

BLACK HILLS FISHING

We have some great fishing opportunities in the Black Hills. Take a look to see where your next fishing spot might be. P. 04

AIS & BOATING

Read to gain some insight into Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and how to prevent their spread in our South Dakota waterbodies. P. 02

HIKING & TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Don't be inconsiderate on the trails this summer! Read on to learn how you can do your part in practicing trail etiquette. P. 03

IS HUNTING 101 THE RIGHT PROGRAM FOR YOU?

by Clint Whitley

Are you a interested in hunting or consider yourself a novice hunter? Our Hunting 101 program may be just the right fit for you. This FREE, in-depth, series-based program is specifically designed to teach adults, young adults, and families how to hunt. P. 04





AIS & BOATING

by Jacob Polk (Intern)

Tis the season to get on the water. South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks would love to see everyone enjoying the boating opportunities that will come with the summer. As we encourage our boaters to enjoy themselves, we also want to be mindful of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). AIS are bad because they quickly become overpopulated and harm the ecosystems into which they have been introduced. They are sometimes very hard to detect, so we tend to forget about them. You can find some good boat maintenance tips and also check to see if a South Dakota body of water has invasive species by clicking here.

Even if you think a body of water is free of AIS, it's still a good idea to follow these prevention steps: 1) Always drain your boat when exiting a body of water; 2) Clean and dry everything that came into contact with water (dogs, equipment, clothing, etc.); 3) Whenever entering a new body of water, rinse your watercraft with hot water (above 100F) or high-pressure water and let dry for 5 days.

Be safe this summer, and have some fun on the water!



GETTING YOUTH INTO THE OUTDOORS

by Cheyenne Parke (Intern)

Being able to influence someone's life in a positive way is a great feeling, and being able to do that for a young person can be even more rewarding. One way you can do that is by getting young people into the outdoors to enjoy its many opportunities. Here in South Dakota, we have a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities for all seasons. We have hunting, fishing, hiking, mountain biking, camping, backpacking, snowshoeing, skiing and so much more.

The perfect way to get youth involved is to get them acclimated at a young age. Taking children out to fish or for a simple hike when they are young can get them excited about the outdoors.

Here in South
Dakota, we have a
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Hunting is a hugely popular activity in South Dakota and a source of pride for our state. Young people may be gun-shy, so hunting can be challenging for them. Teaching young people about gun safety and general outdoors safety can make a huge difference to a child. Getting them outdoors to do these activities can not only make them more comfortable in the outdoors but also make them more skilled in everyday situations.

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2022 ISSUE 2

KID-FRIENDLY CAMPFIRE COOKING

by Katlyn Kyar (Intern)

Camping as a family can be a challenge, especially when planning meals. Quesadillas are fast, easy, and can be customized to each family member.

Remember to practice campfire safety as you prepare your meals: Always supervise children around open flames, and avoid playing around the campfire. Camping with your family shouldn't be stressful, so next time you pitch your tents, try this kid-friendly recipe!



Ingredients & Supplies:

- 4 medium flour tortillas
- 2 8oz. chicken breasts, grilled and sliced
- 1 jar salsa
- 1 c. shredded cheese
- Tin foil

Instructions:

- 1. Spread 1 Tbs. salsa over one tortilla.
- 2. Place 1/4 c. chicken over half the tortilla.
- 3. Sprinkle 1/4 c. cheese over the chicken.
- 4. Fold the other side of the tortilla over the ingredients.
- 5. Place the folded quesadilla on top of a medium piece of tin foil and set on the grate over the campfire until cheese is melted and tortilla is crispy.
- 6. Carefully remove from the fire and serve cut into fourths.
- 7. Repeat the process for the rest of the tortillas and enjoy!



HIKING & TRAIL ETIQUETTE

by Xavier Hammond (Intern)

As the temperature increases, so does the lure of the extensive number of trails that the Black Hills provide. SDGFP encourages everyone to explore and adventure much like the great Bilbo Baggins, of J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit," once did. While you are enjoying the wonderful trails, there are a few things we want everyone to remember about trail etiquette:

- 1. Plan ahead and prepare. Know the regulations and special concerns of the area. Schedule your trip tp avoid times of high use.
- 2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces. Good campsites are found, not made.
- 3. Dispose of waste properly and don't leave anything that wasn't there when you arrived.
- 4. Respect wildlife. This means to observe wildlife from a distance and not feed any of the wildlife. Feeding can affect the health and behavior of the animals.
- 5. Be considerate of other visitors. Check for signage on the trail and follow the correct right-of-way yields. Hikers coming uphill also have the right-of-way.





