



November 2021

## Wisconsin Firearm Owners In Madison



Wisconsin Firearm Owners was at the State Capitol September 29th to support SB 516, a bill that improves Concealed Carry reciprocity for people visiting Wisconsin. This will help snowbirds and other law-abiding people who aren't Wisconsin citizens to protect themselves when they are in our state.

WFO testified in favor of Senator Felzkowski's and Representative Brokks' Constitutional Carry bill in the Senate. There wasn't much opposition, but it will still help if you contact your state legislators and share with them your support. People who find themselves in a situation where they need to protect themselves of their family shouldn't need to wait for a government permit to do so.

This bill would still allow citizens to obtain a Wisconsin Concealed Carry permit in order to enjoy Concealed Carry reciprocity from the state.

## DNR ANNOUNCES 2021 HUNTING SEASON CHANGES

### 2021 COMBINED REGULATIONS PAMPHLET NOW AVAILABLE



Hunters are encouraged to review the 2021 Wisconsin Hunting Regulations pamphlet to prepare for the season. *Photo credit: iStock.com/river34*  
MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced the 2021 combined *Wisconsin Hunting Regulations* pamphlet is now available [online](#) and will soon be available at [license agents](#) and [open service centers](#) around the state.

For the second year, the combined regulations pamphlet brings season dates, shooting hours and regulations together in one convenient document.

Early teal and early goose seasons kick off the 2021 hunting season on Sept. 1. There is no longer a Mississippi River duck zone. Instead, the DNR has added an Open Water zone on Lake Michigan. After a [multi-year effort by sporting groups](#) to raise the fee and increase crucial funding for waterfowl habitat conservation and restoration, waterfowl stamp fees have changed this season.

Deer hunters throughout the state will have their first opportunity to enjoy the woods with the opening of the 2021 archery and crossbow deer seasons, which run concurrently statewide from Sept. 18 to Jan. 9, 2022. The archery and crossbow seasons are extended to Jan. 31, 2022 in metro sub-units and many counties will offer the antlerless-only holiday hunt between the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Bonus antlerless deer harvest authorizations are still available in almost all counties. [Check the DNR website for availability.](#)

The 2021 deer season schedule is as follows:

- Gun Hunt For Hunters With Disabilities: Oct. 2-10, 2021
  - Youth Deer Hunt: Oct. 9-10, 2021
  - Gun Deer Hunt: Nov. 20-28, 2021
  - Muzzleloader: Nov. 29-Dec. 8, 2021
  - Statewide Antlerless Hunt: Dec. 9-12, 2021
- Farmland Zone Holiday Hunt: Dec. 24, 2021-Jan. 1, 2022

New this year, [updated bear zones](#) will be in effect, approved as part of the [2019-2029 Wisconsin Black Bear Management Plan](#). Those pursuing bear this season should familiarize themselves with zone boundaries and hunting dates. Bear baiting regulations are also newly updated and detailed on page 23 of the 2021 Wisconsin Hunting Regulations.

[Trapping](#) and [wolf harvest season](#) regulations will be published as separate documents and available in print and on the DNR website. As in previous years, the hunting regulations pamphlet summarizes Wisconsin's hunting laws most relevant to hunters. For additional hunting and trapping laws, consult Wisconsin State Statutes chapter 29 or consult chapter 10 of the Administrative Code of the DNR.

## Deer Hunting Story

Many of you High-Power shooters know Larry Weidell from Minnesota. This Summer, he let me read this story his granddaughter wrote. I thought it would be a great story to put in the Trigger.

