



BY



April 2020

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## Wisconsin Shooting Ranges Closing During Covid19 Pandemic

Wisconsin DNR has closed all public shooting ranges amid covid19 pandemic. They have put out the following statement on their web page:

**In light of COVID-19**, all public shooting ranges are closed for the duration of the public health emergency. We apologize for any inconvenience this evolving situation has caused you.

Wisconsin Firearm Owners has had reports of local police in southeast Wisconsin ordering shooting ranges to close. Ranges that presented s.323.24 were left alone. From Evers' order: 11. Essential Activities. Individuals may leave their home or residence to perform ANY of the following: c. Outdoor activity. To engage in outdoor activity, including visiting public and state parks, provided individuals comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined below. Such activities include, by way of example and WITHOUT LIMITATION, walking, biking, hiking, or running. Therefore, a shooting range being closed citing the COVID-19 situation as the reason for closure, would be in conflict.

Private clubs/ranges should make the decision about being open to what they believe is best. If they follow the guidance on social distancing, it should not be a problem. Consideration would depend on the facility, and their Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). It is also the position of the association that any local government mandate to close a private shooting range would be in conflict with the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) guidance of 3-28-2020, state statute s.323.24 and Governor Evers' order.

The DHS GUIDANCE ON THE ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKFORCE States the following: Workers supporting the operation of firearm or ammunition product manufacturers, retailers, importers, distributors, and shooting ranges. Therefore, shooting ranges and gun retailers are allowed to stay open during this time.

Some private ranges around the state have decided to close, but others remain open. At Eau Claire National Rifle Club we have determined that the range is closed to all nonmembers and will not be doing any safety walk throughs for new members, but will remain open to current members.

I would encourage you to keep your range open during this time. Take all necessary precautions with social distancing and follow CDC guidelines. This is an important time to get out and enjoy the spring weather and practice your shooting skills.

## 2020 Junior Service Rifle Team Raffle

**Dave Holub**

In last month's *Trigger*, we explained how events (or lack thereof) had a deleterious effect on our Junior team fundraising. Because of the response to that article and a post on our Facebook page, we will have the required funding for this year's team. We hope the current health situation won't completely wipe out this season. If it does, we will have a running start toward next year, and may be in a position to add to our MidwayUSA Foundation account.

Many thanks go out to the folks who responded by buying raffle tickets. We sold many tickets (over half of our total sales) to those responding to our article. We couldn't send a team to the national matches, let alone win another national championship, without your help. We sold tickets to people from Arizona, Colorado, California, Missouri, and Illinois. The word sure got around!

The winners of this year's raffle are:

**Orca Cooler (thanks to MidwayUSA Foundation)—Jeff Nass of Pulaski**

**Henry Goldenboy Rifle (thanks again to MidwayUSA Foundation)—Tom McGowan, grandfather of our very own National Champion Thomas McGowan**

**CMP M1 rifle (thanks to the CMP)—Craig "Woody" Wojicechowski, one of the hardest working Friends of the NRA volunteers in our state.**

Congratulations to all.

Because of the current situation, the CMP has suspended all operations, so Woody has agreed to patiently wait until the CMP can get him his M1. Thanks, Woody, for your patience.

We owe a big thanks to Central Wisconsin Gun Collectors Association, Fort Oneida Muzzleloaders, and Bob Pucci, for giving us a place to sell tickets at their shows. Thanks also to everyone who purchased tickets for our fundraiser.

If you know a junior who may be interested in participating in Service Rifle competition, let us know. We will get you in touch with a local program nearest to you. If your club has a junior program that would like to associate with our team, or if your club would like to start a junior program please contact us at: [holubdave@yahoo.com](mailto:holubdave@yahoo.com)

## Wisconsin Trapshooting Association

Trapshooting has a long history in the State of Wisconsin. Meeting minutes dating back to the 1920's discussed desire for the Wisconsin Trapshooting Association (WTA) to have a "Homegrounds" - or a central hub. In 2010, the WTA Board of Directors earnestly began searching for a location. The three options contemplated: an existing club in Rhinelander, the Waukesha location which had hosted for many years, or flat timber land in Rome. The Directors overwhelmingly selected Rome, WI to be the official home of the Wisconsin Trapshooting Association.

