



Outdoor
UNDERWRITERS, INC.

Hunter Check-In Boxes Can Prevent Accidents

Written by: Ed Wilson, Phd. CUO/ Manager Outdoor Underwriters Inc.

Background: A hunter was leaving the woods after an early morning hunt. It was a foggy, misty fall day in the Southern coastal plain.

Personal Characteristics: He was an experienced hunter in his mid-30s and was wearing his safety orange hunting vest. A second hunter was driving down a nearby woods road. Due to physical handicaps, the second hunter was confined to his vehicle.

Unsafe Act Or Condition: The Hunter in the vehicle was not aware of the location of other hunters and did not take time to clearly identify his target. The hunter in the woods assumed the other hunter saw him clearly.

Accident: The hunter driving down the road stopped his vehicle to look into the woods. The hunter walking towards the road proceeded toward the vehicle. The hunter in the truck noticed the movement and fired.

Injury: The hunter in the woods suffered severe buckshot wounds to the face, arms, chest & legs.

Recommendations for Correction:

All club members should be required to know all stand locations prior to the day's hunt. Check-in boards should be used on each hunting lease so that occupied stand locations are identified. No hunter should ever assume another hunter sees him. Quickly give a verbal signal when a vehicle or other hunter stops suddenly. Hunters should clearly identify a target before shooting and be absolutely sure, not only of the target but what is behind it.

Using a check-in board procedure allows identification of all hunters and stand locations. This provides a focal point for the hunting clubs safety program. Check-in boards can be designated to provide:

- An overall site map of the property showing major features, and hazards, of the leased property and all adjacent property.
- Emergency numbers for the local fire department, local sheriffs office, emergency dispatchers/paramedics, and landowners.
- Directions to the site from major roads or towns to be used to direct the emergency response to the site.
- Land lease contract and safety rules of the club.

Hunting members should be required to check in prior to commencing hunting activities and to check out after the day's hunt. Hunt club guests should be required to review the map to familiarize themselves with property features, club rules, and emergency procedures.

Hunter Check-In Box



Directions

From Edgefield SC - Go 3 miles north on Highway 25. Turn Right on Red Spring Road.
The gate will be on the right 2 miles from Highway 25.



Emergency Contacts

Johnston Fire Department- 1-803-275-2488

Landowner Name and Number: Ed Wilson 1-803-360-2241

Ridge Springs Fire Department: 1-803-685-5511

SCDNR Law Enforcement: 1-803-734-4303

Dry Creek Hunt Club Rules 2012

All club members are required to strictly adhere to all SC Game Laws and Hunting Regulations at all times. It is the responsibility of each member to read through and sign a copy of the rules upon the clubs acceptance of a membership application

Harvest Regulation

Bucks

Must be a minimum of 8 points
Must be a minimum of 26" height plus width
(Measurements are taken from the top of the tallest tine to the top of the skull and the outside width combined)
Buck Limit - 2 per season, the 2nd must measure 100"

Does

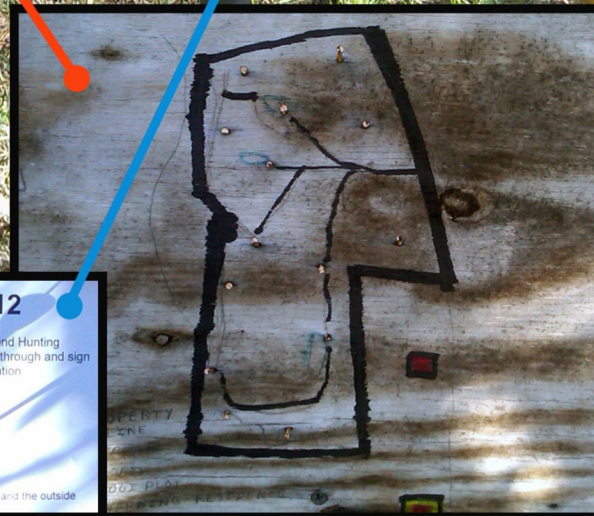
All members are expected to assist in our management of does per season with no cap till we reach the 100"

Youth Hunting

It is required that all youth-hunters under the age of 16 be accompanied by an adult at all times. Weapon selection will be restricted to bow, crossbow, or air rifle. Youth hunters between the ages of 14 and 16 that are not members must complete the necessary safety harness if hunting out of a tree stand, hunter safety course and are restricted to hunting crossbow. Youth hunters over the age of 16 that are not members must complete the necessary safety harness if hunting out of a tree stand, hunter safety course, and have successfully completed a hunter safety course.

Hunter Safety and the Sign in Board

Hunter Safety is of paramount concern, and the health and safety of all hunters on every outing regardless of the weather. All hunters are required to sign in and out at the club. It is important to circle your exact location, write your initials, and if hunting all day (AD). There will be no exceptions. Members signing in for afternoon hunts must do so before 4:00 PM. All ladder stands, tripods, and tower stands should be checked out at the beginning of the season a member should decide to use a stand. If a member is expected to move or add the corresponding sign to the sign in board. If hunting out of a climbing stand a hunter must circle their initials, date, and time of the hunt. If hunting out of a ground blind a hunter must circle their initials, date, and time of the hunt.



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