BLACK HILLS FISHING

by Nichole Wohlstein (Intern)

The Black Hills of South Dakota spans 1.2 million acres and contains 84 different bodies of water. In the Northern Hills, Bear Butte Lake and Belle Fourche Reservoir are great fishing destinations. Bear Butte not only has the scenery, but it also has northern pike, largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie, channel catfish, and walleye. If you're hungry, this is a great lake to fish! Belle Fourche has the same species but also has smallmouth bass, carp, and gizzard shad, which can be helpful if you want to catch your own bait.

In the Southern Hills and in Custer State Park, French Creek flows right near some campsites and is good fishing for brown trout. Grace Coolidge Creek has brook trout, and Stockade Lake follows its namesake because it's stocked with bass, Northern pike, a variety of panfish species, channel catfish, walleye, and rainbow trout. For stocking reports in the Black Hills, click here.



NATURALIST NOTES

by Nicole Schlabach (Volunteer)

Are black bears coming to the Black Hills? It's rare to see a black bear in South Dakota, but sightings have increased in recent years. Last year was the busiest year for bear reports, and it was the first time Game, Fish and Parks confirmed two different bears in the Black Hills on the same day.

Both black and grizzly bears are native to the state, but they were forced out when settlers arrived in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Since then, only black bears have been reported, with most of the sightings coming from the Black Hills.

Most of the bears are probably transient young males wandering from Western mountain ranges in search of territory and a mate. But photos that appear to show a sow (a female bear) surfaced in 2021. If a sow starts breeding in the Black Hills, her cubs will likely stay local.

It's rare to see a black bear in South Dakota, but sightings have increased in recent years.

It's a good idea to prepare for an unexpected encounter by reading about black bears <u>here</u>. Best practices include recreating in groups, keeping children close, and avoiding distractions while outdoors.

If you see a bear, take a moment from afar to enjoy the experience. Then, call SDGFP to report it!

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2022 ISSUE 2

HUNT/FISH PLANNER

by Jacob Polk (Intern)

Now is the time when most of our hunting applications are coming to a close. As you await the fall hunting draw results, it's time to start planning the details of your hunt. Below is a list of some important big game hunting season start dates for 2022. You can find this information here, as well as small game and waterfowl hunting information.

ANTELOPE

Aug. 20.....Archery/Mentor
Oct.1....Firearm/Landowner/
Mentor

BIGHORN SHEEP

Sept. 1.....Black Hills Bighorn

DEER

Sept. 1......Archery/Antlerless
Whitetail Archery
Sept. 10.....Apprentice
Nov. 1.....Black Hills/Custer State
Park
Nov. 12......West River/Special
Buck/Landowner
Nov. 19.....East River/Landowner
Dec. 1.....Muzzleloader/Antlerless
Whitetail
Dec. 10.....East & West

ELK

Sept. 1.....Archery
Oct. 1....Firearm

MOUNTAIN LION

River Antlerless

Dec. 26.....All seasons

For the complete list of 2022 South Dakota season dates or for more information, visit our website.

COME PRACTICE YOUR SHOT AT OUR FREE ARCHERY PARK!

Free to the public. Open 365 days a year sunup to sundown. No broadheads.



HUNTING 101

by Clint Whitley

Our Hunting 101 program is a FREE, in-depth, series-based program specifically designed to teach adults, young adults, and families how to hunt.

Throughout the length of the program, participants will learn the necessary skills required for hunting such as how to purchase a tag, understanding land access, safely handling a firearm, and eventually going on a supported whitetail doe hunt and learning how to process your harvest-with all gear provided! Bowhunting 101 is another option for those looking to expand their opportunities and challenge themselves with another way of hunting.

Hunting 101 is taught by passionate and experienced GFP staff and volunteer mentors that are highly trained to provide a fun, safe, and distraction free learning environment. All participants must be 12 years of age or older by the hunting season, and youth must be accompanied by an adult throughout the duration of the program. To apply for the Hunting 101 program, please fill out our application here.





TURKEY HUNTING 101 HIGHLIGHTS

by Clint Whitley

Our inaugural Turkey Hunting 101 season this spring was loaded with lots of lessons and lots of fun. Program participants learned all the skills necessary for turkey hunting which included learning how to call for turkeys, going to the range to practice shooting, and heading out into the field to go on an actual hunt.

Turkeys are one of the more unpredictable species that can frustrate any hunter. With the brain size of a pea, they are still smarter than most hunters. It can be difficult to call in an old wise bird, but when we tricked them it was greeted with high fives, cheering, and awe.