In 2012, ground was broken on the long-awaited project off of Akron Drive in the Town of Rome. Work was urgently conducted by Plum Creek, the timber company that owned and cleared 280 acres of red pine forest land.

Nothing went to waste, as stumps were bulldozed and burned at a local power plant. Dennis Taylor, the Complex's first property manager, expertly coordinated the project with his construction background. "It couldn't have been done without him," shares Fritz Thistle, current President of the WTA Board of Directors. It was quite an effort and concrete workers and electricians were on site up until two days prior to the 2013 State Shoot. Smiling, Fritz recollects, "Our final project before the State Shoot: we went out, cut a pine tree down and stuck it in the ground to serve as the flagpole. We were ready to go!"



On July 16, 2013, folks from around the country arrived for the first State Shoot at the new Complex. Without grass planted, clouds of dust enveloped shooters; however, this didn't stop the competition. The Town of Rome Fire Department came out with their truck and ran the line shooting water all over the fields in an attempt to settle the dirt. For the next five years, constant additions and the high-class facility brought people from around the country to enjoy the centrally-located Shooting Complex. With improvements like planting grass and creating an elaborate paved system for ATVs / UTVs, the WTA's facility has proven that it is here to stay and succeed.



The Shooting Complex is one of a kind in the region. It holds 30 different trap fields for guests to utilize. Funded by the DNR and NRA, an Olympic-style bunker was constructed and installed in 2013. Shooting 65 mph targets at a variety of elevations, this international-style trap is one of a kind in the area - the closest currently constructed located in St. Louis, Missouri.



In addition to the Olympic bunker, a significant success was the recent completion of the Complex Building. The dedication for the building was celebrated this year with a ribbon cutting ceremony

to begin the July 2018 State Shoot. The majority of the project's funding came from Friends of the WTA, who raised almost \$200,000 in two years. Members of the Association donated their time and materials to make this dream for the Complex a reality.



In addition to the Annual State Shoot Event, the Trapshooting Association also hosts an Olympic Junior Qualifier and SCTP (Scholastic Clay Target Program) Championships. Youth volunteer throughout the year at the Complex and play a big part in their role at the Annual State Shoot thanks to organizer Brian Giese, President of the Nekoosa School Board. Events provide unique opportunities for youth shooters to "win a vest" and earn a spot on the National Team. 20-year-old Madelynn Bernau of Waterford, WI qualified for the National USA Shooting Team following her performance at the Wisconsin SCTP International Trap Championships held at the Rome WTA Complex. In May 2018, Madelynn won a gold medal at Women's Trap at the 14th International Junior Grade Prix in Porpetto, Italy.

The Wisconsin Trapshooting Association's Complex is truly a gem of Rome. The amazing facility offers youth as well as seasoned trapshooters a high quality, unforgettable experience unlike any other in the state.

To learn more about the WTA Complex, the hours of operation, or for information about the adjacent Homegrounds RV Park, visit the Wisconsin Trapshooting Association website or contact Amy Jenkins (608-547-5453 / [asjenks13@gmail.com](mailto:asjenks13@gmail.com)) for information about the facility.

Cameryn Kwaterski, Visit Rome, WI, Inc. Executive Director

## Hunting is 'slowly dying off,' and that has created a crisis for the nation's many endangered species



[WWW.WASHINGTONPOST.COM](http://WWW.WASHINGTONPOST.COM)

Public lands are a shared resource, open to an unlikely mix of hunters and hikers, birdwatchers and mountain bikers. But today, that symbiosis is off kilter: Americans' interest in hunting is on the decline, cutting into funding for conservation, which stems largely from hunting licenses, permits and taxes on firearms, bows and other equipment. Even as more people are engaging in outdoor activities, hunting license sales have fallen from a peak of about 17 million in the early '80s to 15 million last year, according to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service data. The agency's 2016 survey suggested a steeper

decline to 11.5 million Americans who say they hunt, down more than 2 million from five years earlier.

## Wisconsin Firearm Owners Upcoming Events and News

### Upcoming Events

#### Attention:

Contact Match Director to assure match is still being conducted. The NRA has informed match directors they will not be expecting match fees or scores at this time during the COVID19 pandemic. The CMP is also closed and is not expecting scores.

