



Audubon

Montezuma
Audubon Center

Thank you for your interest in the 19th Annual Robert F. DeRoo Memorial Youth Waterfowl Hunt. This is a free event for youth ages 12-15 to celebrate conservation through hunting and space is limited so registration is required. Please fill out the attached forms and return them to Chris Lajewski chris.lajewski@audubon.org no later than September 16, 2026.

In order to participate in the hunt, the youth hunter must bring the following documents:

- **a current 2026-2027 Junior Hunting License**
- **a HIP number which can be obtained at**
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6405.html>

The adult mentor must bring the following to the hunt:

- **a 2026-2027 New York State Hunting License**
- **a 2026-2027 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp)**
- **a HIP number which can be obtained at**
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6405.html>

All youth hunters and their adult mentor are required to attend a safety meeting and dinner at Montezuma Audubon Center on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 5:00 PM.

We will offer a Waterfowl Education Course for youth ages 12-15 at the Montezuma Audubon Center (2295 State Route 89, Savannah, NY 13146) on Saturday, September 19 from 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM. This course is required to hunt waterfowl at the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. Space is limited and registration in advance is required. Complete page three of this document to register for the course. Choose one of the following two ways to obtain the study materials and complete the required homework. Whichever option you choose to complete the homework, you must bring the completed homework with you to the in-person course.

Download/Print

Print and complete the [Waterfowl Education Homework Worksheet\(PDF\)](#).

Refer to the [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ducks at a Distance: A Waterfowl Identification Guide \(PDF\)](#) Study the markings and characteristics of ducks to help you recognize birds on the wing while out in the field.

[Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations](#)

[Waterfowl & Migratory Game Bird Seasons](#)

You must bring the completed homework worksheet to your in-person course.

Hard Copy

The *Waterfowl Hunter Homework Worksheet*, the *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ducks at a Distance*, and the *Waterfowl Seasons and Information* can be picked up at most DEC Wildlife offices or may be available for pick up at other locations as specified in the instructions given when you register for a course.

To pick up course materials, find a [DEC Wildlife Office near you](#).

You can also request a hard copy be mailed to you by calling 1-888-486-8332.

You must bring the completed homework worksheet to your in-person course.

The Waterfowl Hunt will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2026. The guide that is assigned to your youth hunter will coordinate a time and place to hunt. NYSDEC and USFWS locations are available. The youth must successfully complete the Waterfowl Hunter Education Course to hunt waterfowl at the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge.



Here is a list of items the youth will need to bring to the hunts:

- **appropriate firearm (12 gauge or 20 gauge) for waterfowl hunting;**
- **ammunition;**
 - **steel or other approved non-toxic shot required**
 - **waterfowl loads in #2 or #3 shot**
- **Waders**

Please direct any questions about the dinner and hunt to Chris Lajewski, 315.365.3588, chris.lajewski@audubon.org.

Thank you!



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To register a youth hunter for the waterfowl hunter education course at Montezuma Audubon Center on Sept. 19 @ 1PM, complete the **STUDENT** section of this form and return the entire page to chris.lajewski@audubon.org or mail to Montezuma Audubon Center.

USE THIS FORM FOR ANY STUDENT NOT REGISTERED ONLINE

STUDENT REGISTRATION FORM			
Instructor use only	CLASS TYPE: ☐ Hunter Ed. ☐ Bowhunter Ed. ☐ Trapper Ed ☐ Waterfowl Hunter Ed.		
	Class ID #: _____ INSTRUCTOR NAME/ID #: _____		
	Class Date(s): _____	Student CERTIFICATE #: _____	☐ Pass ☐ Incomplete ☐ Fail ☐ Audit
STUDENT completes this part	First Name _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____ Suffix (eg; Jr, Sr. III) _____		
	Address: House #/ Street _____		City _____ State _____
	Zip Code _____	County _____	DOB _____ Eye color _____
	Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ X		Height: _____ ft. _____ in.
	() _____		
	Phone _____		Email Address if you have one _____
	Optional: Driver's Lic. # _____ OR Parent's Driver's Lic. # _____ plus their Last Name _____ & _____ DOB _____		
	27-Apr-26 K:/.../Forms (SpEd) Student Paper Registration form 2026.xlsx		

INSTRUCTOR USE ONLY	INSTRUCTIONS: Use this form to collect the information for any student who is not registered online (including walk-ins, and anyone without computer access)	
	Send this completed form to your Regional Coordinator:	
	by E-mail: R8HunterEd@dec.ny.gov	OR: by Mail: NYS DEC Hunter Education Program 6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd Avon NY 14423-9516
	* This form may also be used to report reissuance of certificates.	
	Original Information	Reissued Information
Certificate #: _____	Cert #: _____	
Class Date: _____	Date: _____	
Instructor ID #: _____	Instr.#: _____	
*Note: Instructors can ONLY re-issue certificates to someone they ORIGINALLY taught and certified.		
Therefore the only time that the above ID#s should be different is if it was a different instructor on the teaching team who signed the original.		