### November Mornings with Poppy

Story by Sierra Weidell

It's six am and my alarm is blaring. I turn over to snooze it just as I hear Poppy softly knocking on the door. In a sort of hushed and loving tone he says,

“Zizi, time to wake up”, I grunt

“Ok” and turn the light on; attempting to wake myself up enough to get out of bed. Unfortunately, my exhaustion from the inability to fall asleep last night overcomes me and my face immediately makes acquaintance with my pillow, blocking out the light I just turned on. Ten minutes have probably passed and I'm fully unconscious as he comes back in my room and taps me on the shoulder nudging me awake. He says,

“The deer aren't gonna wait around forever and we really should get out before sunrise.” Upon him saying “before sunrise”, I jolt up and look out the window only to see pitch blackness. ‘It's worse than I thought’ I say to myself as I drag my uncooperating body out of the warm and heavy covers and crawl to the bathroom to brush my teeth.

Once my teeth feel clean enough, I drift back towards the guest room and put layers upon layers of clothing on. At least two pairs of socks, some long underwear under my sweatpants, and finally a long sleeve under a tee shirt. At this point I'm starting to feel more awake but not enough to walk at a normal pace, so I sort of inch towards the kitchen to pick out some breakfast before leaving. Poppy is already putting his boots on and telling me to hurry up. I grab a granola bar from the cabinet and stuff it in my coat pocket before struggling through stuffing my feet in my big warm boots that still have toe warmers from the night before. Poppy gets his backpack on while taking special care in assuring the orange cover is encompassing the bag so no other color shows. We start heading toward the door

when I notice the thermos is still on the counter; I can't forget my hot cocoa. While he starts walking to the truck, I grab the thermos.

When I finally make it outside, I'm met by the brisk fall air and smell of the dew on the grass. Part of me is hoping that the truck will already be warm when I get inside but unfortunately when I get past the gravel and start pulling myself up what feels like five feet of ground, I only feel the chill of a vehicle that was in negative temps all night. The seats are a nice sewn fabric which feel giant compared to my small thirteen-year-old body.

Steve is Poppy's best friend, and he happens to own our chosen plot of land that we like to visit during these early mornings. We never see him unless it's the evening but each year he gives us permission to sit in the blinds and watch for deer as he sleeps (in exchange for a nice bottle of whiskey at the end of the season, of course). Poppy makes sure to stress the importance of being respectful to the land, to Steve, and to nature in general. I keep that in mind as I buckle my seat belt and get ready for the drive there.

We aren't on the road for long since Steve's house is only half a mile away from Poppy's.

Nevertheless, I wait in anticipation and count every turn we make until we reach the ground blind. Straight towards the driveway then a left down it, once we reach the road, we take a right and continue down that way until we pass a piece of land with two houses on it and three farm fields surrounding it. Granted all the houses we pass have farm fields surrounding them but this one is unique because the field is also part of their front yard. We take a left at that house and continue down that road. Steve's house isn't far from that turn and right before we reach his driveway, there's a giant patch of wildflowers and grasses; sticking out from them and pointing toward the road is a sign that says 'Whittet Wetland'. It's probably my favorite part of Steve's house.

We take a left at his driveway and head towards his house. We stop when we're directly to the right of the house and before we reach the giant tin garage that houses his tractors. Poppy comes to a slow stop and lets me know that it's time to get out and to get the ammunition from the backseat. I dread this part knowing that outside is going to feel just as brisk as it did before, considering I have finally found warmth in the truck. Still, I get out and find that I'm correct; the sky is dark blue and the air is frigid. As I go to open the door of the backseat, I see Poppy on the other side grabbing his orange covered bag and removing his black Savage 220 20 Gauge shotgun from the camouflaged case. Upon the stock, a borrowed cheek rest is placed as I'm using this gun and my face is smaller than the average face.

The sun rises at 7:32 am and we begin the short 30 foot walk to the ground blind. There are two chairs hidden behind a bar that has a camouflage sheet draped over it. Once we're sitting Poppy tells me to be very quiet and carefully watch for any movement. Neither of us are very good at the whole staying quiet part so for awhile all we do is talk. He gives me advice and promises while I patiently listen and take all of it in.