WINNEQUAH GUN CLUB  
CMP Junior Club Fund Raiser  
April 18, 2020

Racine  
Garand  
April 18, 2020

Racine  
CMP Garand(am), Vintage Sniper(pm)  
April 25, 2020

Nicolet  
Small Arms Firing School  
April 25, 2020

Daniel Boone  
Small Arms Firing School  
April 25, 2020

Eau Claire  
4-gun 600  
April 25, 2020 **Cancelled**

Eau Claire

### Wisconsin Firearm Owners

Because of the current situation, The Wisconsin Firearms Owners Banquet scheduled for May 16 has been cancelled. Even if the Stay-at-home orders are lifted, Many events will be moving their dates. To avoid any conflicts, we have decided to cancel and possibly schedule for later in the year.

### Wisconsin Firearm Owners Senior Service Rifle Team



<p><b>80 shot NMC</b>  April 26, 2020 <b>Cancelled</b>  <b>WINNEQUAH GUN CLUB</b>  Palma  May 2-3, 2020  <b>LaCrosse Rifle Club</b>  4-gun 600  May 9-10, 2020  <b>Negaunee MI</b>  <b>F-Class</b>  May 9, 2020</p> <p>Check us out on our web site at:  <a href="https://www.wisconsinfirearmowners.org">https://www.wisconsinfirearmowners.org</a></p> <p>Check us out on  <b>Facebook @ Wisconsinforce</b></p>	<p>With the overwhelming number of competitors wanting to compete in the 2019 6 person team match, in 2020 Wisconsin is planning on having two adult teams. Tom Jones has come up with the following criteria to be on the team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You must show interest in being on the team by sending in three match scores from this year, starting in April 2020.</li> <li>• One of the three matches must be an EIC match.</li> <li>• You also must state whether you would like to be in competition or out of competition.</li> <li>• Another requirement is to have to shoot at one of the state championship OTC matches. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in fundraising.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Competitors interested in being on the team should send their match scores to:  <a href="mailto:wiscoreroster@gmail.com">wiscoreroster@gmail.com</a>.</p>
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## 3 More Counties Find CWD In Wild Deer During 2019 Hunts

**Wild Deer Have Tested Positive In 30 Counties Since Fatal Brain Disease First Found In Wisconsin**  
By Rich Kremer

Three more counties had wild deer test positive for chronic wasting disease (CWD) during 2019. As a result, 30 counties in the state have had CWD detections in wild herds since the disease was first detected in 2002.

Dunn, Marathon and Sheboygan counties had their first wild deer [test positive](#) for the fatal brain disease from samples submitted after hunting seasons last year. While the positive test in Marathon County is the first detected in wild deer, 104 captive deer have [tested positive](#) for CWD at a hunting ranch there since 2013.

Amanda Kamps is a wildlife health conservation specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). She said in the last year alone there were 23 counties with wild deer testing positive for CWD.

"For hunters, it's definitely a concern," said Kamps. "We're seeing more positives detected. Hunters are more interested in getting their deer tested for CWD."

Kamps said the DNR has listed 56 counties across the state as "[CWD affected](#)." She said those are counties that have either had CWD detected within their boundaries or are located within 10 miles of a positive CWD detection in a neighboring county.

There have been 6,566 cases of CWD positives from 245,838 deer tested for the disease over the last 18 years. The vast majority of cases come from what the DNR calls the "Southern Farmland Zone" which follows a line from Vernon County in the west to Ozaukee County in the east.

In 2019 alone, Iowa County had 403 CWD positives in wild deer followed by 261 in Sauk County. In northern Iowa County the DNR has reported disease prevalence rates [higher than 50 percent](#) in adult bucks.

Kamps said the DNR continues to encourage hunters to look for sick deer and is teaming with counties to provide plastic lined dumpsters to ensure safe disposal of deer bones after they've been butchered.

**"We do continue to have a variety of sample submission locations and options available this year," said Kamps. "We especially had quite a bit more carcass disposal options for hunters." But retired veterinarian and former Natural Resources Board Chair Dave Clausen said the state's efforts thus far haven't been enough.**

**"The bottom-line question is here do we want to continue just with things as they are?" asked Clausen.**

**"Or, do we want to try to change or alter the outcome somewhat?"**

**Clausen has lobbied the DNR and state lawmakers for years to be more aggressive in targeting deer populations with high prevalence rates for the disease. In particular, he recommends letting hunters kill more bucks in areas like Iowa and Sauk counties.**



- **Wisconsin Firearm Owners** gives you a voice in Madison to protect your **Second Amendment Rights**.
- 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.
- 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.
- Advancing hunter rights and mentored hunting in Wisconsin.

