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 publicly, 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.

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; 217/785-0007; TTY 217/782-9175.

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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.

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.

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. O nline courses are now available at 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 a non-resident license. The Illinois Hunter Safety Education Program was designed to improve safety and to develop an attitude of respect for wildlife and the environment.

What is it?
The Illinois Snowmobile 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.

Who must take the course?
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.

Where are courses available?
Courses are sponsored by various conservation clubs, park districts, public service organizations, and other interest groups throughout the state. Online courses are now available at 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.