As Poppy talks, I notice he has a maroon pin on his hat with 'President's 100' written in gold lettering. I ask him what it means, and he says that it shows he's a very good shooter and if needed, he could be called on. At this time in my life, I interpret that explanation as him being the best in the country so without hesitation I ask,

"Does that mean you're better than everyone else." He looks at me, not disappointed but rather eager to teach me a fact of life. He explains that there's billions of people in the world and the chance of being better than all of them is incredibly difficult. Even narrowing it down to the population of one country or even one room, it'll be very difficult to exceed everyone at one skill. He then says something I'll never forget and always hold true:

"You will never be better than anyone else." Taken out of context it sounds kind of harsh and an odd thing to say to a young kid but to me, it was everything I needed to hear. If he never taught me anything else in my life (which he has, everyday) I would've been satisfied with that one tidbit.

We continue to move on from topics such as the books we're reading to the family we appreciate, all while enjoying my light brown hot cocoa and his dark black coffee. The time seems to pass as a perfect summer does when you're with the people you love. I forget how cold it is and I lose my fear that the bang will hurt my ears. I feel at peace as I'm talking to Poppy and looking out towards the sky. The edges of it are a soft pink color that turns to a burnt red the farther down you go, but to a soft blue the farther up you go. I'm not usually awake for the sunrise so this is kind of a once in a lifetime view for me. Sure, I'm not viewing it from the top of a mountain or way up north where everything seems to

hold an effervescent beauty, but in this spot and in this moment, it feels like I'm in both those areas simultaneously.

Poppy looks at his watch and lets me know that it's officially sunrise and we really should be paying more attention. So, we stop talking and begin watching. Poppy's goal is for me to get a deer since he'll have more weekends to try, so he opens his book about history or guns (I can't remember which but knowing him, those are pretty safe bets) and gets to reading. I look over and take it as my cue to be vigilant.

Part of me is scared that a deer will actually come, and I'll have to shoot it. It's not that I'm afraid I'll cry; I've been around hunters my whole life and have always been taught to respect the animal and the land. When an animal is killed, we thank them for the food they provide and we don't celebrate their death or boast it, rather we're sad to have done this but thankful for what they leave.

The time is 7:34 am, two minutes after sunrise. Coming from the left, I see a deer walking slowly. I practiced with Poppy's shotgun the week before, so I know how to use it and I know how to use it well.

Still as I line the sights up with the side of the deer, I fear of missing or wounding it.

"Lord please let me miss or hit exactly where I need to instead of wounding this peaceful animal." I silently pray to myself before taking the shot.

Poppy is next to me in anticipation as I get closer to confidence and he watches as I take a deep breath and pull the trigger when I finish my exhale, just like my dad taught me. I look up from the sight and see the deer run away 'crap' I think to myself. All of a sudden though, I see it fall to the ground and kick its legs. I turn to Poppy out of fear and he assures me that it's a normal reaction and there's nothing to fear.



After 20 minutes we go look for the deer to make sure it's passed on and Poppy tells me to grab its ears. I don't remember much of what happened after that besides him saying

"Kodak moment!" and me questioning what it meant.

I'll never forget those early November mornings with Poppy. Each year I'd spend roughly four mornings with him and each year I dreaded waking up that early. However, after each morning I was grateful and happy to have a Poppy I could connect with.

## Wisconsin Firearm Owners Upcoming Events and News

Wisconsin Firearm Owners election will be coming up quickly and we are going to be looking for some good people that are interested in defended the Second Amendment to put on our board of directors. We will have four seats up for reelection. If you are interested, please contact James Melville via email: [james@wisconsinforce.org](mailto:james@wisconsinforce.org)