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To register your child for the 19th Annual Robert F. DeRoo Memorial Youth Waterfowl Hunt, please fill out these forms and mail them to Montezuma Audubon Center, P.O. Box 187, Savannah, NY 13146 or email the forms to chris.lajewski@audubon.org before September 16, 2026.

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's Birthday: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Mentor's Name _____

Which hunt will your child participate in? Waterfowl (NYSDEC), Waterfowl (USFWS) _____

Has the youth hunter completed the Waterfowl Hunter Education Course to hunt waterfowl at the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge? _____

Will your youth attend the waterfowl hunter education course on Sept. 19? _____

Does your child have any allergies/medical concerns that you are aware of? _____

Would you like to camp at Montezuma Audubon Center the night before the hunt? _____



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RELEASE OF LIABILITY & USE OF IMAGE BY PARENT/GUARDIAN OF CHILD PARTICIPANT

Child's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Program: 19th Robert F. DeRoo Memorial Youth Waterfowl
Hunt _____

Site: Montezuma Audubon Center _____

Date of Participation: _____

As the parent and/or legal guardian of the child named above, I wish for my child to participate in National Audubon Society, Inc.'s ("Audubon") program identified above (the "Program"), which may include in-the-classroom and outdoor field trip experiences. I understand that there are possible dangers associated with the Program, including but not limited to risks associated with hunting and shooting with firearms.

I understand that my child's participation in the Program may involve sustained physical activity. My child is in good health and I am aware of no physical problem or condition that will limit or interfere with my child's ability to participate in the activity.

I agree that my child is participating in the activity at my own risk, and acknowledge that Audubon has made no warranty or representation, expressed or implied, regarding the safety of conducting this activity at this site.

I hereby grant permission to Audubon to reproduce my child's appearance, name, likeness, voice and biographical information in connection with the Program in any and all manners, including promotional materials, and any and all media, including the Internet, throughout the world and in perpetuity.

I expressly release Audubon, its officers, directors, employees, agents licensees, successors and assigns from and for any and all claims, demands or causes of action which I have or may have for (i) libel, defamation, invasion of privacy or right of publicity arising from Audubon's use of my child's appearance, name, likeness, voice and biographical information, including but not limited to, the distribution, broadcast or exhibition thereof or (ii) on account of any loss, damage, or injury to person or property suffered or incurred by my child, except by Audubon's negligence, in connection with any aspect of my child's participation in the Program or in any Program-related activity, including any transportation arranged by, paid for or provided by Audubon.

This release shall be binding upon me and my heirs, next of kin, executors, administrators and assigns. By signing below, I acknowledge that I have thoroughly read and understand this form and that the statements I have made are all true.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____



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19th Annual Robert F. DeRoo Memorial Youth Waterfowl Hunt

Code of Conduct

The 18th Annual Robert F. DeRoo Memorial Youth Waterfowl Hunt is designed for youth hunters to learn safe hunting practices. Montezuma Audubon Center (MAC) Staff, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation biologists and environmental conservation officers, US Fish and Wildlife Service biologists, and volunteers from numerous sportsman organizations have worked hard to give the youth hunters a safe environment to help increase their appreciation of sportsman activities. The MAC requires that all youth hunters and their parents and/or mentors treat everyone involved with the Robert F. DeRoo Memorial Youth Hunt with respect. When a hunter, parent, or mentor is being disrespectful or demonstrating a poor attitude toward other hunters or anyone involved in the hunts, it affects everyone. Therefore, the following actions, which are prohibited at all MAC activities, are also prohibited during the Robert F. DeRoo Memorial Youth Hunt.

- Deliberately taking any action that causes harm or has the potential to cause harm to another person;
- Name calling;
- Teasing/bullying;
- Profanity or use of derogatory terms;
- Pushing, shoving, or any unwanted touching;
- Talking back to or arguing with hunters, staff or volunteers.

Corrective Action:

If any of the actions listed above occur during the Robert F. DeRoo Memorial Youth Hunt, the youth hunter and mentor will be removed from the activity and prohibited from participating in the hunts.

By signing below, you confirm that you understand the Montezuma Audubon Center's Code of Conduct and agree to the terms of the corrective action as stated above.

Youth Hunter's Name

Youth Hunter's Signature

Parent's Signature

Mentor's Signature



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New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Mentored Youth Hunter and Trapper Permission Form

Use this form to designate a licensed adult hunter or trapper to accompany young hunters or trappers.

I, _____ am the parent or legal guardian
(Print name of parent or legal guardian above.) (Circle one above.)
of _____, and I hereby give permission for him or her
(Print name of young hunter/trapper above.)
to be accompanied by _____ whom I acknowledge meets
(Print name of adult hunter/trapper above.)
the legal age, experience, and licensing requirements to function as a mentor during hunting and trapping seasons.

Signature: _____ Date _____ Telephone Number _____
(Parent or legal guardian sign above.) (Print today's date above.) (Phone number above.)

Attention Young Hunter or Trapper. Carry this form with you while afield.