

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

IOWA DNR

www.iowaDNR.gov

For immediate release March 17, 2020

- 2020 annual spring sale cancelled
- · Parks Day at the Capitol & Gift to Iowa Ceremony
- Shooting sports/hunter's safety classes
- DNR cancels public meetings in West Union, Decorah

2020 annual spring sale cancelled

DES MOINES, Iowa -- In light of the Covid-19 and recommendations set forth by the CDC, the Iowa DNR is cancelling this weekend's spring auction at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

The auction was scheduled to take place in the Livestock Pavilion at the Iowa State Fairgrounds on Saturday, March 21. The public viewing on Friday is also cancelled.

At this time, no decision has been made whether this event will be rescheduled.

Parks Day at the Capitol & Gift to Iowa Ceremony

In light of the Covid-19 and recommendations set forth by the CDC, as well as the suspension of the legislative session and restricted access to the Capitol, the DNR is cancelling both the Parks Day at the Capitol and the Gift to Iowa Ceremony.

Both events were scheduled to be held on March 25, 2020 at the Capitol.

Donors scheduled to be recognized at this year's Gift to Iowa Ceremony are encouraged to participate in the 2021 ceremony. A date has yet to be set.

Shooting sports/hunter's safety classes

In accordance with CDC guidelines, and state recommendations, we are cancelling upcoming classes, field days, workshops, and advanced hunter education offerings through April 30.

These events are usually held within facilities that are currently closed or prohibiting gatherings of large groups due to the Covid-19.

The health and safety of our volunteers, participants, and staff is of utmost importance to us, that is why we have these cancellations.

Due to the cancellation of our in-person hunter education courses and field days, we are recommending the following for hunting this spring:

- Anyone ages 15 years and younger are able to participate in hunting activities if accompanied by an adult 18 and older who holds a valid hunting permit.
- Anyone ages 16 17 can purchase an apprentice hunting license to hunt alongside an adult 18 and older who holds a valid hunting permit.
- Anyone ages 18 and older can complete the required hunter's safety course online.

We recognize this is an inconvenience and that it may not be the most desirable option to receive your hunter education certification.

DNR cancels public meetings in West Union, Decorah

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has canceled its public meetings in West Union and Decorah next week based on guidance from state and national health officials to avoid public gatherings of more than 10 people.

The meetings were scheduled to discuss chronic wasting disease after it was confirmed in hunter harvested deer in Fayette and Winneshiek counties.

The lowa DNR will look for dates closer to deer season to reschedule these meetings.