPAREL: Wear upper garments that do not restrict either side-to-side shoulder movement or up and down arm movement. Upper garments should not have snaps, buckles, buttons, or strap adjustments on the front side of the shooting shoulder. Bring a shooting or hunting vest or a shotshell pouch if one is available.

FOOTWEAR: Wingshooting instruction and shotgun shooting are field activities, so wear comfortable but sturdy shoes or boots. Please no open-toed shoes or sandals.

EYE & EAR PROTECTION: Eye and ear protection are mandatory. Participants are expected to provide their own shooting glasses and ear plugs or earmuffs. Participants who wear prescription glasses or contact lenses should wear them. Impact resistant safety glasses are required to be worn over prescription glasses if the prescription glasses are not impact resistant. Safety glasses must be worn in addition to contact lenses.

SHOTGUNS & SHOTSHELLS: Bring a field, sporting clays, or skeet shotgun that you're comfortable shooting -any reasonable gauge (410 and 10 gauges are not reasonable). Open chokes are preferable - skeet, improved cylinder, or light modified are sufficient. Bring 6-8 boxes or 150-200 target shotshells - from our experience the more shotshells the better. Target loads in 12 gauge have a 2¾ or 3-dram powder equivalency. Higher powder dram equivalencies will adversely impact your shoulder. Shot sizes of 7 ½, 8, or 9 only please.

INSTRUCTORS: Wingshooting instruction will be given by National Sporting Clays Association/IDNR Certified Wingshooting Instructors.

SPONSORS: This Hunters Wingshooting Clinic is sponsored by the Illinois Conservation Foundation and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The IDNR has been involved in training sportsmen and women through its Safety Education Section, by sponsoring wingshooting clinics, through youth hunting programs, and through hunter's skills programs for many years.

SPECIAL NOTES: The Department of Natural Resources or the Wingshooting Instructor will remove any participant from the Wingshooting Clinic for disruptive or unsafe behavior. Wingshooting Clinics do not satisfy the Illinois Hunter Education Requirement.