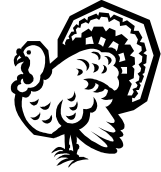


**From: Plymouth DNR Service Center
"The Woodchucks"**



**To: Sheboygan County Conservation Association
January 20, 2010**

From the Front Line: Cheryl & Bob

- **SERVICE CENTER HOURS ARE CHANGED** - The Plymouth Service Center is now open to the public only on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00am-12:30pm & 1:30-4:00pm. The DNR customer service telephone line will still be available seven days a week, 7am to 10pm, at 1-888-WDNR INFO (936-7463).
- **Unit 77M Bow season** - Remains open through January 31st. Registration deadline is 5:00pm on the third day after the kill or February 1st, whichever comes first.
- **Snowmobile/Ski Trail Conditions** - For Sheboygan County snowmobile trails, please call 892-7455, or check the Northern Kettles Snowmobile Club website at: www.nkmsnow.com. For cross-country ski trails, you can contact the Nordic Ski Club (467-2099), or the Kettle Moraine State Forest (262-626-2116).
- **2010 Sturgeon Spearing** - Opens February 13th on Lake Winnebago or upriver lakes for spearers that hold the appropriate tag. Regulations are now available from our website at: http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/fish/regulations/2010/documents/2010WinnebagoSturgeonSpearingRegulationPamp_hlet.pdf
- **Boat Renewals** - Notices for boats expiring in 2010 will be mailed around late February. However, boat owners can renew now at our office or online at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cs/registrations/wivrs/>
- **Season Dates:**
 - Squirrel hunting season closes January 31st
 - Rabbit hunting season closes February 28th
 - 2010 licenses go on sale around March 1st
- **Spring Turkey Permit drawing** - The drawing for Spring Turkey Permits has not been done yet, so permits probably won't be sent out until early February. You can visit our website periodically to check your status at: www.dnr.wi.gov. Licenses can be purchased around March 1st. Leftover tags will be sold around the third week of March, with only one zone being sold per day. Watch the newspapers for further details, or check back on the DNR website for finalized sale information.

From Law Enforcement: Joe, Mark, & Mike

- **All Fishing Tournaments now need a DNR Permit** - A number of local Clubs sponsor ice fishing and open-water fishing derbies on our local lakes. A new tournament rule package went into effect on 05-01-2009. In the past, some of these events did not need a permit under the old rules. However, the new rules require more of these events to have a permit. Applicants need to use the online system at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/fishingtournaments>.
 - ◆ “Fishing Tournament” - Means any organized fishing activity where competition is the primary purpose, and where incentives are awarded (Money, prizes, points).
 - ◆ Who will need a Fishing Tournament Permit - Any of the following fishing tournaments will be required to have a permit:
 1. Those with 20 or more boats or 100 or more participants, or
 2. Those which target trout on classified trout streams, or
 3. Those that will be a catch-hold-release tournament with an off-site weigh-in, or
 4. Those with prizes of \$10,000 or more.If none of these criteria are met, no permit is required. No permit is required when no specific waterbody to be fished is established.
 - ◆ Fishing Tournament permit fees are established.
 - ◆ For assistance with permits, contact Fisheries Supervisor Susan Beyler in Waukesha at 262-574-2121. (the Fisheries Biologist position has not been filled in Plymouth, to date).
- **Ice Travel - ATV & Snowmobile:**
 - ◆ Reminder that all operators need to slow down to 10MPH when within 100FT of an ice shanty or pedestrian.
 - ◆ We’ve had a couple injury crashes already this month. Speed and glare ice have been significant factors.
 - ◆ We’ve also splashed at least 1 snowmobile on the Sheboygan River. Fortunately, no injuries. We are in the midst of our traditional “January thaw”. All ice users should anticipate changing and variable conditions; from thin ice, to open-water. Just because it is mid-January, doesn’t automatically mean it is safe to take a vehicle on the ice.
- Warden Clutter received a complaint through the Sheboygan County Sheriff Department relaying information concerning a man shooting a pheasant from the road. Investigation resulted in a man from Fond du Lac admitting to shooting from the road and trespassing to retrieve the bird. Other complaints received included deer baiting and late hunting. January complaints included a report of illegal turkey hunting (turned out to be road-kill) and suspicious injured deer (unknown cause of injury); that doe is still getting around well.
- An error was found in the Northern Zone hunting hours in the Small Game Hunting regulations for the month of February. The corrected hours are included below:

	Jan		Feb		Mar		April		May		June		July		Aug		Sep		Oct		Nov		Dec		Date
Date	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	Date
1	7:01	4:37	6:42	5:16	5:59	5:57	6:00	7:38	5:08	8:17	4:34	8:52	4:35	9:03	5:04	8:39	5:41	7:48	6:18	6:50	7:00	5:57	6:40	4:28	1
2	7:01	4:38	6:40	5:18	5:57	5:58	5:58	7:40	5:06	8:19	4:34	8:53	4:35	9:03	5:05	8:37	5:42	7:46	6:20	6:48	7:01	5:55	6:42	4:27	2
3	7:01	4:39	6:39	5:19	5:55	6:00	5:57	7:41	5:05	8:20	4:33	8:54	4:36	9:03	5:06	8:36	5:44	7:44	6:21	6:47	7:03	5:54	6:43	4:27	3
4	7:01	4:40	6:38	5:21	5:53	6:01	5:55	7:42	5:03	8:21	4:33	8:55	4:36	9:02	5:07	8:35	5:45	7:42	6:22	6:45	7:04	5:53	6:44	4:27	4
5	7:01	4:41	6:37	5:22	5:51	6:02	5:53	7:44	5:02	8:22	4:32	8:55	4:37	9:02	5:08	8:33	5:46	7:41	6:24	6:43	7:06	5:51	6:45	4:26	5
6	7:00	4:42	6:35	5:24	5:50	6:04	5:51	7:45	5:01	8:24	4:32	8:56	4:38	9:02	5:09	8:32	5:47	7:39	6:25	6:41	7:07	5:50	6:46	4:26	6
7	7:00	4:43	6:34	5:25	5:48	6:05	5:49	7:46	4:59	8:25	4:31	8:57	4:39	9:01	5:11	8:30	5:49	7:37	6:26	6:39	6:08	6:49	6:47	4:26	7
8	7:00	4:44	6:32	5:27	5:46	6:07	5:47	7:48	4:58	8:26	4:31	8:58	4:39	9:01	5:12	8:29	5:50	7:35	6:27	6:37	6:10	6:47	6:48	4:26	8
9	7:00	4:45	6:31	5:28	5:44	6:08	5:45	7:49	4:56	8:27	4:31	8:58	4:40	9:00	5:13	8:27	5:51	7:33	6:29	6:35	6:11	6:46	6:49	4:26	9
10	6:59	4:46	6:30	5:30	5:42	6:09	5:43	7:50	4:55	8:29	4:31	8:59	4:41	9:00	5:14	8:26	5:52	7:31	6:30	6:33	6:13	6:45	6:50	4:26	10
11	6:59	4:48	6:28	5:31	5:40	6:11	5:42	7:51	4:54	8:30	4:30	8:59	4:42	8:59	5:16	8:24	5:54	7:29	6:31	6:32	6:14	6:44	6:51	4:26	11
12	6:59	4:49	6:27	5:33	5:38	6:12	5:40	7:53	4:53	8:31	4:30	9:00	4:43	8:59	5:17	8:23	5:55	7:27	6:33	6:30	6:16	6:43	6:52	4:26	12
13	6:58	4:50	6:25	5:34	5:37	6:13	5:38	7:54	4:51	8:32	4:30	9:00	4:43	8:58	5:18	8:21	5:56	7:25	6:34	6:28	6:17	6:41	6:52	4:26	13
14	6:58	4:51	6:24	5:35	5:35	7:15	5:36	7:55	4:50	8:33	4:30	9:01	4:44	8:57	5:19	8:20	5:57	7:23	6:35	6:26	6:18	6:40	6:53	4:26	14
15	6:57	4:53	6:22	5:37	6:33	7:16	5:34	7:57	4:49	8:35	4:30	9:01	4:45	8:56	5:20	8:18	5:58	7:21	6:37	6:24	6:20	6:39	6:54	4:27	15
16	6:56	4:54	6:21	5:38	6:31	7:17	5:33	7:58	4:48	8:36	4:30	9:02	4:46	8:56	5:22	8:16	6:00	7:19	6:38	6:23	6:21	6:38	6:55	4:27	16
17	6:56	4:55	6:19	5:40	6:29	7:19	5:31	7:59	4:47	8:37	4:30	9:02	4:47	8:55	5:23	8:15	6:01	7:17	6:39	6:21	6:22	6:37	6:55	4:27	17
18	6:55	4:57	6:17	5:41	6:27	7:20	5:29	8:01	4:46	8:38	4:30	9:02	4:48	8:54	5:24	8:13	6:02	7:15	6:41	6:19	6:24	6:36	6:56	4:27	18
19	6:54	4:58	6:16	5:43	6:25	7:21	5:27	8:02	4:45	8:39	4:30	9:03	4:49	8:53	5:25	8:11	6:03	7:14	6:42	6:17	6:25	6:35	6:57	4:28	19
20	6:54	4:59	6:14	5:44	6:23	7:23	5:26	8:03	4:44	8:40	4:30	9:03	4:50	8:52	5:27	8:10	6:05	7:12	6:43	6:16	6:27	6:35	6:57	4:28	20
21	6:53	5:01	6:13	5:46	6:21	7:24	5:24	8:04	4:43	8:41	4:31	9:03	4:51	8:51	5:28	8:08	6:06	7:10	6:45	6:14	6:28	6:34	6:58	4:29	21
22	6:52	5:02	6:11	5:47	6:19	7:25	5:22	8:06	4:42	8:43	4:31	9:03	4:52	8:50	5:29	8:06	6:07	7:08	6:46	6:12	6:29	6:33	6:58	4:29	22
23	6:51	5:03	6:09	5:48	6:18	7:27	5:21	8:07	4:41	8:44	4:31	9:04	4:53	8:49	5:30	8:04	6:08	7:06	6:47	6:11	6:30	6:32	6:59	4:30	23
24	6:50	5:05	6:07	5:50	6:16	7:28	5:19	8:08	4:40	8:45	4:31	9:04	4:54	8:48	5:31	8:03	6:10	7:04	6:49	6:09	6:32	6:32	6:59	4:30	24
25	6:49	5:06	6:06	5:51	6:14	7:29	5:17	8:10	4:39	8:46	4:32	9:04	4:56	8:47	5:33	8:01	6:11	7:02	6:50	6:08	6:33	6:31	7:00	4:31	25
26	6:48	5:08	6:04	5:53	6:12	7:31	5:16	8:11	4:38	8:47	4:32	9:04	4:57	8:46	5:34	7:59	6:12	7:00	6:52	6:06	6:34	6:30	7:00	4:32	26
27	6:47	5:09	6:02	5:54	6:10	7:32	5:14	8:12	4:37	8:48	4:33	9:04	4:58	8:45	5:35	7:57	6:13	6:58	6:53	6:04	6:36	6:30	7:00	4:32	27
28	6:46	5:11	6:00	5:56	6:08	7:33	5:13	8:14	4:37	8:49	4:33	9:04	4:59	8:44	5:36	7:55	6:15	6:56	6:54	6:03	6:37	6:29	7:00	4:33	28
29	6:45	5:12			6:06	7:34	5:11	8:15	4:36	8:50	4:34	9:04	5:00	8:42	5:38	7:54	6:16	6:54	6:56	6:01	6:38	6:29	7:01	4:34	29
30	6:44	5:13			6:04	7:36	5:09	8:16	4:35	8:50	4:34	9:03	5:01	8:41	5:39	7:52	6:17	6:52	6:57	6:00	6:39	6:28	7:01	4:35	30
31	6:43	5:15			6:02	7:37			4:35	8:51			5:02	8:40	5:40	7:50			6:59	6:58			7:01	4:36	31

