



Arizona Game and Fish Department

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release, August 3, 2011

Game and Fish Youth Dove Hunting Clinic in Safford Labor Day Weekend

SAFFORD, Ariz. - The Arizona Game and Fish Department is offering a free clinic and workshop for youth dove hunting September 3 and September 5 in Safford.

The event is geared toward youths who are first-time hunters. Game and Fish wildlife managers and local sportsmen will teach hunting and firearm safety, dove ecology and management, species identification, how to prepare equipment and clothing for a hunt, where to find dove and how to hunt them, as well as cleaning and cooking dove.

The clinic begins 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, at Dry Lake Park, 250E 2760W Dry Lake Road, Safford, after which youth hunters will be able to practice shooting clay pigeons at the trap range, free of charge, shotguns and shells included. Coaches will be available to provide instruction, as well as range safety information and techniques.

The program includes a dove hunt for participants the morning of Monday, Sept. 5, in the Safford area with an experienced mentor/hunter. Parent are encouraged to accompany their youth hunters. Shotguns and ammunition will be available, but participants may also bring their own.

Participants will need to provide for their own transportation to the hunting area, unless prior arrangements are made. The Southeastern Arizona Sportsmen's Club will provide lunch after the morning event.

Attendance is free but limited to 20 young hunters ages nine to 15 with an adult partner. Hunters will be registered by phone or e-mail on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Devin Skinner at 520-591-7880 or dskinner@azgfd.gov as early as possible for more information and to reserve a spot. The registration deadline is August 26.

Participants age 14 and older must purchase a hunting license, which is not required for the nine to 13 age group.

There is no cost to young hunters because of generous contributions from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, Gila Valley Clay-Busters, Southeastern Arizona Sportsmen Club and the hunting community.