



Adaptive Sportsmen Inc
8727 W Coldspring Road
Greenfield, WI 53228

www.adaptivesportsmen.org



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“Our mission is providing recreational opportunities for physically challenged people.”

Adaptive Sportsmen Inc. is a Non-Stock, Not for Profit 501(c)(3) Foundation organized in Wisconsin



Do you need to find land for Hunting?

Adaptive has a landowner liaison committee that searches out and catalogs public and private lands available and suitable for the Adaptive membership to use for different uses all over Wisconsin. (Some restrictions may apply) Contact Jeff Pagel at 920-366-5731 or email at jcpagels@att.net to get help finding a place to hunt deer, ducks or pheasants or an accessible place to catch a fish or ride an All-terrain Vehicle. Jeff can put you in touch with the appropriate person to help you find the best place to enjoy activities in the Wisconsin outdoors.

2023 Calendar, full information on our web site.

Sandhill Deer Hunt 10/12-10/15 The hunt, meals and lodging will be at Sandhill Wildlife Area in Wood County, WI. Check the web page for an application or call Glenn Howell at 715-456-4619 or John Mitchell at 414-333-4745 jmitchellwi@prodigy.net

Clintonville Deer Hunt 10/26-10/29 The hunt, meals and lodging will be around Clintonville, WI. Check the web page for an application or call Joe Ehr 920- 244-7737 josephehr@yahoo.com

Watch your email, check Facebook and our web page for additional news on the events we are planning for this year.

Include Adaptive Sportsmen in Your Will

Estate planning is never a real popular topic to talk about, but it is better to plan now than leave your heirs wondering what you wanted to do. You can also take the time to sort out what you want to leave as a legacy. Adaptive Sportsmen is hoping that you will consider us when you start your planning.

Donation of hunting equipment and adaptive equipment.
Dedicate any amount of money or property for a specific purpose
Donate in the form of a charitable trust.

It can be yours

"The **James E Dutton Foundation** has provided a grant to Adaptive Sportsmen Inc. to start a program helping physically challenged people with the cost of acquiring their own Adaptive Equipment for enjoying the outdoors. Applications are being reviewed and should be sent to 8727 W Coldspring Rd Greenfield, WI 53228. Thank you is an inadequate expression for their generosity. We are eternally grateful

Passed On

Dick Fisher passed on in September 2023. He was one of the original founding directors of Adaptive Sportsmen. Although blind from diabetes he harvested deer, turkeys & antelope. He was a great mentor for others.

Deer Fest 2023

Our 2023 booth season finished with Deer Fest. It went well for ticket sales in the midst of smaller crowds this year than in past years, we were able to make approximately \$1100.00 with the booth being donated from Deer Fest. We passed out literature and sold cookbooks. We also made contact with a group from Illinois who offered to donate a hunt to us as a money maker for Adaptive Sportsmen. Details on how we do that coming later. Thanks to **John Martinson, Jeff Pagels, Dave Birkett, Cory Stephan** and **Darwin and Randy Swille** for helping me man the booth for the 3 days. **Cal Popp.**

Hunting Blinds on State Parks and Wildlife Areas

The Wisconsin DNR has many blinds and hunting locations for people of disabilities listed on their web page. You can go to the DNR web site and search for any of the following properties to find out what kind of disabled hunting opportunities are available; ALLENTON WILDLIFE AREA, AMSTERDAM SLOUGHS WILDLIFE AREA, C.D. (BUZZ) BESADNY FISH AND WILDLIFE AREA, CREX MEADOWS WILDLIFE AREA, FISH LAKE WILDLIFE AREA, GRAND RIVER MARSH WILDLIFE AREA, JACKSON MARSH WILDLIFE AREA AND STATE NATURAL AREA, MEAD WILDLIFE AREA, NAVARINO WILDLIFE AREA, PARADISE VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA, PETER HELLAND WILDLIFE AREA, POWELL MARSH WILDLIFE AREA, VERNON WILDLIFE AREA, WHITE RIVER FISHERY AREA, and BUCKHORN STATE PARK, KETTLE MORAIN STATE FOREST, LOEW LAKE UNIT, LOWER WISCONSIN RIVERWAY, MIRROR LAKE STATE PARK, NORTHERN HIGHLAND STATE FOREST, RICHARD BONG STATE RECREATION AREA

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Please contact at allenneu@gmail.com with questions or comments

We are looking for people to help organize or work in the following events for the coming year; ATV rides, Summer Fishing events, Fall Deer and Waterfowl Hunts.