JOIN US TODAY TO HELP PROTECT YOUR GUN RIGHTS. [www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org)

## WISCONSIN FIREARM OWNERS ASSOCIATION

### MEMBER TYPE:

#### Individual:

\_\_\_ Annual \$20

\_\_\_ Life \$250

\_\_\_ Junior Membership FREE (under 18)

#### Club or Business:

\_\_\_ Regular Annual \$30

\_\_\_ Patriot Annual \$250

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Payment: \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ Paypal (Online Only) \_\_\_\_\_

**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, 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.





# 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/>



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



CHANGING THE FUTURE OF YOUTH SHOOTING SPORTS



## **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 to 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!**



# Wisconsin Trapshooting Association Youth

The Wisconsin Trapshooting Association fully supports education and training of youth shooters. We work with the [Amateur Trapshooting Association's AIM Program](#) to ensure that our youth gain the necessary knowledge and skills to become responsible shooters.



The Wisconsin Trapshooting Association (WTA) is proud to offer our 2015 Youth Development Trapshooting Program to all clubs, organizations and groups. This program is intended to teach and introduce youth to the sport of trapshooting.

The [2017 Youth Development Program](#) is now published as a pdf file.

There are a number of youth shooting programs within the state and nationally. Below are links to some of those organizations.



[AIM](#) is the OFFICIAL youth program of the Amateur Trapshooting Association. [Results from 2014 WI State Shoot.](#)

[Scholastic Clay Target Program \(SCTP\)](#)

[Wisconsin SCTP Teams](#) Scroll down and select Wisconsin to view teams and state contacts.

[Wisconsin State High School Clay Targets League](#)

[USA Shooting](#)

[Kettle Moraine Trapshooting Conference](#)

## Craziest I Have Ever Seen It': Gun Sales Surge Amid Coronavirus Fears

Industry says background checks surged 300 percent



People wait in line outside Hudson's Outfitters & Firearms / Stephen Gutowski

[Stephen Gutowski](#) - MARCH 20, 2020 12:40 PM

The coronavirus pandemic has put a strain on the gun and ammunition industry, as well as the FBI's background check system, due to surging demand. So many Americans are flocking to local gun stores to stock up on firearms and ammunition in the face of the novel coronavirus that dealers say they are scrambling to keep up with demand. The surge is also causing delays in FBI background checks, forcing gun owners and first-time buyers alike to wait for their purchases to be approved. In the worst affected areas, the normally instantaneous checks could begin to take weeks.

"This is the craziest I have ever seen it. We sold out of all FMJ in the main calibers ... and are only left with some high-end self-defense ammo," Scott Blick, a managing partner at [Ammunition Depot](#), told the [Washington Free Beacon](#). "We have ammo coming in by the truckload to restock, but it will be a long time before we are back to normal inventory."

The FBI said it only publicly releases data on the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) monthly but the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), the firearms industry's trade group, said the number of gun checks tripled at one point.

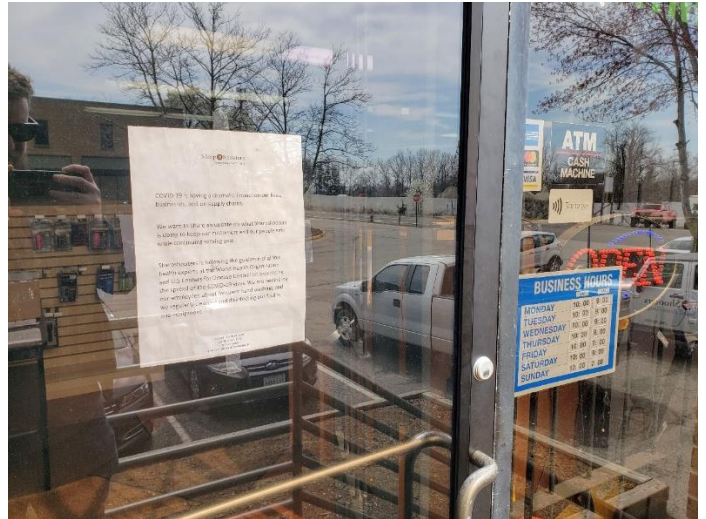
"We did have a conversation with the FBI yesterday. And they told us on Monday, March 16, 2020, NICS checks were 300 percent higher than they were March 16, 2019," Mark Oliva, a spokesman for the NSSF, told the [Free Beacon](#). "Since February 23 through present, on average, every day has been at

