

## **Mentored Youth Hunt (MYH) Frequently Asked Questions:**

### ***What does the new law do?***

The law allows youths *under the age of 10* to hunt with a mentor. Mentored youths will be required to obtain a mentored youth hunting license and hunt in conjunction with the Mentored Youth Hunting program.

### ***When does the program begin?***

The program begins March 1, 2012, and mentored youth hunters will be able to participate in the spring turkey hunt.

### ***What are the regulations for this program?***

Mentored youths must be accompanied by an adult at least 21 years old, with hunting experience and in possession of a valid Michigan hunting license. The mentor is limited to two hunting devices (firearm, bow or crossbow) in the field while mentoring a youth hunter. When the youth is engaged in the act of hunting, he or she must be within arm's length of the mentor. The mentor will be held responsible for all actions of the mentored youth hunter while in the field.

### ***How many youth hunters can I mentor in the field?***

The regulations and law do not put a limit on the number of children a mentor may take in the field with him or her. However, the DNR strongly suggests you limit the number of children to one or two to ensure a quality and enjoyable time for your mentored youth hunter.

### ***How much will a mentored youth hunt license cost?***

The cost for a mentored youth license is \$7.50. The fee was established in the legislation that created the license. Parents or legal guardians will also need to purchase a \$1 DNR Sportcard for the youth hunter. The Sportcard gives the youth a unique identifying number in the DNR's license sales system.

### ***What hunting privileges are provided under this license?***

Resident small game, two deer tags (any deer), spring and fall turkey (for any public or private lands), all-species fishing, and resident fur harvesters. The deer tags may only be used on private land, which is consistent with current state law for youth hunters ages 10-13.

### ***Does my child under 10 need hunter safety classes first?***

There is no requirement in the Mentored Youth Hunting program that the youth hunter take a hunter safety course first. However, the DNR strongly encourages that they do. A list of hunter safety courses by county can be found here ([link to recreation class database](#)).

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### ***Is it safe to take children under 10 hunting?***

The intent of the law is to let parents and guardians, not the government, decide when a child is ready to hunt. Statistically speaking, youth hunters are the safest hunters in the woods because of the direct adult supervision they receive.

### ***Does my mentored youth hunter have to apply for a turkey management unit hunt?***

No, a mentored youth hunter can hunt in any turkey management unit or on private land.

### ***Can the deer tags for a mentored youth hunter be used on public land?***

Not at this time. Deer tags can be used on private land only, consistent with current state law for youth hunters ages 10-13

### ***What is the apprentice license?***

The apprentice license is for anyone *10 years of age and older* who has not received hunter safety certification. An individual may hunt with an apprentice license for two license years. For apprentices between ages 10-16, the accompanying hunter must be the apprentice's parent, guardian, or someone designated by the parent or guardian.

### ***What license do I purchase once I receive my hunter safety certification?***

If you are 10 years of age or older with hunter safety certification, you can purchase regular hunting licenses.

### ***What if my child just wants to fish? Does he or she need a mentored youth license?***

No, if your child just wants to fish, he or she can fish in Michigan without a license until they are 17. However, the DNR does sell a voluntary \$2 Youth Fishing License that supports fish habitat management in Michigan.