Without the lows, there are no highs, and that is what makes hunting so rewarding and so much fun . If you are interested in this program for next year, there will be an application that comes out in January, so keep an eye out!



VOLUNTEER CORNER

by Katie Schlafke

Are you looking for a way to give back to your community? Do you like recreating in the outdoors and want to share your skills with others? Volunteer with us!

General Volunteer Opportunities:

- Naturalist Assistant
- Landscaping/Gardening
- Front Desk (18+)

The mission of volunteers at The Outdoor Campus is to cultivate stewardship and safely connect people with the outdoors by supporting and leading educational opportunities.

Volunteer Mentor Program

The mission of the Volunteer Mentor Program is to have passionate and knowledgeable volunteers help recruit and retain future generations of outdoor recreationists.

Mentoring a new participant in hunting/shooting sports, fishing, trapping, and other outdoor skills is a process, not a single event. Volunteer mentors will help develop advocates for the outdoors in South Dakota by enhancing new participants' understanding, safety, skills, and opportunities in outdoor recreational activities.

The Outdoor Campus-Rapid City is currently seeking Volunteer Mentors for:

- Hunting/Shooting Sports
- Fishing
- Trapping
- Outdoor Skills

For more information and to apply to be a volunteer, click here.

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2022 ISSUE 2

HAPPENINGS IN SIOUX FALLS

Check out our sistercampus in Sioux Falls!

Outdoor Campus-Sioux Falls 4500 S Oxbow Ave Sioux Falls, SD 57106 toc@state.sd.us | 605.362.2777

Here is a list of just some of the community programs the Sioux Falls campus will be offering. For the entire program booklet and more information, click here.

Where can I hunt? Finding & Using Public Land

- June 23, 6:30-8:00 pm
- July 30, 10:30 am -12:00 pm

Fly Fishing

- June 17, 10:00-11:30 am & 1:00-2:30 pm
- July 8, 10;00-11:30 am & 1:00-2:30 pm

Outdoor Survival Camp

• July 8, 9:00am-12:00pm

Summer Outdoor Cooking w/ Homegrown Sioux Empire

- July 21, 6:30-8:00 pm
- August 18, 6:30-8:00 pm

Advanced Bird Watching

• July 16, 8:30-10:00 am & 10:30 am-12:00pm

FOLLOW US!

Stay up to date on program information in Rapid City by following us!



@outdoorcampus_rapidcity



<u>Game, Fish & Parks Outdoor</u> <u>Campus-Rapid City</u>



South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks-Education



SUMMER 2022 INTERNS

Meet our Summer 2022 Interns

Summer is one of the busiest seasons we have here at The Outdoor Campus, so we love when our interns arrive to help us out!

Back row, left to right: Xavier Hammond (University of Missouri), Jacob Polk (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and Ethan Nelson (Lake Area Technical College).

Front row, left to right: Katlyn Kyar (Black Hills State University), Cheyenne Parke (Black Hills State University '22 graduate), and Nichole Wohlstein (Lincoln College-Illinois).

Our interns will be staying busy this summer teaching several classes all focused around hunting, fishing, and outdoor skills. Game, Fish, and Parks Outdoor Campus - Rapid City has internships available year round, and available internships can be found here.



JULY PROGRAMS

Wildlife Diseases

This is an informational program on some of the more common wildlife diseases. We will focus on what you should look for and if it's safe to eat. Adults only please.

Wednesday July 6, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Bow Buying Basics

Buying archery equipment can be confusing for beginners. Learn what to look for before your shopping trip. From cost to common slang, this class covers what you need to know to make the right purchase.

Thursday July 7, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Date Night: ART-chery

Shoot paint filled balloons that drip onto canvas to make paint-pour art using your target shooting skills. Friday July 8, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Family Waterfowl Identification

Need help identifying waterfowl? Observe different shapes and color patterns of South Dakota waterfowl. Saturday July 9, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Tracking in Custer State Park

We will learn some basic tracking skills to identify some common wildlife found in the park. We will then hike around Center Lake to search for some tracks! Saturday July 9, 9:00 -11:00 AM

4:00 - 6:00 PM

Family Wildlife Series: Furbearers

Learn about the different adaptations and usage of multiple furbearers found here in South Dakota through hands-on activities.

Saturday July 9, 1:00 - 2:00 PM

Family Campfire Cooking

Learn how to cook some tasty meals over a campfire! This is a great program to help prepare for your camping trip.