least double what it was last year. There certainly has been a run on people buying firearms and people buying ammunition."

At local gun shops visited by the *Free Beacon* in Pennsylvania and Virginia, the increased demand was evident, as well as precautions against spreading the virus among customers and staff. At Hudson's Outfitters & Firearms in Pottstown, Pa., on Wednesday, the staff limited ammunition purchases to those who also purchased a firearm from their dwindling in-store stock. The store also restricted the number of people allowed inside the store at a single time to 10 customers. Customers stood in line outside the store about six feet apart.

"It's been like this for a couple of days," Spencer, a salesman at Hudson's, said.

The sudden surge in gun and ammo sales are similar to ones America has experienced in the wake of [terror attacks](#).



(Sharpshooters in Lorton, Va., posts sign detailing coronavirus precautions / Stephen Gutowski)

Police in [major cities](#), including Philadelphia and New York, have already [publicly announced](#) they will temporarily forgo some arrests due to the pandemic. A 21-year-old, who did not wish to be named, told the *Free Beacon* he currently lives in Philadelphia for school and cited the city's announcement as the reason he wanted to purchase a handgun for the first time.

"I'm kind of worried. I want to be able to protect myself," the man said.

The rush was just as evident at Sharpshooters in Lorton, Va., on Thursday. The store hung a sign on the door informing customers of the increased cleaning regimen it has instituted, and many employees wore gloves. The stock of guns was mostly depleted but the store was still selling some common ammunition, including 9mm and 5.56 NATO with a two-box limit.

Sales of some items had surged as much as nine-fold, retailers said. Anthony Welch, a spokesman for ammunition seller [Lucky Gunner](#), said sales of .223 and 5.56—rounds used in the AR-15 and other semiautomatic rifles—are up 900 percent, while 9mm ammunition increased by 500 percent.

"We've definitely been busy," Welch said. "We've added customer service team members, and our crew is working overtime to try to keep up. So far, our guys at the warehouse are doing great. It seems there's little doubt this is as a result of the coronavirus and everything that could come with it."

He added that shotgun rounds have also surged "a disproportionate amount."

"It's usually a decent seller but this week, it's really taken off. I suppose that makes sense because of its reputation as a great round for home defense," Welch said.

The dealers said they experienced spikes in response to specific pieces of news surrounding the virus. Welch said sales at Lucky Gunner started to pick up in February after news of the virus taking hold in Italy emerged.

"Things were about twice as busy the first week of March as they were the first week of the month in 2019," he said. "When President Trump gave his Oval Office address [on March 11] it was like someone turned things up to 11. We saw things really start to get wild. In terms of sales, we then started running anywhere from 8 to 10 times where we were in 2019."

Blick of Ammunition Depot said March 12, the day most sports leagues either canceled or suspended their upcoming games, was the beginning of a run of all-time record sales days. Pallets of ammunition were sold out minutes after they were released.

"While demand has been elevated all year, we saw a large ramp in ordering starting last Thursday [March 12] and set single-day sales records for three days in a row," Blick said. "We are currently running double shifts in the warehouse to try to keep up with demand, but orders are still coming in at an unprecedented rate."

The FBI said it is still operating NICS with a full staff but asked for understanding as it tries to handle the demand while taking precautions against the virus.

