

Green Bay Team Warden Web Page September 2009

Green Bay:

During the month of September, Warden David Allen, of SE Green Bay/Southern Kewaunee, had multiple public relations events such as the Muskrat City Sportsmen's Club learn to hunt pheasant program and some hunter education classes. Warden Allen also had training with the Kewaunee County Sheriff's Department and Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant.

Wardens David Allen and Darren Kuhn, of Kewaunee, patrolled areas for illegal baiting activities, as well as following up on illegal baiting complaints. Wardens issued several citations for illegal baits.

Regional Warden Byron Goetsch of Green Bay participated in a Brown County Emergency Preparedness Exercise by serving as the Department representative at the Brown County Emergency Operations Center. These exercises are designed to ensure efficient and effective responses to a variety of emergency situations that require multi agency involvement.

Regional Warden Byron Goetsch of Green Bay accompanied the Natural Resources Board on their tour of Door County providing information and answering questions as they arose. The Natural Resources Board sets policy for the Department of Natural Resources.

Regional Warden Byron Goetsch of Green Bay worked the Northern Duck Season Opener in Marinette County to ensure compliance with the regulations. Relatively low hunter participation and duck numbers were found in this area.

Sturgeon Bay:

Warden Chris Kratcha, of Sturgeon Bay, and Warden Jason Happe, of Appleton, participated in an ATV group check on the Oconto County ATV trails. Wardens Kratcha and Happe issued four citations to two different operators for operating an ATV while intoxicated (OWI), and also issued approx. 24 warnings for registration display, speed, and proof of safety certification. The Wardens also investigated one ATV crash and found an individual illegally harvesting ginseng on National Forest land.

Warden Chris Kratcha, of Sturgeon Bay, issued a citation to a Green Bay man for hunting over approx. 10 gallons of bait in So Door County. The hunter had shot a deer minutes before Warden Kratcha's arrival at the stand. The hunter initially denied shooting the deer over the bait pile, but the investigation proved differently. The deer was seized and the hunter cited nearly \$600.00 for the violation. In counties where baiting is legal, the maximum amount of bait allowed is two gallons.

Warden Chris Kratcha, of Sturgeon Bay, gave presentations to a morning and afternoon Marine Tech class at So Door High School. Warden Kratcha answered a wide-array of questions prepared by the students ahead of time, and also answered questions after class. The questions covered topics of boating, hunting, fishing, ATV's, and the career of a Warden.

Kewaunee:

Warden Darren Kuhn, of Kewaunee, located a mini van parked within the Green Bay City limits in an area commonly used by waterfowl hunters. Warden Kuhn clearly saw an uncased shotgun in the front seat of the van. Warden Kuhn also saw a person wearing camouflage clothes sleeping in the back seat of the van. Upon contact the man admitted that he had been hunting, got tired and returned to the van with an uncased shotgun. In addition to violating the state law relating to firearms in vehicles the man also violated Green Bay City ordinance prohibiting the possession of uncased guns within the city limits. The man was cited for the uncased firearm in a vehicle and warned about the City violation.

Warden Darren Kuhn, of Kewaunee, contacted an ATV operator where the registration was improperly displayed. The ATV also sounded louder than normal. The owner admitted to operating the ATV without a spark arrester saying that he had removed it because it kept getting burned out after he put in the new cam shaft. Warden Kuhn tested the decibels (db) of the ATV to determine that the ATV was putting out 103.5 db. The owner was cited for the noise violation and warned for the spark arrester. It is illegal to operate an ATV with a decibel reading greater than 96 db.

Warden Darren Kuhn, of Kewaunee, observed a single adult male fishing within the posted fish refuge on the Kewaunee River. Upon contact it was discovered that the fisherman was attempting to catch salmon he had seen within the refuge. The fisherman walked within 20ft of a refuge sign and was fishing directly across from a refuge sign. The fisherman was cited for fishing within the posted refuge.

Manitowoc:

Warden Robert Stroess, of Manitowoc, watched three dove hunters in a gravel pit as they went back and forth between walking the pit shooting at doves and drinking beer from their vehicles. One of them was arrested for being intoxicated and in possession of a firearm. The blood results indicated a blood alcohol level of 0.123.

Warden Robert Stroess, of Manitowoc, investigated a complaint of a manure hauling company discharging manure into a road ditch and stream in southern Manitowoc County. The investigation showed the company washes off their manure hauling trucks and the rinse water goes directly into a tile line which the company installed for that very

purpose. The tile line discharges to the ditch a short ways upstream from a stream. The case is still under investigation.

Warden Robert Stroess, of Manitowoc, dealt with a boat operator at Horseshoe Lake for not transferring a boat into his name, expired registration, and no personal floatation devices on board (he had stadium seat cushions but they weren't even legal throwable PFDs). Stroess sent him the registration form in the mail and gave him two weeks to show Stroess proof of registration to avoid a citation. After three weeks and no contact from the boat operator, he was issued a citation.

Appleton:

Warden Jason Happe, of Appleton, investigated a possible shooting of a Cooper's hawk in the Town of Harrison in Calumet County. After the bird was captured and sent to a vet lab for x-rays, it was found that the hawk was not shot and had sustained an injury to a wing that had healed over. The Cooper's hawk was euthanized.

Prior to 9:00am on the opening day of the northern zone of duck season, Warden Jason Happe, of Appleton, responded to a complaint of ducks being shot on a WDOT pond adjacent to State Highway 41. After responding, Warden Happe found two juveniles who admitted to shooting 7 ducks and 1 goose all before the start time of 9:00 am. The juveniles were novice waterfowl hunters and were not aware of the 9:00am start time on opening day. Warden Happe issued warnings to the juveniles and seized the 7 ducks and 1 goose. Warden Happe contacted the juveniles' parents and explained the violation.

Reedsville: Vacant

RSW – North:

Recreational Warden Jeremy Cords of Green Bay responded to a small game hunting related shooting incident that had occurred during the early afternoon hours of Sunday September 13, 2009 at the Navarino Wildlife Area in Shawano County. The incident involved two hunting companions who were hunting squirrels, one of which was struck in the back of the head with a .22 bullet by the other. Fortunately the victim in this case will be fine, however it is important that hunters to always remember and practice the 4 rules of firearm safety.