



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Central Illinois Youth Goose Hunt is Dec. 26-27

Phone-in Registration Deadline for Youth Hunt Lottery Drawing is Dec. 10

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Youth interested in a goose hunting experience during the December holiday break are encouraged to register for the 11th annual Central Illinois Youth Goose Hunt sponsored by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) on Dec. 26-27. The youth goose hunt will be held at private waterfowl hunting clubs in Peoria, Fulton and Knox Counties.

“Getting youth interested in outdoor recreation is a key priority for the IDNR, and the annual Central Illinois Youth Goose Hunt is a great way for youth to experience waterfowl hunting and have some fun outdoors during their holiday break from school,” said IDNR Director Marc Miller.

Young people interested in the youth hunt must call (217) 785-8060 to register for a lottery drawing since space for the hunt is limited. **The deadline to register is Friday, Dec. 10.** The lottery drawing will be conducted on Monday, Dec. 13 and youth hunters selected will be notified by mail. First-time applicants will be given a priority over previous participants in the drawing.

The hunt is open to youngsters ages 10-15 at the time of the hunt. All applicants must have successfully completed a hunter safety education course, possess a valid Illinois hunting or sportsman's license, have a Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration number and have a 20 gauge or larger shotgun. Youth hunt participants must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who must possess a valid firearm owner's identification (FOID) card.

To register for the hunt or for more information, call (217) 785-8060.

Raffle tickets are available to support the Central Illinois Youth Goose Hunt, as well as youth waterfowl hunts throughout the state. Only 500 tickets will be sold at \$10 each to benefit the youth hunts. Prizes available include a shotgun and a Lifetime Hunting License (which is transferable).

Raffle winners will be drawn at the Central Illinois Youth Goose Hunt banquet on Dec. 26. Raffle participants need not be present to win. For tickets or information, call (217) 785-8060.

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