# Wisconsin Firearm Owners Junior Service Rifle Supporters



<https://www.friendsofnra.org/>



<https://kriegerbarrels.com/>



<http://www.nosler.com/>



<http://www.bruxbarrels.com/>



<http://www.vortexoptics.com/>



<http://www.hodgdonreloading.com/>



<http://www.halltitle.com/>



<http://www.wisconsintrigger.com/>

**Wood County Rifle and Pistol Club**  
<http://www.wcrifle.org/>

**Racine County Line Rifle Club**  
Devoted to the Shooting Sports  
<https://www.racinecountylinerrifleclub.com/>

**HOLUB MACHINE & REPAIR, LLC**  
<http://www.newhighpower.com/>

**Central Wisconsin Gun Collectors Association**  
<http://www.centralwisconsin-gun.org/>

**Chippewa Brass & Aluminum Foundry LTD.**



<https://www.chippewafoundry.com/>



<https://bartleinbarrels.com/>



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## **Wisconsin Firearm Owners (WFO)**

### **Mission**

To promote and support the purpose and objectives of the National Rifle Association, while protecting and defending the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Wisconsin.

### **Securing Our Rights**

The assaults on the rights of today's firearms owner have never been stronger. These attacks on our civil rights come from anti-hunting, anti-gun, and anti-civil rights organizations. We must stand together to preserve the rights guaranteed to all free citizens under the Second Amendment, the U.S. Constitution, and the Wisconsin Right to Keep and Bear Arms. WFO has a constant presence in Madison helping to ensure your voice is heard. Whether it is the right to self-defense, micro stamping or hunting regulations, we are involved. Combine your voice with that of thousands like you in Wisconsin; our united voice cannot be ignored.

### **Club and Range Support**

We are the experts in the State advising the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, clubs, and businesses in upgrading, improving, and the design of ranges.

### **Competitions**

Matches and events are listed on our calendar. Match Directors can also utilize our on-line registration. NRA discipline championships are authorized and promoted by WFO. **Please join us today!**



- Advancing hunter rights and mentored hunting in Wisconsin.
- As your **NRA** and **CMP** State Association, **WFO** sanctions State Championships for multiple shooting disciplines.
- Our lobbying efforts have helped to clean up Wisconsin's handgun restrictions.
- We are the only **NRA** State Chartered Association in Wisconsin.
- **WFO** and the **NRA** led the lobbying efforts for Right to Carry and The Shooting Ranges Protection Act.
- **WFO** provides Club and Range support for those looking to expand and improve their ranges.
- **Wisconsin Firearm Owners** gives you a voice in Madison to protect your Second Amendment Rights.

JOIN US TODAY TO HELP PROTECT YOUR GUN RIGHTS. <https://www.wisconsinfirearmowners.org/>

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**Mail To: Wisconsin Firearm Owners PO Box 130 Seymour, WI 54165**

I certify that I am not now, and never have been, a member of any organization which has in any part of its program, the attempt to overthrow the government of the United States by force or violence, and that I have never been convicted of a felony, crime of violence, or misdemeanor domestic violence, and I am not otherwise prohibited from owning firearms. If admitted to membership in Wisconsin Firearm Owners, Ranges, Clubs & Educators Inc. I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship, and I will uphold the Constitution of the United States of America and the Second Amendment thereto.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Donations to Wisconsin FORCE are not refundable or transferable and are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes.



# Henry Repeating Arms is Expanding Its Wisconsin Manufacturing Capacity

By Dan Zimmerman October 19, 2021



Here's a newsflash: the firearms business has been pretty good the last 18 months or so. But good as it's been, if you're on the manufacturing side of the business, deciding when to add capacity can be difficult. And risky.

Adding fixed costs during a time of high sales revenue can mean trouble when demand recedes back to "normal," if there is such a thing anymore. But if you build products that are as well-regarded and popular as Henry Repeating Arms' rifles and shotguns, that eliminates some of the risk and makes the decision to

expand easier.

Hence Henry's announcement today that they're adding to their Wisconsin manufacturing capacity with a new 84,000 square foot facility . . .