From Wildlife: Dale, Missy, Dan, Ed, & Steve

- **Mid-winter waterfowl survey** - A continent-wide mid-winter waterfowl survey is done during the first week of every year to get a post-hunt index measure of the waterfowl population. Ed Eilert and Steve Klock surveyed the inland portion of Sheboygan County on January 5th, and the aerial survey of the Lake Michigan coast was also done on that same day. Our inland Sheboygan County count of ducks, geese, and swans was (3,746) this year. This compares to (1,062) in 2009, (1,652) in 2008, (4,483) in 2007, and (18,106) in 2006. The inland survey tends to be highly variable from year-to-year because the amount of freeze-up and snow cover tends to vary widely. The entire Lake Michigan aerial survey from Illinois to the tip of Door County counted (12,416) ducks, geese, and swans this year. This is the lowest number seen on the flight since 2001, even though we had a pretty good freeze up inland this year and the amount of frozen area of Lake Michigan stays fairly consistent from year-to-year. Totals for the Lake Michigan survey for the past four years were: (25,226) in 2009, (57,515) in 2008, (40,979) in 2007 and (59,125) in 2006.
- **Food plot field checks** - Wildlife Technician Steve Klock is busy checking the wildlife use of our winter food plots. These food plots are portions of sharecrop fields that are normally left standing for over-winter use by wildlife. They are located at Sheboygan Marsh and Nichols Creek Wildlife Areas, Onion River Stream Bank Protection Area, and Kettle Moraine State Forest - Northern Unit. Of the fields he's checked so far, he's found an average of 10" to 14" of snow; wildlife use has ranged from little use in one field that contained a lot of good looking corn, to heavy deer use on one field that had just one acre of corn; one field had no matured corn, a couple of fields had some mold present on the corn. We will continue to monitor these food plots throughout the winter whenever possible.
- **Deer hunting opportunities for returning troops** - From an idea that Senator Vinehout and Representative Danou initiated, DNR is trying to provide deer hunting opportunities for returning soldiers that were out of state during the 2009 deer hunting season. Interested hunters will be put in contact with deer shooting permit holders that voluntarily agree to provide tags to returning soldiers. DNR will send a letter to individuals that have received a deer shooting permit in 2010 asking them if they are willing to provide tags to returning soldiers. From the responses, a list will be generated of available tags. In conjunction, a DNR press release will be going out sometime soon informing returning soldiers they should call the DNR Call Center with their contact information and the location of where they are interested in hunting. Interested hunters will be put in contact with the nearest landowner that has offered to provide tags.