

## History

Minnesota 4-H began the Shooting Sports project with a pilot program in September, 1979, when 13 counties sent volunteer adult leaders for a weekend of intensive training. Within nine months the program was approved and approximately 500 youth were enrolled.

Since that time, the Minnesota project has grown—to 823 4-H youth in 1983, 1,645 in 1984, 2,754 in 1985 and 3,010 in 1986.



Air Rifle



Scoring Targets

For More Information, Contact:



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GOVS

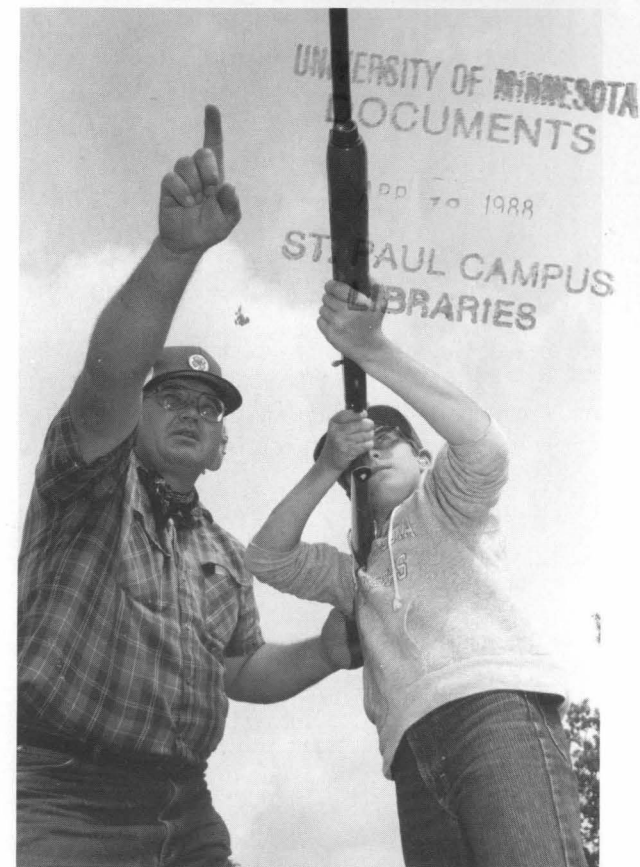
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## Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports/ Wildlife Project

Minnesota Extension Service  
University of Minnesota  
1987





Taxidermy Project Meeting Activity

Welcome to the world of shooting sports and wildlife management. In this 4-H program area you will develop skills and acquire knowledge that will be with you all your life. You will develop a respect for and skill with the use of firearms and bows, and you will understand more about wildlife management practices.

Major emphasis is on developing your character and leadership abilities through the use of marksmanship and wildlife conservation skill training.

## Goals and Objectives

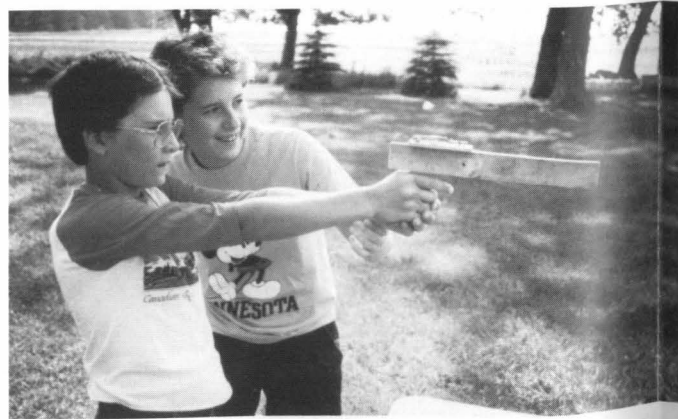
Overall objective of the Shooting Sports/ Wildlife Project is to give you a chance to experience and appreciate the recreational potential of shooting sports. To meet this objective, the project can help you to:

- develop leadership and citizenship
- practice safe, responsible use of firearms
- develop positive relationships with adults and family members
- develop an understanding of the principles of wildlife management
- develop self-discipline in skills
- learn sportsmanship and ethical behavior
- develop an appreciation for the history and tradition of shooting sports
- appreciate shooting sports as a lifetime recreation or career.

## Activities

When the Shooting Sports project began in 1979, the activity list was restricted to small bore rifle marksmanship and shotgun training. Now 24 activities have been officially approved for inclusion in the Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports/Wildlife Program:

- .22 rifle
- woodworking
- safety
- air rifle
- hand loading
- BB gun
- foods — game cookery
- taxidermy
- antique gun collection
- gun-smithing
- camping
- survival skills
- legal aspects
- shotgun
- wildlife habitat improvement
- hunter education and ethics
- air pistol
- clothing
- muzzle loading
- archery
- health
- conservation education
- junior leadership
- hunting



Making a Mousetrap Pistol

## Advancement Program

Participants in the 4-H Shooting Sports/Wildlife project advance through a series of skill-building steps, each offering a variety of activities. With the assistance of your family and leaders, you will choose and complete the activities you want. You will receive an Advancement Certificate after you finish each step.

As part of your training, you will be encouraged to learn one or more project skills, then assume a position of leadership (learning *life skills*) by assisting in teaching these project skills to other 4-H members.

## Instructor and Adult Certification

A unique feature of the 4-H Shooting Sports/Wildlife project is its emphasis on training for adult and junior 4-H leaders. Instructor certification is offered in:

- shotgun
- rifle
- pistol
- muzzle loading
- archery
- wildlife and conservation