



The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources will host its "Hunter Education Day" on Saturday Aug. 2. (Photo submitted)

'Hunter Education Day' is Aug. 2

STAFF REPORT

Kentucky's fall hunting season begins mid-August, and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is hosting a special statewide "Hunter Education Day" to help prepare new hunters for a safe and successful experience in the field.

The department will offer 20 in-person Hunter Education classes and live-fire range days at convenient locations across Kentucky on Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025.

This annual educational opportunity is held in August in conjunction with National Shooting Sports Month when additional attention is brought to shooting sports to grow the pastime in communities across the nation.

"Our annual Hunter Education Day is one of the best ways to provide new hunters, especially young hunters, with a convenient all-in-one opportunity to complete their required hunter education in time for the many fall hunting seasons," said Megan Bagby, hunter educa-

tion supervisor for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "Whether participants go on to hunt or join the more than 60-million Americans who already enjoy the shooting sports, this is a convenient and free way to learn about firearms basics."

The department's Hunter Education training class includes hunter ethics, wildlife conservation and identification, field care of game, first aid, firearm safety, archery and muzzleloading. In an in-person course, the last session will include a written test and a live-fire exercise. In an online course, the live-fire exercise will be available at a department-provided range day.

In addition to Hunter Education Day, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife offers both in-person and online education options, as well as in-person range days, throughout the year across Kentucky. To learn more about these Hunter Education opportunities and to register, visit the department's Hunter Education webpage.

All in-person courses and range days are open to participants who are at least 9 years old and are offered for

free, but registration is required for each session. Registered participants are provided necessary equipment at no charge for use during testing at the ranges. Online hunter education courses are offered by partnering organizations, and some require a fee.

In most cases, to legally hunt in Kentucky all hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1975, and age 12 or older, are required to have successfully completed a one-time hunter education course and have an un-expired hunting license appropriate for their hunting activity. Species-specific permits in addition to an annual hunting license are required for hunting deer, wild turkeys, bear, bobcats and sandhill cranes. Hunter education credentials issued by other states are valid in Kentucky. Licenses and permits may be purchased through the department's license sales portal or through licensed retail vendors across the state.

For more information about Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, as well as hunting dates and regulations, visit fw.ky.gov.

Kentucky Proud to be featured at national market

BY TOM LATEK
Kentucky Today

Kentucky Proud, the state's official agricultural marketing brand, is participating in the Great American Farmers Market taking place at the National Mall in Washington, D.C., next month, Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell has announced.

The weeklong celebration, a showcase of American agriculture, brings together more than 50 vendors each day, representing 28 states across the country, serving as a tribute to the creativity and resilience of farmers, growers and producers who embody the heart of America's agricultural heritage.

"Here in Kentucky, we know agriculture is the true backbone of our heritage and we are proud of it," Shell said. "Having our Kentucky Proud products represented on a national stage will bring much-deserved attention to Kentucky producers and farm families. We are beyond excited to participate in a celebration that highlights agriculture and the strength and grit of our American farmer."

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Kentucky Proud program, which has been around for more than two decades, raises awareness of the state's ever-expanding agricultural efforts to promote Kentucky's farmers, farm families and farm impact products grown, raised or processed in Kentucky by Kentuckians.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Great American Farmers Market is held in celebration with America 250 – the countdown to America's 250th anniversary. U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins announced the market will kick off with a ribbon cutting, live music and opening ceremony Aug. 3 and continue through Aug. 8.

Rollins stated, "America's farmers, ranchers, and producers dedicate their lives to feeding their fellow citizens, and the Great American Farmers Market gives us the perfect opportunity to showcase the rich bounty of our agriculture on the National Mall. No President has supported farmers more than President Trump. Every single day we are fighting for our farmers and ranchers by cutting taxes, strengthening the farm safety net, and delivering huge wins in the One Big Beautiful Bill so producers can continue feeding our nation for generations to come. This historic farmers market will give visitors to our nation's capital opportunities to learn, shop, snack, and explore."

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