



Compliments of the Hunter Education Program

Because our holiday letter will be in the mail on Monday, we will keep this newsletter short and sweet. If your mailing address has changed in the last year, or if you haven't been getting letters in the mail from us each year, please reach out to us at HunterEducation@vermont.gov and let us know!

If you have something you would like to add to our next issue, please e-mail us!

-Nicole Meier and the Vermont Hunter Education Program

Newsletter Archives Now Available!

Never miss a newsletter again! Our instructor newsletter will now be archived on the VT Fish & Wildlife website and available for all instructors to view by clicking here:

<http://tinyurl.com/InstructorNewsletter>

Instructor Training & Recognition Banquet: Your Input Needed!

Many instructors answered our last request for input in regards to the training and recognition banquet content. Thanks to you, we are formulating our banquet based off of that input.

We need your input once again in order to select a date for our meeting!

Answer our survey about the banquet date here:

<http://tinyurl.com/InstructorBanquet2017>

New Tools and Data Resources for Outdoor Recreationalists

[WMA Locator](#)—A web-based mapping tool that allows you to move around the WMA map, and interact with the map in many useful ways with data layers.

[Virtual Tour of WMAs](#)—Created to increase the excitement for and use of WMAs, you can take a virtual tour of many of our WMAs on YouTube.

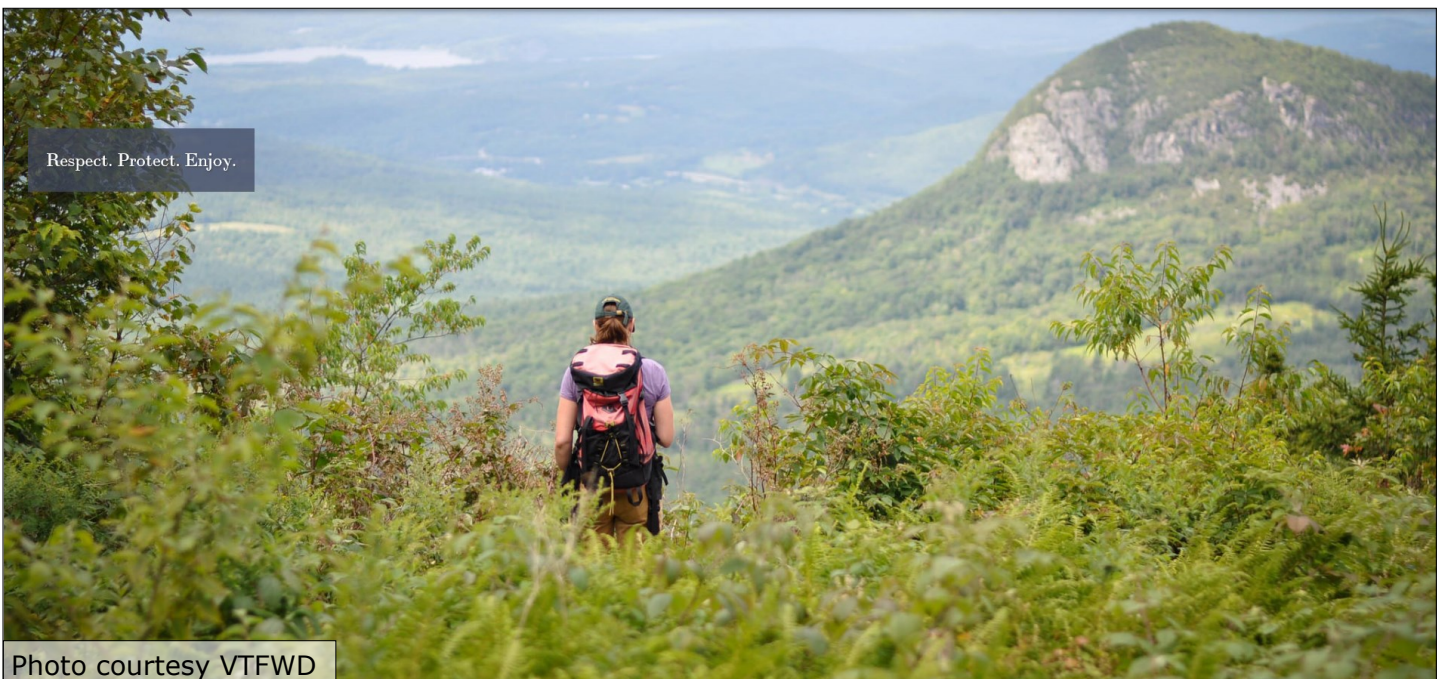
[Explore a Wildlife Management Area](#)—Created with AdobeSpark, this page weaves the story of the importance of Wildlife Management Areas with beautiful photos. This will hopefully inspire outdoor enthusiasts to check out a new WMA.

[Making the Case for Plants](#)—Also created with AdobeSpark, this page is an educational tool that uses high resolution photos to tell the story of rare plants in Vermont. This visually stunning narrative is catching the attention of lots of people, and the Department is thinking of expanding the use of AdobeSpark to trainings, workshops, etc.