*To accommodate the strong demand for a growing product lineup, Henry Repeating Arms, one of the country's leading firearms manufacturers, is expanding its operations with an 84,000sf building on 13.5 acres in Ladysmith, Wisconsin. Strategically located less than an hour away from the company's 140,000sf headquarters in Rice Lake, Wisconsin, the new facility will employ over 100 people in the Rusk County area within three years.*

*The new property gives the company a total of 350,000sf of manufacturing space with over 600 employees to support its "Made in America, Or Not Made at All" mantra. The facility will initially be machining parts for the company's lineup of more than 200 models of rifles and shotguns. The additional Ladysmith acreage also allows for future expansion.*

*"Staking our flag at a new facility is the beginning of another exciting chapter in our company's history, and we are wasting no time prepping the building for our machines," said Andy Wickstrom, President of Henry Repeating Arms. Wickstrom continued, "We thank the state of Wisconsin and Rusk County officials for keeping the door open for us, and we look forward to adding members of another great Wisconsin community to our family."*

"We're excited to see Henry Repeating Arms make a commitment to Ladysmith, WI and Rusk County. They are an employer we are eager to see grow in our community for years to come," added Andy Albarado, Rusk County Economic Development.

Henry firearms are purchasable only through a licensed firearms dealer. For more information about Henry Repeating Arms and its products, visit [henryusa.com](http://henryusa.com) or call 866-200-2354.



# Supreme Court Arguments in New York Gun Case Signal Uphill Battle to Defend Overly Restrictive Laws

[Amy Swearer](#) / [@AmySwearer](#) / November 04, 2021



"How many muggings take place in a forest?" Chief Justice John Roberts asks New York's solicitor general during oral arguments Wednesday in the New York gun case. Pictured: Roberts sits for an April 23 group photo of the Supreme Court. (Photo: Erin Schaff-Pool/Getty Images)

Amy Swearer is a legal fellow in the Edwin Meese Center for Legal and Judicial Studies at The Heritage Foundation.

The Supreme Court heard oral arguments Wednesday in the first significant Second Amendment case the court has taken up [in over a decade](#).

Although the high court is unlikely to render a decision in the case until next spring, the arguments in [New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen](#) highlighted the many ways in which New York faces an uphill battle in defending its concealed carry permitting scheme.

First, some background. The Second Amendment protects the "right of the people to keep and bear arms" and is premised on the underlying natural right of self-defense.

New York law nevertheless prohibits all but a select few from carrying firearms in public for self-defense. And even then, these gun owners may do so only after they've proved to the government's satisfaction that they have a "good cause" for "needing" to exercise the right.

In essence, New York and the seven other states with similarly restrictive public carry laws have turned an enumerated right of the people into a special privilege for a special subset of people. The petitioners in this case are two New York residents with extensive experience and training with firearms. Both were denied concealed carry permits because licensing officials determined they did not "face any special or unique danger to [their] life."

The two gun owners argue that New York's restrictive and discretionary system for public carry permits is unconstitutional because it effectively stripped them of their right to bear arms in public for self-defense.

New York, for its part, argues that its laws constitute perfectly reasonable regulations that are fully consistent with the text, history, and tradition of the Second Amendment.

## Why It's an Uphill Battle for New York

The oral arguments before the Supreme Court highlighted serious problems with New York's interpretation of the Second Amendment and the history of gun control, and underscored the uphill battle the state faces in defending the constitutionality of its public carry laws.

New York Solicitor General Barbara Underwood appeared to concede many points that seriously damaged New York's overall argument.

For example, Underwood argued at several points that New York does, in fact, grant concealed carry permits to ordinary citizens on a regular basis. But when pressed by Justice Samuel Alito, she conceded that ordinary, law-abiding New Yorkers who work late at night and wait for public transportation in high-crime areas would not, as a rule, be granted carry permits.

New York also struggled at times to defend foundational aspects of its legal argument. The state, for example, insists that the incredibly low rate of carry permits granted in New York City reflects a perfectly reasonable exercise of discretion.

Why? Because more densely populated urban areas have more police officers, rendering public carry less necessary, the state argues, and because armed people packed "shoulder to shoulder" present a higher public safety risk than do armed people in rural areas.

