

PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION



OF
SPORTSMEN & CONSERVATIONISTS

On the Front Lines - So You Can Be In the Woods, On the Water or At the Range

**The Official Publication of the PFSC
September/October 2019**

Sons of the Hunt Podcast

Listen as ED Daub discusses PFSC, Sunday Hunting and other issues affecting our outdoor passions!

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/sons-of-the-hunt-podcast/id1355916548>



On Target

PFSC On Target September/October 2019

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The official registration and financial information of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

The mission of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists, Inc. is to protect and conserve Pennsylvania's natural resources, outdoor heritage and Second Amendment Rights.



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Formed in 1932, PFSC is Pennsylvania's oldest and largest conservation organization.

PFSC welcomes stories, art, and photographic contributions. We will consider, but assume no responsibility for unsolicited proposals, manuscripts, art, or photographs.

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Cover Photo: First Encounters

Senior 1st Place Photo Contest winner Aaron Lehman of Potter County. See all the photo winners starting on page 18.





Is Grandpa Our Trapping Future?

By: Don Powell, PTA VP West

**Be Responsible!
 Be Respectful!
 Be Ethical!**

Certainly, we need to get more kids involved in trapping, but how? Perhaps Grandpa is the answer.

Trapping will benefit if we can find a way to pass from generation to generation, the values and joy we find on a trap line. Parents are often too busy working to consistently run a trap line. Maybe Grandpa could fill the role we wish parents had time to enjoy.

There is no doubt that my mom played an important part in my early trapping days before I could drive. She would drop me off at one point on my trapline and later pick me up at another. My Dad, while supportive, was usually working.

I mean no disrespect to Grandmas, but for the sake of this article, I'm going to refer to the importance of Grandpa.

His kids are raised and he has or is close to retiring from his career of

40 years. Fall golf may not excite him. Many years ago, he probably caught muskrats as a youngster. Now this Grandparent is looking for something to do with his grandchildren. In reality, the grandkids may only be able to go on weekends, so if a retired friend can go during the week the scenario is perfect.

Trapping is a healthy alternative to walking on a treadmill, doing laps at a mall or just watching television.

By asking landowners for permission to trap, kids can learn the importance of interaction with the public. Record keeping, goal setting, marketing and so many more business and life-related lessons can be learned on the trapline.

Commitment, diligence, a work ethic and responsibility are all character-building components a successful trapper develops and these are perhaps

more important to pass on to a youngster than even a monetary inheritance. Plus, these life lessons are packaged in memories that will last a lifetime for both the grandkids and grandparents, as Pennsylvania offers a chance for everyone to catch furbearers that many didn't have a chance to pursue years ago.

The thrill of catching a mink, coyote, a fisher or bobcat is something everyone could experience.

Traps can be new or used. For coyote, bobcat and fisher, the same traps can be used. For a few hundred dollars a trapper can be up and running.

How many traps to start? This will depend upon a person's time. By starting with a dozen and taking good care of those sets, there will still be time to squirrel hunt or do another activity later in the day. You always want to leave kids wanting more instead of wishing it was over.

Allowing kids to be involved in the preparation is another important aspect of the relationship building. The degree of involvement will vary with age and the interest they show.

Another bond-building activity is attending a state trapper's convention or district events. Learning tips and secrets by joining your state association and getting their publication is a quick way to learn how to catch your target species.

You are not going to get a big paycheck, but there is so much more to trapping than money.

Most importantly, you don't even have to be related to the youngster to be their trapping grandpa mentor!

So, if you know a Grandpa who traps, or you are willing to be a trapping grandpa mentor who wants to

Continued

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I am enclosing _____ to pay for one year's membership in P.T.A. and I will work with your organization to bring about trapping laws that are fair to all and better conditions for all trappers in Pennsylvania.

Name _____ Age _____
 Street _____ City _____
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Please Print Legibly

make a difference, have some fun and create great memories, then you might just be the missing link trapping needs to help engage the next generation of trappers.

There is no doubt we need to link people with the time and the money to

the youngsters who have the interest. If we can expose kids to the outdoors, it is hard to say who all will be hooked for life by the experience.

If you know anyone that has an interest in getting into trapping, find a way to introduce them to this bond-

building activity. We all know that kids are our future. If the parents can't be the link, then just maybe a Grandpa is the key! I know my Grandfathers made a difference in my life. *PTA*

Orangeville Sportsmen's Club's Annual Flea Market Nets \$638 Donation For PFSC.



Every little bit helps!

Thank you Orangeville Sportsmen for your donation!

PFSC is looking for more clubs willing to hold shooting and/or other events on behalf of the PFSC.

Contact Harold if you are willing to go the extra yard to help support PFSC's Mission!

Or Current Resident

**2019 Sub-Junior Photo Contest
1st Place Winner
"First Encounters"
Paige Hamilton, Potter County**



I live in Genesee, Pennsylvania in Potter County. I ride the bus to Northern Potter School District every day. On a Genesee river tributary, I noticed a dome shaped stick pile. I became very interested in watching it as I passed by. I would look for it each day. I knew it was a beaver's house. One day, I saw my first beaver swimming. Only its head was popped out of the water. After some research, I learned that the dome shaped house was called a lodge. I also learned that they chew trees to build with. I continued to observe the beaver lodge. I am very happy the land owner didn't get rid of the beavers. The beavers even had kits (babies). This was really fantastic to see. I will continue to watch the beavers.

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2020 Poster & Photo Contest Theme: "Conservation"

Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists Annual Art Poster / Photo Contest Invites Youth to Share their Love of the Outdoors through Art and Photography

As you know, the former Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs is now the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen and Conservationists. This name change came about from a reflection of what we truly stand for and who we represent as an organization.

So this year, reflecting on PFSC's name change, think about the words conservationists and conservation and how they relate to nature and our resources.

Let's first look at the word "Conservationist". Dictionary.com defines conservationist as: Noun - a person who advocates or promotes conservation, especially of natural resources.

What is conservation? That is a great question and one that we will explore through this year's poster and photo contest! Let's head back over to Dictionary.com: Conservation - Noun - the act of

conserving; prevention of injury, decay, waste, or loss; preservation: conservation of wildlife; conservation of human rights. Official supervision of rivers, forests, and other natural resources in order to preserve and protect them through prudent management. A district, river, forest, etc., under such supervision. The careful utilization of a natural resource in order to prevent depletion.

Simple enough? Let's go with an example we can understand using a food problem. You are running low on milk and you usually have a large glass with dinner. You won't get to the store till the next day and you need some milk for cereal in the morning. What do you do? Conserve! Have a smaller glass of milk with dinner so that you will have enough for your cereal in the morning.

GET EXCITED: Learn more about con-

servation efforts that support wildlife, fisheries and the outdoors where you live!

GET OUTSIDE: You won't know how amazing nature is until you LOOK!

GET INVOLVED: By looking closer, you will see how conservation efforts promote and protect our natural resources, and how you can make your neighborhood a better place to live if you become a conservationist.

Judging of posters will take place at the PFSC Spring Conference - March 2020. For more details and complete rules, contact the PFSC office at (717) 232-3480 or susan@pfsc.org. The official rules and press release can also be downloaded from our website. www.pfsc.org. Click on the "Info & Events" tab.

The poster and photo winners will be published in the On Target.

PFSC