

# SCDNR Education & Outreach Programs

## Hunter Education

All residents and non-residents born after June 30, 1979, must complete a hunter education course approved by SCDNR before a hunting license can be obtained. The hunter education certificate is not a hunting license.

**SCDNR offers four (4) options to take the Hunter Education Course.**

1. **In a classroom**--The preferred Hunter Education method is through a free eight (8) hour instructor-led classroom. Classes maybe offered in a one day class or split over two nights. Students learn about hunting ethics, firearms safety, and the principles of conservation and wildlife management. All classes end with a **Test** to pass the course.

2. **On the Internet**--**The complete course can be viewed online.** The third party vendor (Hunter-Ed) who provides this online course charges \$15.00 to take the course and pre-exam. Hunter-Ed offers daily (including weekend) live customer service via email or telephone with a toll-free number. Students who successfully complete the online portion of the course must take a supervised final examination at an official testing site to complete the course.

3. **CD Self Study Course**--A free self-study course on CD is also available. The course is taken at home at the student's leisure, but students must take supervised final examination at an official testing site to complete the course.

4. **Self-Study Workbook**--A free self-study workbook is available for those who do not have computer access. This course is taken at home at the student's leisure, but students must take a supervised final examination at an official testing site to complete the course.

A student who chooses the internet or one of our home study options must take a supervised final examination at an official testing site to complete the course. List of testing sites are available on the SCDNR Hunter Education homepage. For more information on any of our Hunter Education Course options, please visit the SCDNR Hunter Education homepage at [www.dnr.sc.gov/education/hunted](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/education/hunted) or call 1-800-277-4301.

## Boater Education

Boaters under age 16 are required by law to pass an approved boater education course before operating a personal watercraft (jet ski) or a boat powered by a 15 h.p. motor or larger unless accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older.

**South Carolina boaters can take a boating safety and education course three ways.**

1. **In a classroom** — Share the learning experience with other boaters and a qualified instructor.

2. **On the internet** — The complete course, including the test, can be viewed or purchased online at [boat-ed.com](http://boat-ed.com) or through a link on the SCDNR home page, [www.dnr.sc.gov/education/boated](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/education/boated).

3. **By video** — You and your family can take a boater education course in the convenience of your home by purchasing an informative video and instruction manual. To order by phone, call 1-800-460-9698.

For more information on all boating courses, call SCDNR at 1-800-277-4301 or visit [www.dnr.sc.gov/education/boated](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/education/boated).

If you are under age 21 and plan to go boating in another state, check that state's operator requirements. The SC Basic Boating Course is approved and recognized by all states requiring courses. The boater education certificate is not a boating license.

## Bowhunting Education



Bowhunters of South Carolina (BSC) is a nonprofit organization working to promote safe and lawful bowhunting education and instruction. Several times a year, SCDNR and BSC conduct bowhunter education classes.

The ultimate goal of the bowhunter education program is to provide bowhunters with the fundamentals of safe bowhunting, an appreciation and respect for the environment in which they hunt, and a desire to maintain the highest standards of the sport. To register for a bowhunter education course, please visit the SCDNR

Hunter Education homepage at [www.dnr.sc.gov/education/hunted](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/education/hunted) or call 1-800-277-4301.

For information on the Bowhunters of South Carolina, please visit their web site at <http://www.scbowhunters.org>.

## Trapper Education

The Trapper Education course includes discussions on furbearer biology, history of the fur trade, wildlife management principles, fur harvest regulations and ethical conduct. Basic hands-on trapping techniques will also be presented. Qualified instructors with the SC Trappers Association will discuss and demonstrate responsible trapping techniques.

For information, contact the Furbearer project at 803-734-3609.

## Take One Make One™



This program is an outdoor education and mentoring program aimed at developing South Carolina's youth and young adults, 10 to 18 years of age, into lifetime participants in conservation, hunting, angling and shooting sports activities. Students are required to complete the SC hunter education safety course and are mentored by an experienced adult for a minimum of one year. There are no registration costs. Presentations, brochures and applications are available by calling 803-734-3995. For more information, visit [www.dnr.sc.gov/education/tomo](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/education/tomo).

## Archery in the Schools Program



Archery in the Schools is designed to teach JOAD-style target archery (Junior Olympic Archery Development) to 4th-12th graders. Core content covers archery history, safety, technique, equipment, mental concentration and self-improvement. Before presenting the two-week archery course, teachers undergo an 8-hour Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) training program.

The South Carolina Archery in the Schools Program is for public and private schools and may be modified to include home school associations. You can learn more about the program by contacting the state coordinator, Sgt. Dennetta Dawson, call 1-800-277-4301, e-mail [DawsonD@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:DawsonD@dnr.sc.gov), write to Investigations & Education, P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422, or go to [www.dnr.sc.gov/hunting/archery/](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/hunting/archery/).

## Scholastic Clay Target Program

The Scholastic Clay Target Program provides school-age participants in grades 12 and under the opportunity to learn competitive clay target shooting skills and earn state and national recognition. This program is designed to instill in students safe firearm handling, commitment, responsibility, leadership and teamwork. For more information on this program, call 1-800-277-4301 or visit [www.scysf.com](http://www.scysf.com).

## SC Reel Kids



This program sets goals designed to be fun, educational and active for kids under 16. SC Reel Kids participants work toward catching their first fish, learning about fish and improving fish habitats. For their efforts, prizes are awarded in recognition of meeting the program goals. For more information on the SC Reel Kids program and other aquatic education programs call 803-737-8483 or visit [www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed).

## Youth Bass Fishing Club



Calling all middle and high schools! SCDNR and the The Bass Federation of SC have teamed up to help bring youth bass fishing clubs to schools around the state. Students can establish school bass fishing clubs to compete for prizes, scholarships and more on a club, state and national level. Get outdoors, relax, have fun and make friends by fishing for your school! To learn more about the Youth Bass Fishing Clubs, visit [www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/aquaticed), call 803-737-8483 or email [aquaticed@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:aquaticed@dnr.sc.gov).