Ideas for events or activities are welcome. Contact John Mitchell at 8727 W. Coldspring Rd, Greenfield, WI 53228 or jmitchellwi@prodigy.net.

E-mail notices are sent out to all members about special events and opportunities that come up on short notice.

Send us your email address so that you might get a chance to participate in events that might not be in the newsletter or on the web site. Send your email address to jmitchellwi@prodigy.net

We Loan ASI Equipment to members

We have blinds, crossbows, gun rests, electric tree stands and fishing gear, including an electric reel available for you to try out and enjoy Wisconsin's outdoors. These items are free to borrow for members of ASI. Call Mary Mitchell at 414-916-2298 to reserve your equipment.

Fundraising

In addition to our annual raffle most of our events include a little silent auction or bucket raffle. If anyone would like to help procure items for these events we would appreciate it. Thank you to those that have already donated items.

2023 Gun Raffle, Lance Cowell won the .22 Henry golden Boy & Mary MacKenzie won the Remington 870 Slug Gun.

Facebook Page - Please Post your pictures and stories

Please remember to check out our Facebook page and **Post your pictures and stories!** We all can share what exciting and fun things that our members are doing. Let's all stay connected!

Adaptive Sportsman Membership Application

Expiration Date 12/31/2023

Include \$ 10 membership fee
Pay to; Adaptive Sportsmen Inc.

Veterans Membership is Free

Name _____

Mail to;
Adaptive Sportsmen Inc.
8727 W Coldspring Road
Greenfield, WI 53228

Address _____

City State & Zip _____

Phone #s _____ e-mail _____

Please Circle One Physically Challenged Able Bodied Volunteer/Sponsor

Interests Hunting Fishing ATV Riding Boating Snowmobiling Other _____

Shooting Picnic

Overcast and drizzle surprised me on my way to set up for the Adaptive Sportsmen shooting picnic. On arrival at the Schultz Resort rod and Gun Club I saw the largest flock of mallards I had ever seen in Wisconsin, about 20 birds. Fortunately, it turned into a beautiful weather day as members arrived. We were sponsored by **Whitetails Unlimited** again this year. We used .22s and 9mms from the gun club and many members brought their own weapons of various calibers to site in. The arrows and crossbow bolts of Adaptive Sportsmen were in use. We used 12 & 20 ga shotguns from the gun club and more people brought their own. One had the little 28 ga that seems to be growing in popularity. Mary had the biggest bucket raffle yet. Nobody went hungry with a lunch of turkey, beef, chicken or ham sandwiches, vegetables, chips and deserts. Thanks to everyone that brought the homemade goodies.

John Mitchell

Here are some comments we received:

- My 10-year-old son was super jazzed to get to try shooting!
- As always, I had a blast at the Shooting Picnic. The Volunteers were especially capable and I got to see John & Mary Mitchell although they were quite busy running the show, they still took the time to chat. Weather was perfect, I'll be back next year for sure.
- Had a very nice time on Saturday. Mathew tried everything! The volunteers were wonderful; all were patient with him showing him how to handle all the rifles, pistols, crossbows etc. lunch was great also, ladies serving were very nice and helpful. It was a beautiful weather day!! So happy we could make it this year
- Just wanted to give a shout out to the Adaptive Sportsmen. I attended the annual Shooting Picnic last Saturday 8/26. Had a great time. Hits some targets with my 28 Gauge and my revolvers. But really wanted to let everyone know that John Mitchell and his team do a great job of putting on a Great event. Even though I believe John's sister, Mary does most of the work, LOL .They all make sure everyone enjoys themselves and we all can hone our Shooting Skills. I also was very impressed with a young girl, I'm pretty sure her name was Amy. I had the opportunity to watch her shoot her 22 rifle at the station I was to shoot on. Not sure if it was her first or second time Shooting or her many years of shooting, but,even though she was physically challenged with her physical body, she was not physically challenged with her Mind and Determination of handling her 22 . Great Job Amy!! For me to witness those episodes with fellow Sportsman and see us all get the opportunity to improve our skills with the Great events that Adaptive Sportsman puts on,, we are all fortunate and Blessed to have such an organization as Adaptive Sportsman. Thanks again Mary and your team and yes John, lol, for the Super event and day you put on. **Greger Smith.**

Feather Ridge Pheasant Hunt

Adaptive Sportsmen and **Feather Ridge Farm** teamed up again with funding donations from **M & H Mechanical, Jeff Erickson,** and **SCI Badgerland.** Bird donations from **McFarlane Pheasants, Wisconsin DNR,** and Adaptive Sportsmen for our fifth annual Pheasant hunt at Feather Ridge Farm. Eleven Hunters ventured into the marsh using side by sides, track chairs and even scooters. We had dog handlers who have pointer dogs in order to get the hunters into position before the dogs would flush the bird. Everyone shot decent and we ended up with over thirty birds harvested. It's always nice to do a little trap shooting to warm up the hunters and help our volunteers evaluate how much help is needed. (Picture below)

By John Martinson.