[Trail Finder](#)—One mapping tool that brings together trail data from a multiple trail networks, organizations, and crowd-sourced platforms in Vermont and New Hampshire. This tool helps outdoor users find a trail for their preferred type of recreation. Funded by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, & Recreation and other partners.

[BioFinder](#)—A robust mapping application designed specifically conservation planning Vermont communities.

[Flood Ready Atlas](#)—Flood Ready Atlas After Tropical Storm Irene, multiple state agencies--including the Agency of Natural Resources--came together to create a data and mapping resource for flood resilience planning.



Winter 2017 Clinics and Seminars

This winter, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is offering some fun seminars to get people outside! If you have an idea for a seminar, or would like to participate, please let us know.

Event Name	Event Date	Event Location	More Information & Sign Up Info
Introduction to Fly Tying	January 12, 19, 26, 2017	VT Fish & Wildlife Annex Building, Montpelier	http://bit.ly/2gDkuMd
Black Bear, Hare Hunting, Deer Processing, & more!	January 20-22, 2017	Champlain Valley Expo, Essex Junction	yankeeclassic.net
2017 Ice Fishing Festival	January 28, 2017	Hoyts Landing, Springfield	http://tinyurl.com/IceFish4FreeVT2017
Intermediate Fly Tying	February 9, 16, & March 2, 2017	VT Fish & Wildlife Annex Building, Montpelier	http://bit.ly/2h77DTs
Fur Tanning Seminar	February 11, 2017	VT Fish & Wildlife Annex Building, Montpelier	http://bit.ly/2h7m1xo

Looking for Vermont Hunting Stories

Our Vermont instructors have some amazing hunting stories. Some of them are used as valuable teaching tools in our classes. They often captivate the audience of kids and adults alike, and can be used to demonstrate the importance of ethics and safety while hunting. Kalkomey Enterprises (the same people that make the Today's Hunter and Bowhunter manuals as well as Event Manager) is looking for your stories to weave into the international conversations about hunting. These stories will be used as a teaching tool, and will be added to current educational content. See the message below from Kalkomey:

In order to reach more prospective hunters and continue to remind existing hunters to be safe in the field, Hunter Ed is now featuring stories submitted by real hunter education instructors on our blog and social media. We'd love to get some input from hunters all across the country.

You can see an example of one of our popular posts here: <http://www.hunter-ed.com/blog/letter-landowner-elk-hunt/>

If you have a good story to tell, please send them to Megan at mdyer@kalkomey.com

Get Your Deer Yet?

We wanted to take a moment to showcase some of the great photos that instructors have sent to us! Good job! Did you get your deer yet?



Jeff Eastman. Muzzleloader. 124lbs. 6pts.



Paul Conover. Rifle. 158.5lbs 7pts.



Sandy Malanchuck. Muzzleloader. 130lbs.



Mark Raishart. Rifle. 4 pts.

Watch the Mail!

Our end of the year instructor letter will be in the mail on Monday, December 12, so watch your mailbox! If your mailing address has changed in the last year, or if you haven't been getting letters in the mail from us each year, please reach out to us at HunterEducation@vermont.gov and let us know!



New Instructor Deals! *Gifts for the Hunter, Angler, or Hiker!*

IHEA-USA instructors now have access to Experticity, an exclusive community where you can get VIP discounts and special information on products from the hunting brands you know and love. Score up to 70% off top hunting brands.

It's this simple:

- Go to www.experticity.com/iheainstructors
- Enter your email address
- Complete your profile to lock in your access

As an added bonus, Experticity will donate \$5 to IHEA-USA for every instructor that becomes a new member.

Instructor Toolbox Available on IHEA-USA Site by Megan Wisecup, IHEA-USA President

The Instructor Toolbox is now live on the IHEA-USA website! [Check it out by clicking here!](#) The toolbox has been set up to follow the current IHEA-USA standards so finding specific tools, ideas and resources by content topic should be much easier for instructors to find. If you have any new resources, tools or ideas you would like to see added please pass them on!

Yankee Classic: Coming Up Soon



Mark Scott demonstrates how to age a deer by looking at its teeth.
Photo courtesy of VT Fish & Wildlife

Are you interested in helping out with the Yankee Classic? We are looking for volunteers to help staff the Hunter Education booth on the following days:

Date	AM Shift Time	PM Shift Time
Friday, January 20, 2017	12pm—4pm (1 volunteer)	3:30pm—7pm (2 volunteers)
Saturday, January 21, 2017	9am—2:30pm (2 volunteers)	1:30pm—7pm (2 volunteers)
Sunday, January 22, 2017	9am—1pm (2 volunteers)	1pm—5pm (2 volunteers)

Instructors will gain free entry to the show on the day that they help out! If you are interested, please contact Nicole at Nicole.Meier@vermont.gov

For more information about the Yankee, visit their website: <http://yankeeclassic.net/>

Contact Us!

This is YOUR newsletter! Have a photo or story you'd like to share? E-mail us with your suggestions, stories, pictures or other input!



All Hunter Education Staff

New!

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