



# Minnesota 4-H SS&W Wildlife fact sheet

The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program is designed to promote life skills through a safe and educational program. This program is led by trained and certified 4-H leaders and is found in 68 counties throughout Minnesota. Young people learn by doing, as they experience hands-on learning in shooting sports and wildlife education.

## Program outcomes

- Instill ethics, sportsmanship and responsibility in youth
- Develop leadership skills
- Promote the safe storage and handling of firearms and archery equipment
- Expand 4-H membership

## Disciplines

Each discipline teaches safety, concentration, self-discipline, self-confidence, goal setting, decision-making and courtesy as the young people learn basic skills and build toward more advanced activities. Both competitive and cooperative skills are included. Participants are exposed to local policies and regulations, laws and ethical behavior both by repeated demonstration and through personal practice. The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program offers the following disciplines for youth to participate in:

- Archery
- Rifle/Pistol – includes BB, Air Rifle, Air Pistol, and .22 Rifle
- Muzzleloading
- Shotgun
- Wildlife

## Grade requirements for disciplines

**Youth may participate in the disciplines listed below at county and state events when they are in that grade as of October 1<sup>st</sup> of the current 4-H enrollment year.**

- Wildlife – all grades
- BB Gun and Archery- 3rd grade & older
- Air Rifle and Air Pistol – 4th grade & older
- .22 Rifle and .22Pistol, Muzzleloading, Shotgun – 7th grade & older

Youth who are in K-2 grades can only participate in Wildlife activities. They may not handle firearms or do any programming with firearms, as per the Minnesota 4-H Cloverbud Policy.

The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports and Wildlife Invitational (State Shoot) is available for the participation of youth third grade and older. Third grade youth are only eligible to participate in a non-competitive BB Gun event with all other third graders.

All participants are subject to approval of project leader, and the member's ability to follow instructions and safety rules.

## Get connected

For Shooting Sports and Wildlife programs in your county, please contact your local county 4-H program coordinator at the county Extension office <https://www3.extension.umn.edu/local/>

## State SS&W coordinator

Nicole Pokorney Extension  
educator

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To learn more about 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife program opportunities, go to <https://z.umn.edu/4h-ss>.