"The FBI is taking appropriate measures to ensure the safety of their employees while remaining committed to ensuring national security and pursuing violations of federal law," Holly Morris, an FBI public affairs specialist, told the *Free Beacon*. "At this time, the FBI's National Instant Criminal

**Background Check System Section remains fully operational and will continue to process requests.**

**The NICS Section appreciates the public's patience during this period of national emergency."**

**Still, Oliva said NICS is experiencing delays on normal gun sales across the country—even some extreme ones.**

**"Those one-minute answers now may take a few minutes," he said. "And those other places, where before maybe they took a few minutes, may take a couple hours now just because demand is so high."**

**He said checks processed by the FBI have been less affected than those conducted by state-level agencies.**

**"Where we're starting to see issues on are states that are 'point of contact' states that do their own background checks," Oliva said. "Colorado is up to two days now. Washington state, they're looking at waits up to three weeks."**



(Customers stand six feet apart while waiting in line to buy guns and ammo / Stephen Gutowski)

**Oliva said there were also concerns around sales that get delayed during NICS checks. Under federal law, gun dealers have to hold sales that come back marked "delay" by NICS for three business days. With some state law enforcement offices closing over coronavirus precautions, however, Oliva said those three business days may stretch out much longer than normal.**

**"Those business days only count if the state offices are open," he said. "So, we're trying to remind all those retailers to be mindful of that 72 hours. We want to make sure our retailers are completely aware of the effects of this on the law."**

**In the face of unprecedented demand and slowed background checks, manufacturers are already ramping up production, and retailers expect shelves to be restocked in the coming days and months. Oliva said the companies underpinning the industry are healthy and the supply chain remains strong.**

**"For the short term you may see a few hiccups, but I think, over time, like your hand sanitizer folks, your toilet paper manufacturers, they're all going to be adjusting to the new normal and will be able to fill some of the holes that are out there," Oliva said. "So, I think that you're going to see the same thing with firearms and ammunition."**

**Spencer from Hudson's said the store expects to restock "in the next day or two." Welch said Lucky Gunner is getting new shipments on a daily basis and even though the supply chain is "getting picked over pretty well," manufacturers are continuing to run production lines, which means more product is on the way. Blick said Ammunition Depot is restocking at an unprecedented rate and has already secured new manufacturing capacity for the next year.**

**"Currently, we are able to resupply and have quite literally tens of thousands of tons of ammunition on the road on its way to our warehouse," he said. "Additionally, we have secured manufacturing capacity for hundreds of millions of rounds over the next year."**

**Blick warned that the increased demand will likely drive up prices as more Americans than ever seek a way to provide for their own personal safety in a time of crisis.**

**"We expect to be feeling the shocks of this elevated buying for several months if not longer," he said.**

**"Wholesale prices have already increased significantly, an indicator that manufacturers and distributors do not have enough stock or manufacturing capacity to keep pace with consumer demand."**

# Gun Shops Can Sell Firearms From Parking Lots and Offer Drive-Thru Services During COVID-19 Pandemic: Justice Department



Shoppers wait in line to purchase ammunition and guns at Gun World in Burbank, California on March 17.

Sarah Reingewirtz—MediaNews Group—Pasadena  
Star-News/Getty Images  
BY [SANYA MANSOOR](#)  
APRIL 12, 2020

**G**un retailers can still offer

curbside services to sell guns and ammunition to customers amid the coronavirus pandemic, the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) announced in an [industry letter published Friday](#).

Firearms businesses have been already deemed an “[essential service](#)” by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, even as thousands of “nonessential” businesses remain closed and the Trump administration is urging people to stay home to

prevent the spread of coronavirus. (Other essential businesses include grocery stores, hospitals and pharmacies.) Gun control activists have [criticized the decision](#), warning that increased gun violence could [divert already strained health care resources](#) away from responding to the pandemic.

Around the country, gun owners have flocked to stores to stock up and there’s been a significant spike in gun and ammunition sales in January and February, according to the Associated Press.

ATF’s statement on Friday notes that retailers with federal firearms licenses have requested guidance on how to go about accepting payment and delivering firearms or ammunition to customers, as well verifying customer identity and completing paperwork. The federal agency outlines that licensees can conduct these services through a “a drive-up or walk-up window or doorway” on the retailer’s property outside the building listed on the license. They can also operate from a temporary table or booth located in a parking lot or other exterior location on the premises but “any such activities must occur in a location where the licensee has the authority to permit ATF’s entry for inspection purposes.”

It clarifies that retailers cannot carry out these activities “from a nearby space that is not located on the licensee’s property at the address listed on the license, unless such activities are at a qualified in-state gun show or event.”