

MN Firearms Safety/Hunter Education Lesson Plan-CH 5.

Subject:	Chapter 5: Hunter Safety.	Time:	3 hrs
Overview & Purpose: This chapter covers what hunters can do to prevent hunting accidents and how to avoid hunting injuries. Included is blaze orange/pink, equipment usage, moving across terrain, and avoiding drugs and alcohol.			

Objectives

The following objectives are found on pages 32-41.

1. Explain the importance of wearing hunter orange to prevent hunting-related shooting incidents. Pg. 32
2. Choose a safe firearm carry while hunting alone and with others. Pg. 33
3. Show how to cross an obstacle or hazardous terrain when hunting alone and with others. Pg. 34
4. Understand your zone of fire and when it is safe to take a shot. Pg. 35
5. Explain the basics to a safe turkey hunt. Pg. 36
6. Understand the basics of tree stand safety. Pg. 37
7. Name the different types of tree stands. Pg. 38
8. Describe how to use a full body harness and a haul line. Pg. 40
9. Identify common causes of hunting and shooting related incidents. Pg 41

Suggested Teaching Materials

- Markers for Flipchart
- Flipchart
- Whiteboard/Blackboard (alternate to flipchart)
- Laptop – AV equip
- HE Tools DVD
 - Hunting from a ground blind.
 - Staying safe after the shot.
 - Safe firearm carries.
 - Safe Fence crossing.
 - Safe zones of fire.
 - Preparing to hunt from a treestand.
 - Treestand hunting safety.
 - Effectiveness of blaze orange.
- Projector & Screen
- Firearms for demonstration/practice. **NO LIVE AMMO!**
- Full body harnesses, youth and adult sized.
- Varying blaze orange/pink garments including solid and camo patterns.

<p>Information (present/demonstrate necessary information)</p>	<p>Instructors' present varying blaze colors and patterns to show solid blaze orange is most visible.</p> <p><u>Demonstrate:</u> Carry methods for hunting situations.</p> <p>How to cross fences/obstacles alone or with a partner.</p> <p>Zones of fire.</p> <p>Turkey hunt safety.</p> <p>Tree stand safety and tree stand types including showing how to use a harness.</p> <p>Discuss not using drugs/alcohol to prevent hunting incidents.</p>		
<p>Verification (Steps to check for student understanding)</p>			
<p>Activity (Steps to check for student understanding)</p>	<p>In small group or individually, have students practice safe carry methods and cross obstacles.</p> <p>Have small groups show zones of fire using their arms to show their limits.</p> <p>Have student try on and adjust full body harnesses.</p>		
<p>Summary</p>	<p>This unit will develop the students' sense of personal safety and teach them the responsibility to finish the hunt without injury.</p>		<p>Additional Notes</p>

Instructor talking points:

Objective 1 – pg 32

Explain the importance of wearing hunter orange to prevent hunting-related shooting incidents.

1. Blaze clothing makes hunting a safe sport.
2. Blaze clothing is required during small game, firearms deer and muzzleloader deer seasons.
3. Solid blaze is more effective than camo blaze pattern. **The idea is to be seen!**
4. Blaze not required for all hunting, but is a good idea while walking to or from your hunt location.

Objective 2 – pg 33

Choose safe firearm carry methods while hunting alone and with others.

1. Two handed carry. Best control of the firearm.
2. Cradle carry. Lay forearm in bent off-side elbow. Be cautious of other hunting party members to your sides.
3. Shoulder carry. Firearm` forearm on shoulder holding grip with one hand. Be cautious of people behind you.
4. Trail carry. Hold stock/action area with one hand. Keep muzzle downward and be cautious of people in front of you.
5. Elbow carry. Place stock inside of upper arm. Strong side forearm supports firearm. Keep muzzle pointing down.

Objective 3 – pg 34

Show how to cross an obstacle or hazardous terrain when hunting alone and with others.

1. May want to discuss/practice passing firearms to another person again prior to this.
2. Easy to lose footing or slip while crossing obstacles.
3. Always unload firearm prior to crossing. Safety ON.
4. For solo crossing, place hat/glove on ground to protect muzzle.
5. For double crossing, one crosses first, properly pass firearm(s), second person crosses.

Note: When multiple people are loading/unloading firearms, have them stand back-to-back.

Objective 4 – pg 35

Understand your zone of fire and when it is safe to take a shot.

1. The zone of fire is the area you may shoot safely.
 - a. How do you find your zone of fire?
 - i. Hold your hands at 45 degrees to the point you see your thumbs clearly.
2. Waterfowl and upland bird hunters have triangle shaped zones of fire.
3. Hunters on the outside have wider zones than the hunters in the middle.
4. Stay on a line. Don't get too far ahead or behind.
5. No one shoots at game that gets behind the line of hunters.

Objective 5 – pg 36

Turkey Hunting Safety.

1. Never stalk a turkey. You may become mistaken for one.
2. Never wear red, white, or blue. These are all colors of a turkey's head. Watch out for bandanas, T-shirt necks and soda pop cans that may have these colors as well.
3. Have a background (tree) as wide as your shoulders.
4. Never shoot at sound or movement.
5. Always see the whole bird before you shoot.
6. Keep your decoy hidden until set up time.
7. Cover your decoy and killed turkey while walking out.

Objective 6 – pg 37

Understand the basics of tree stand safety, including what to look for and how to stay safe while in your tree stand.

1. Biggest hazard with stands is falling.
2. Usually more injuries per year than firearms.
3. Avoid screw pegs. Use climbing sticks.
4. The best harness is one you will wear.
5. 3 points of contact while climbing ladder.
6. Step down onto tree stand.
7. Tether is tight while seated.

Objective 7 – pg 38

Name the different types of tree stands.

1. Hang-on stand.
2. Ladder stand.
3. Climbing stand.
4. Self-supporting stand. (Tripod tower).
5. Homemade permanent in tree. Should never be used.

Objective 8 – pg 40

Describe how to use a full body harness and a haul-line.

1. Full body harness.
 - a. Suspension Trauma can be dangerous in minutes. Keep legs moving to circulate blood.
 - b. Keep cell phone or other communication in reach of either hand.
 - c. Replace harness after a fall.
2. Haul-line.
 - a. Use to pull up or lower your unloaded firearm/bow and equipment.

Objective 9a – pg 41

Identify common causes of hunting and shooting-related incidents.

1. Hunter Judgement Mistakes.
2. Safety Rule Violation.
3. Lack of Control and Practice.
4. Mechanical Failure.

Objective 9b – pg 41

Identify reasons for avoiding alcohol and drug consumption prior to and during the hunt.

1. Impaired judgement. First thing that happens.
2. Visual impairment.
3. Slurred speech.
4. Drowsiness.
5. Breathing difficulties.
6. Decreased perception and coordination.