FISH & WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

The Division of Wildlife funds conservation with license sales and an excise tax on firearms, archery, and hunting equipment.

ABOUT FIREARMS

Firearm: mechanical device
- Uses pressure from burning gun powder to force projectile through and out of metal tube
- Many different kinds

Differences between categories of firearms based on their barrels, intended targets, and ammunition

3 broad categories of firearms:
- **Shotgun**: long barrel, popular for shooting sports and hunting, different actions and styles, often used for moving targets
- **Rifle**: rifling (or grooves) in barrel, puts spin on bullet which increases accuracy and distance, often used for stationary targets
- **Handgun**: short barrel, often has rifling similar to rifles, used for self-defense, shooting sports, and sometimes hunting
- Additionally: airguns and muzzleloaders

Regulated on federal, state and local level
- Check rules and regulations in your area

HUNTING RULES & REGULATIONS

Published annually
- Protects animal populations
- Covers shooting range-specific information

BASIC OVERVIEW

**Very important** with any type of firearm

**Variety of considerations**, may change based on type of equipment or location

**Basics: TAB-K**
- Treat every firearm as if loaded
- Always keep muzzle pointed in safe direction
- Be sure of target and what’s beyond
- Keep finger outside trigger guar until ready to shoot

Keep safety on until you are ready to shoot
- Safety is a mechanical device that can fail

Eye protection and hearing protection should be worn by all shooting or observing
RECREATIONAL SHOOTING

Shooting at stationary targets or moving targets which present shooters with situations hunters may see in the field (skeet, trap, sporting clays)

SHOOTING RANGE INFORMATION

- Ohio public shooting ranges ranked by class:
  - A: supervised, rifle/pistol ranges
  - B: unsupervised, rifle/pistol ranges
  - C: unsupervised, clay target shotgun ranges
  - D: unsupervised, archery target ranges
  - O: other public ranges

WHERE TO SHOOT

- Public shooting ranges
- Check the National Shooting Sports Foundation directory
- Find a list of public ranges in the Hunting Regulations

SHOOTING RANGE PERMIT

- Required of all persons 18+ shooting on supervised Class A ranges, unsupervised Class B and C ranges
  - Those 17 and younger must be accompanied and directly monitored by adult with a valid permit
- Annual and one-day permit options

INTERESTED IN TAKING THE NEXT STEP?

- The Wild Ohio Harvest Community offers in-person learning opportunities that build on the content in this module
- Find other learning modules, resources, and more!