Monday July 11, 12:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Adult Intro to Muzzleloaders

Learn the basics of inline muzzleloader hunting including cleaning, shooting, and storage.

Tuesday July 12, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Intro to Bowfishing

Learn about the equipment and skills needed to bowfish. Equipment will be provided, but you may bring your own.

Tuesday July 12, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Careers in Fisheries & Wildlife

Learn the different career paths in fisheries and wildlife. Whether you want to be a biologist, conservation officer, or naturalist, this class has something for you.

Wednesday July 13, 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Family Intro to Shotgun Shooting

Learn how to safely handle, load, unload, and shoot a shotgun at the Rapid City Trap Club.

Wednesday July 13, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Women's Survival Series

Learn basic survival skills that you can use in the outdoors such as plant ID, fire starting, and wilderness first-aid.

Thursday July 14, 21, & 28, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Family Bird Watching

Wake up with the birds! We will go on a small hike on the Campus trail to spot and identify birds.

Friday July 15, 8:00 - 9:30 AM

Planning Your SD Fishing Trip

Are you new to the area and looking for places to fish? We will cover habitats of common fish species, where to find them in the Black Hills, and what bait you need to target each species.

Friday July 15, 6:00 - 7:30 AM





JULY PROGRAMS

Puppy Pointers

Learn successful reward-based training for your puppy. Get started with basic hunting commands while building a good foundation for your retriever, hound, or pointer. Adults only please.

Saturday July 16, 1:00 - 2:30 PM Tuesday July 19, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Intro to Kayaking & Canoeing

Learn how to safely paddle canoes and kayaks on our front pond. Lifejackets will be available. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

> Saturday July 16, 10:00 - 11:00 AM Saturday July 16, 1:00 - 2:00 PM Tuesday July 19, 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Family Wildlife Series: Deer

Learn about the white-tailed deer and mule deer through a presentation and hands-on activities.

Saturday July 16, 1:00 - 2:00 PM

Women's Archery Practice

Bring your own bow or equipment will be provided. We will start the shoot in the indoor range and then head outside depending on the weather.

Wednesday July 20, 6:00 - 7:30 PM Wednesday July 27, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Fishing at Lower Mirror Lake

Meet at Lower Mirror Lake near Spearfish to fish. Learn how to safely rig a pole, cast, hook a fish, unhook it, and clean it. All materials will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own gear.

Wednesday July 20, 10:00 - 12:00 PM

Wild Game Cooking: Family Friendly Meals

Need new wild game recipes for the family? We will give you ideas for recipes and cooking tips, while preparing a meal for the class.

Thursday July 21, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Range Plant Identification

Learn about native and introduced plants on the South Dakota countryside. Discover the plant types and how to identify then, as well as other characteristics such as growth season, native or introduced status, and other facts.

Saturday July 23, 1:00 - 2:30 PM

Family Shelter Building

Learn the basics of building a shelter. Shelter building skills are great to add to your list of survival skills.

Monday July 25, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Know Your Knots

Hunting, fishing, and camping all require some knot tying knowledge. Learn how to tie some of the crucial knots for your next outdoor activity.

Tuesday July 26, 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Family Wild Game Cooking

Do you have some wild game and don't know how to cook it? Learn cooking tips that are useful when cooking wild game.

Thursday July 28, 11:00 - 1:30 PM

Fishing Gear Buying Basics

Are you new to fishing and don't really know where to start? Learn about fishing rods and reels, tackle, and fishing line.

Thursday July 28, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Learn different types of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in South Dakota and ways to prevent their spread.

Saturday July 30, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Intro to Set Lines for Catfish

Learn how to consistently catch catfish on a setline. We will cover the basics in the classroom then head out to the pond for a demonstration.

Saturday July 30, 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Family Intro to Fishing

Learn how to safely rig a pole, cast, hook a fish, and unhook it. All materials will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own gear to practice.

Saturday July 30, 10:00 - 11:00 AM 1:00 - 2:00 PM

ALL YOUTH ATTENDING PROGRAMS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTERED ADULT





AUGUST PROGRAMS

Family Intro to Fishing

Learn how to safely rig a pole, cast, hook a fish, unhook it, and clean it. All materials will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own gear to practice. Hats, eye protection, and sunscreen encouraged. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

Tuesday August 1, 6:00 - 7:00 PM Saturday August 6, 10:00 - 11:00 AM Friday August 12, 9:00 - 10:00 AM

11:00 - 12:00 PM

1:00 - 2:00 PM

5:00 - 6:00 PM

6:00 - 7:00 PM

Family Intro to Backpacking (2-part series)

If you are interested in learning the basics to take your camping trips to the next level, this class is for you. Classes will cover all the basic gear you need to consider when going out on a backpacking trip. Ages 8 and up.

