



Arizona Game and Fish Department Wildlife Matters

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New laws go into
affect!

New Game and Fish Laws go into Affect

PHOENIX - A new law making it illegal to intentionally interfere with a lawful hunt in Arizona became effective today. The law does not apply to incidental interference arising from lawful activity by public land users, including recreationists, ranchers or miners; nor does it apply to landowners engaged in agricultural or livestock operations.

The law, A.R.S. 17-316, protects the rights of licensed hunters by prohibiting people from intentionally disrupting hunts through such actions as vandalizing a hunter's equipment or property, obstructing or making physical contact with a hunter, or intentionally placing themselves between wildlife and someone attempting to legally hunt that wildlife.

Violation of the law is a misdemeanor, potentially punishable by a fine of up to \$750 and four months in jail.

"The key word in the new law is the word 'intentional,'" says Larry Voyles, law enforcement branch chief of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "We won't be citing people for lawful activities that might accidentally affect a hunt. We will cite people who either have been previously warned, or who have indicated through action or word that they intend to disrupt a legal hunt."

Certain animal rights activists have attempted to disrupt legal hunts in the past. "This new law protects the rights of hunters and allows our officers to take enforcement actions to help ensure the safety of hunters and those who would attempt to disrupt their hunts," says Voyles.

As always, hunters need to continue to exercise safe



Game and Fish run Clay Target Center

hunting practices when out in the field. "Hunters must be absolutely aware of their surroundings and people who might be present," says Voyles. "Remember, you are responsible for your actions when you discharge a firearm."

Voyles recommends that all hunters take a hunter education course, which emphasizes firearms safety and safe hunting practices. Arizona has one of the nation's best hunting safety records, attributable in large part to its hunter education program.

Other laws that went into affect include an increase in poaching fines (not updated since 1970's) and a law regulating the feeding of wildlife in Maricopa and Pima counties.

Shooting Legend John Satterwhite will manage Ben Avery Clay Target Center

PHOENIX - The Arizona Game and Fish Department has hired one of the country's most accomplished competitive shooters to manage the Ben Avery Clay Target Center, a public shotgun-shooting center located on the grounds of the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in north Phoenix.

John Satterwhite, a four-time international skeet champion, former Olympic team captain and two-time gold medalist in the 1979 Pan American Games, has joined the department as an assistant range manager at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility, responsible for overseeing the Clay Target Center when Game and Fish assumes operation of the center from a private operator on Sept 18.



"We're thrilled to have such an accomplished shooting professional as John on board," says Dana Yost, assistant director for information and education for Game and Fish. "He's not only had an incredible competitive shooting career, but also an impressive background and commitment to teaching clay target shooting to others, especially youth."

Satterwhite's career includes first-place finishes at the All-Armed Services national and international skeet championships, the NSSA international skeet championship, and the NRA United States international skeet championship (three consecutive years). He was captain of the 1975 and 1979 U.S. Pan American Games shooting teams, the 1976 U.S. Olympic shooting team, and the 1979 World Shooting Championships team. He won 12 medals for the U.S. in world shooting competitions, six gold.

While serving as an instructor for the U.S. Air Force, Satterwhite trained more than 20,000 B-52 and K-135 pilots, crew members and base personnel in rifle and pistol marksmanship. In 1980, he created, and for several years directed, the American Shotgun Academy, a Prescott, Ariz.-based instructional school specializing in all facets of shotgun shooting. He has worked for several major companies as an instructor and target shooting exhibitor, and has been featured on numerous nationally televised outdoor shows.

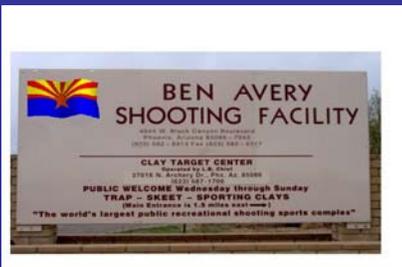
"I'm looking forward to this new opportunity," says Satterwhite. "One of my real joys these days is working with existing shooters and teaching the sport to youth and new shooters. Our goal is to make each visitor's experience an enjoyable and memorable one."

The Clay Target Center will remain open under the current operator through Sunday,



Sept. 17. The center will be closed Sept. 18 and 19 as the department assumes operational control and transitions the center to new hours of 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesdays through Sundays. The first day of the new hours will be Wednesday, Sept. 20. The center will be closed Mondays and Tuesdays, which will coincide with the operating hours for the Ben Avery Shooting Facility.

The Ben Avery Clay Target Center is located off Carefree Highway, about 1.5 miles west of I-17. For more information, visit azgfd.gov/ctc.



Clay Target Center Cost

Trap and Skeet:	\$5.00 per round (25 clays)
Sporting Clays:	\$8.00 per round (25 clays) \$15.00 per round (50 clays) \$25.00 per round (100 Clays)
Trap and Skeet Shoot Card:	\$90.00 for 20 rounds (= \$4.50 per round)
Gun Rental:	No charge

October Key Dates



October Key Dates & Events

Oct. 10, 2006

6:30 p.m.

Bites and Stings- Reptiles and other Creatures in Arizona

The 2006 Wildlife Speaker Series continues with "Bites and Stings- Reptiles and other creatures in Arizona" presented by Shelly Shepherd at the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Flagstaff office at 3500 South Lake Mary Road. Please call (928) 774-5045 to sign up.

Oct. 28, 2006

10:00 a.m.

The Bats of Halloween

The 2006 Wildlife Speaker Series will feature "The Bats of Halloween." Join Andi Rogers at the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Flagstaff office at 3500 South Lake Mary Road. Please call (928) 774-5045 to sign up.

Oct. 28, 2006

9:30 a.m.

Butterflies of Boyce Thompson Arboretum

Bring along binoculars for the most dazzling display of colorful Butterfly species including Queen, Sulphur and Pipevine Swallowtail. This special guided outing is offered on the fourth Saturday each month with Education Coordinator Chris Kline, who will bring along his butterfly net and capture a few to allow kids a close up look at these insects during the tour. Meet at the Visitor Center at 9:30 a.m. in Superior, AZ. Make sure to carry water and wear sunscreen and a hat. Daily park admission of \$7.50 for adults and \$3 for ages 5-12 includes this tour.



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Department Staff have contributed to this publication in the form of articles and photographs.

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