

Madison Team Warden Web Report – September 2009

Warden Nate Kroeplin, Madison, was working fishing and littering enforcement around the Monona Bay area and made contact with two individuals that had been fishing from shore and had littered several plastic bottles. Warden Kroeplin contacted them and they stated that they knew better. Both individuals were issued citations for littering.

Wardens Nate Kroeplin, Dave Wood, Tyler Strelow, Jeremy Plautz and Deputy Warden Sean Neverman were working an enforcement effort on the area of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway that is commonly known as the Mazomanie Beach. Four citations were issued on this afternoon for inappropriate sexual acts in a public place.

Warden Ryan Ellifson, Jefferson, and Warden Supervisor Jeremy Plautz assisted with a group check on the Rock River and Lake Koshkonong. The Wardens issued three citations for fishing without a license and three citations for boating violations. The Wardens also arrested one boat operator for operating while intoxicated.

Warden Ryan Ellifson received a call from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Dept. regarding four personal watercraft (PWC) on the Rock River south of Cth B moving navigation buoys. The buoys were marking the channel for boat traffic in the area of the Sth 26 bypass construction. The buoys had been moved the day before as well. The PWC operators moved the buoys setting up a figure "8" course in the river channel. They did not replace the buoys when they were finished. Sheriff's Deputy V. Johnson located the PWC's as they were loading them at the Cth B boat launch. The two operators responsible for moving the buoys were instructed to travel back down river and place the buoys back in their correct location. Citations are pending.

Wardens Boyd Richter and Mike Dieckhoff, both of Rock County, investigated a hotline complaint of a subject placing corn on the ground in front of a trail camera and tree stand on private property. Richter located a small amount of corn in front of the trail camera and identified the suspect from a name tag on the camera. Further investigation of another hunting stand on a neighboring property revealed a pile of apples in front of two more trail cameras. As the wardens were investigating, the suspect drove up on his ATV. A citation was issued for illegal feeding of wildlife and the suspect was ordered to clean up the apples and corn.

Warden Boyd Richter, Janesville, and Supervisor Jeremy Plautz observed three goose hunters on Storr's Lake hunting from a motorboat in open water. Wardens watched the hunters leave the area of their decoys and travel to the opposite side of the lake with loaded shotguns. The hunters left their decoys unattended, while they trespassed onto neighboring private property. One of the hunters shot a squirrel during the closed season and left it on the ground. The hunters continued hunting on the private land and shot at several doves before getting back in the boat and driving to the boat landing. Wardens contacted the hunters at the boat landing to address the observed violations. Upon contact the hunter's shotguns were still loaded and the hunters did not have the proper

waterfowl stamps required to hunt geese. There were only two personal floatation devices for the three occupants of the boat and the boat registration numbers were not displayed. Wardens issued two citations to the boat operator and one to each of the other hunters. Verbal warnings were issued for the other violations.

Warden Boyd Richter, Janesville, and Supervisor Jeremy Plautz contacted numerous dove hunters in the Evansville area on opening weekend of the dove season and found three separate cases of hunters using unplugged shotguns. Citations were issued for the violations.

Wardens Boyd Richter and Mike Dieckhoff, both of Rock County, watched a group of hunters near the HWY 11 bypass hunting doves and geese. One of the hunters shot at a dove that came between the hunter and the road. Wardens could hear the pellets hit the road and ditch next to the patrol vehicle. Upon contact the shooter was found to be hunting with an unplugged shotgun and all of the hunters were in possession of lead shot shells. A citation was issued.

Wardens from Rock, Green, Jefferson, and Dane counties worked a boating group check over the Labor Weekend in Rock County and issued six fish without license citations, two illegal trolling citations, three fail to provide the proper number of personal floatation device citations, one operating a motorboat while intoxicated citation, and one operating a motorboat with a prohibited alcohol concentration citation. Numerous other boating warnings were given.

Wardens Dave Wood, Madison and Dave Youngquist, Spring Green, worked on the Wisconsin River Labor Day weekend and checked numerous canoeists, campers, and fishermen using the river. The wardens issued citations for possession of glass containers, failure to provide the proper number of personal flotation devices, and gave a number of warnings for camping in a closed area.

Warden Dave Wood, Madison, followed up on information regarding a person hunting land on an agricultural damage permit who had shot a deer while he didn't have a valid deer hunting license. Wood contacted the property owner and hunter who confirmed that the individual had shot a deer while under the impression that he didn't need a gun deer license. Wood confiscated the venison and issued a citation for hunt game without a hunting license.

Warden Dave Walz, Watertown, contacted an angler after receiving a complaint that he was trespassing and littering. Walz had cited the angler a year earlier for being over his limit of catfish by 500%. This time Walz found that he was using two wire fish baskets. One was hidden amongst some fallen trees in the water with a limit of catfish and the one he had with him had almost a limit. Upon packing up to leave Walz made contact with the angler issuing another citation for \$444.00. All but one fish was released alive.

Warden Dave Walz, Watertown, responded to a hotline call of goose hunters shooting geese during the closed season. Walz located the hunters and found one had shot two

geese. They thought the exterior season opened the day after the early September season closed and had not gotten a regulation book to learn that it did not. Walz issued one citation for closed season and one for an unplugged shotgun. The hunters were provided a 2009 waterfowl regulation book.

Warden Tyler Strelow, Madison, observed a boat traveling faster than SNW in a posted SNW area. Warden Strelow contacted the boater who was found to be operating under the influence and arrested for OWI. The operator registered .24 BAC.

Wardens Tyler Strelow and Dave Wood, both of Dane County, organized and attended the Dane County Safety Instructor Appreciation Picnic. The picnic was hosted by the Stoughton Conservation Club who also made a donation toward the meal. There were almost 100 volunteer safety education instructors in attendance.

Wardens Tyler Strelow and Warden Supervisor Jeremy Plautz investigated a hunting incident involving a squirrel hunter shooting another squirrel hunter. Wardens investigated and found that two hunters went squirrel hunting together and one hunter accidentally shot the other hunter in the face and arm. The investigation is pending while the victim recovers from injuries.