Chief Justice John Roberts highlighted the paradox of this approach, in which residents in high-crime urban areas are less justified in invoking their right to [public carry for purposes of self-defense](#) than residents in rural low-crime areas, simply because "there are a lot of police around" in the high-crime areas.



“If the purpose of the Second Amendment is to allow people to protect themselves, then it’s implicated when you’re in a high-crime area,” Roberts said. “It’s not implicated when you’re out in the woods. ... How many muggings take place in a forest?”

Underwood responded that “rapes and robberies happen on the deserted bike paths,” but then appeared to largely concede the point and switch to an argument about the public safety implications of public carry in urban areas.

If Underwood’s answer seemed halfhearted and evasive, it’s because Roberts’ question drew attention to a gaping hole in the state’s argument.

The data are very clear that a person is far, far more likely to be victimized—and therefore more likely to want (and need) to rely on his or her Second Amendment rights—in any given neighborhood in the five boroughs than in any particular square mile of rural upstate New York. This is true despite the fact that New York City has one of the highest law enforcement-to-resident ratios in the nation.

## Playing Fast and Loose With History

New York similarly struggled to provide support for its premise that a less restrictive carry framework would result in far more accidents and criminal activity, referencing a single brief filed with the court. The most comprehensive and best-conducted studies fail to support this conclusion. The premise is also inconsistent with the experience of 43 other states, the majority of which loosened their carry laws over the past several decades, and none of which reverted back to a more restrictive carry regime due to concerns over public safety.

And given all of the empirical evidence on the [extremely law-abiding nature](#) of concealed carry permit holders, it makes little sense that any incidental rises in gun crime could be meaningfully tied back to a population that is overwhelmingly not responsible for those crimes.

Finally, the oral arguments exposed New York’s habit of playing fast and loose with history. Perhaps the most glaring example of this was caught by Alito, who chided New York for, quite literally, rewriting history in its brief. Alito noted while New York framed an early 19th-century North Carolina legal manual as authorizing the arrest of “all such persons as in your sight shall ride or go armed,” the state omitted a key qualification from the quote.

The text actually reads that such arrests should be carried out on those who “shall ride or go armed *offensively*.” The word “offensively” clearly affects the meaning of the text, changing it from an apparently unqualified prohibition on carrying arms in public to a rather mundane statute akin to modern statutes against brandishing guns at others or threatening deadly force without justification.

## Predictions: What’s Next?

It’s always risky to predict the outcome of any particular Supreme Court case. However, based on the justices’ [jurisprudential histories](#) and the questions they asked at oral argument, it seems likely that a majority will find in favor of the petitioners, affirm that there is, indeed, an individual right for ordinary citizens to carry firearms in public for self-defense, and conclude that states must permit residents to exercise this right subject only to reasonable regulations on time, place, and manner.

Such an opinion from the high court likely would act as a death knell not just to New York’s public carry framework, but to similarly restrictive frameworks in states such as California, Hawaii, and New Jersey.

Contrary to the fantastical predictions of some gun control advocates and some Second Amendment advocates, it is highly unlikely that the court will spell out a right to permitless carry or question the constitutional validity of less restrictive “shall issue” permit laws.

The practical implication likely will be that states such as New York pivot to fairly onerous “shall issue” frameworks along the lines of the one implemented in the District of Columbia, where applicants “shall” be issued permits, but only if they jump through [myriad expensive and time-consuming](#) bureaucratic hoops.

Such a result may not provide a perfect resolution—the more burdensome “shall issue” frameworks certainly raise constitutional concerns of their own.

But as Paul Clement, the petitioners’ attorney, told the court, many of the 80 million Americans currently unable to exercise their Second Amendment rights in public eagerly look at D.C.’s public carry laws and say, “We’d like what they’re having.”

*Have an opinion about this article? To sound off, please email [letters@DailySignal.com](mailto:letters@DailySignal.com) and we’ll consider publishing your edited remarks in our regular “We Hear You” feature. Remember to include the url or headline of the article plus your name and town and/or state.*