Tuesday August 2, 6:00 - 7:00 PM Thursday August 4, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Family Intro to Archery

Learn the basic techniques you need to get involved in the sport of archery. Participants will learn the parts of a bow, range safety and how to safely shoot a compound bow. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Ages 8 and up.

Wednesday August 3, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Adult Intro to Fly Fishing

Learn the skills and techniques needed to catch fish on a fly rod.

Thursday August 4, 9:00 - 11:00 AM Tuesday August 2, 6:00 - 7:00 PM Thursday August 4, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Intro to Fly Tying

Tie several flies that can be used to catch many species of fish. All materials will be provided.

Saturday August 6, 10:00 - Noon

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Intro to Deer Hunting

Learn the basics of deer hunting. Learn what deer sign means, how to use it to your advantage, and the basics of deer behavior.

Wednesday August 8, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

3D Archery Practice

Bring your bows and practice for hunting season on our 3D targets! Equipment is provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Wednesday August 8, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Kayak and Canoe Safety

Learn small watercraft safety and techniques in our kayaks and canoes on our front pond. Lifejackets will be provided.

> Tuesday August 9, 10:00 - 11:00 AM 11:00 - 12:00 PM

Adult Date Night: Camp Food

Learn different types of food to cook while camping, hunting, or backpacking.
Friday August 12, 6:00 - 7:30 PM





AUGUST PROGRAMS

Hunting Skills: Buying Guns and Gear

Gearing up for hunting season can be an intimidating task. When you walk into a sporting goods store you are instantly met with marketing and salesmen that direct you to what they feel is the best gear item. Come to this class to learn about differences in gear and how to make that selection. We will also cover what to look for in a firearm.

Wednesday August 17, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

*ALL YOUTH ATTENDING PROGRAMS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTERED ADULT *

Basic Hunting Skills

Learn some of the basic skills you need to know to start hunting.

Thursday August 18, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

CALL TO SET UP YOUR OWN GROUP PROGRAM!

Program options are not limited to the following: Hunting, Fishing, Trapping, Fly Fishing, Fly Tying, Archery, Air Rifle Shooting, Gun Safety, Backpacking, and HuntSAFE.

605.394.2310 tocwest@state.sd.us





SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS

Family Fishing

Learn how to safely rig a pole, cast, hook a fish, and unhook it. All materials will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own gear to practice. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Wednesday September 7, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Family Intro to Archery

Learn the basic techniques you need to get involved in the sport of archery. Participants will learn the parts of a bow, range safety and how to safely shoot a compound bow. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Ages 8 and up.

Tuesday September 6, 6:00 - 7:00 PM Tuesday September 20, 10:00 - 11:00 AM 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Adult: Bow Hunting Prep

Learn how to get your bow ready for archery season, tune broadheads, and get some practice.

Friday September 7, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Hunting Skills: Finding a Place to Hunt

Finding a place to hunt on public or private is a challenge. This class will give you a few tips on gaining permission to private and how to pinpoint the spots you want to hunt this fall.

Wednesday September 14, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

*ALL YOUTH ATTENDING PROGRAMS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTERED ADULT *

Adult: Intro to Fly Fishing

Come learn the basics of fly fishing. Hats, eye protection and sunscreen are encouraged.

Friday September 16, 10:00 – 12:00 PM

Adult: Gun Cleaning

Learn how to properly clean your shotguns and rifles. All materials provided.

Saturday September 24, 10:00 – 12:00 PM

Adult: Intro to Fly Fishing

Come learn the basics of fly fishing. Hats, eye protection and sunscreen are encouraged.

Saturday September 17, 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Intro to Backpacking

If you are interested in learning the basics to take your camping trips to the next level, this class is for you. This class will cover all the basic gear you need to consider when going out on a backpacking trip.

Monday September 19, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Family Intro to Canoeing

Learn how to safely paddle canoes on the Campus pond. Lifejackets will be available. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Wednesday September 21, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

CALL TO SET UP YOUR OWN GROUP PROGRAM!

Program options are not limited to the following: Hunting, Fishing, Trapping, Fly Fishing, Fly Tying, Archery, Air Rifle Shooting, Gun Safety, Backpacking, and HuntSAFE.

> 605.394.2310 tocwest@state.sd.us