Volunteer of the Month

Randy Johnston has helped us as a guide with many of our hunts. He is a real clown; I mean he really is a clown, he volunteers for the Shriners as a clown to entertain children with disabilities. He is (shown left) at one of the Shriner events.



Tim Willims (above left), Brandon Ringwolski (above center), and Mike Willims (above right) pose with their bears.



Chris Salamone (above left) takes his turn shooting trap at the Shooting Picnic.

Amy (above right) tries out the .22 rifle at the Shooting Picnic. Several Adaptive Sportsmen members (right) practice on the pistol range at the Shooting Picnic.



Special Spring Bear Hunt

In early February we were made aware of a late cancellation at Wekusko Falls Lodge <https://wekuskofallslodge.com>. We saw this as a possibly once in a lifetime opportunity for Adaptive Sportsman, **Michael Willms,** his brother-in-law, **Brandon Ringwolski** and myself, his dad **Tim Willms.** What are the odds that 3 spring bear hunts opened up, this lodge generally has a 3-4 year wait list for their hunts. We quickly called and booked our spots for the late May hunt.

Wekusko falls offers great accommodations and not only the opportunity for the bear hunt, but world class walleye and pike fishing. The family and staff that run the lodge could not have been more accommodating of our additional needs. They offer tree stands and ground stands. The staff was very helpful getting us to the stands and set up to hunt utilizing trucks and 4 wheeler transportation to the stands.

Michael and I hunt together because of his special needs. They set us up in a 2 person stand on our first day at the lodge. Being so far north the sun sets after 10 PM so heading out to the stands between 3 and 4 was the norm. Michael and I rode with a guide and the lodge owner on quads to a 2 person ladder stand set-up about 30 yards from a bait. On the way in, the owner told me a nice bear had been hitting this bait daily for the last several days. After resetting the bait and getting us set up in the stand the guides drove away on their quads. We could still hear the quads in the distance, I was setting up my gear in the stand and Michael nudged me to look at the bear already on the bait. We watched the bear for about 10 minutes, identified it as a boar and of a nice size. I told Mike that if he was ready, it was a shooter. Mike took aim, slowly squeezed off his shot and the bear went down about 20 feet from the bait. We had been in the stand less than 20 minutes and had a bear down. I used the walkie to inform the guides bear down. They thought it was a mistake as they were still on the quads, not even back to the truck yet and didn't hear the shot. While waiting for the guides to set up the other hunters before coming back to retrieve our harvest, we had 3 other bears come to the bait.

When the guides returned for us to get down and see the bear close up it was a nice 6' 239# spring bear. A single shot placed on target meant for a successful hunt. That was the last of my hunting with Mike, as he had his bear, he spent the rest of the week fishing for walleye and pike.

Brandon and I had seen multiple bears over the next couple of days. On day 3 of the hunt I was successful in taking my bear. After a very short sit, I had a small bear come in to the bait shortly after, a larger one ran him off. The larger one was my opportunity, and like Mike in one shot, the bear went down shortly after hit. Mine was smaller 5'4" and 149#. All we had left for the trifecta was Brandon to get one with his bow. On day 5 Brandon was successful as well. We were all ecstatic. Brandon's bear was 5'3" and 139#. Of the 8 hunters in camp that week, Michael held the title of biggest bear until the 3rd week of hunts when 3 over 6" were finally taken.

After each of us successfully bagged our bears, we spent the remaining days doing lots of fishing and eating fresh walleye. I had the biggest pike of the week at 42" and we had multiple walleye over 25" in the boat. As it turned out, I believe this was a once in a lifetime hunt for me and my boys, 3 for 3 bears and a great week of fishing all rolled into the same week.

By **Tim Willms**



John Mitchell and Frank Byrne spend time at Cabela's to promote Adaptive Sportsmen (left)

Chris Salamone shows off the bass he caught at the Kelly Lake Fishing Picnic. (right)

