

Wake Up Hunters and Gun Owners!!

Every election is important to be sure. I have always firmly believed that as citizens, we have a responsibility to participate in the elective process. That is why I am shocked, when those of us that are so passionate about the outdoors, our gun rights, and the future of our children don't vote. We know as an example that there are over 380,000 registered gun owners in our state that are not registered to vote. In recent data compiled by Hunter Nation, only 50% of the hunters in our state vote. I honestly don't get it.

When I hear hunters complaining about the lack of a wolf season right here in Wisconsin, the loss of habitat and access across the state, the inability of sportsmen to cross railroad tracks from parking lots created and established to allow us to take our kids hunting and fishing, I always ask the same question. Did you vote? If you didn't, why not?

I hear gun owners who are hoarding ammo because of the fear of taxes and availability. When not that long ago you had virtually no ammo available when certain elected officials were talking of banning certain types of ammo. The sale of AR 15 type firearms are constantly under attack by elected officials. When I hear the barrage of complaints and criticism, I ask the same question I do of hunters. Did you vote? If not why not.

I can also say for me, November elections come at the worst possible time. I am either in a tree stand, duck blind, or in the field. I go to my local city office and get an absentee ballot, and complete it before I head to the woods. I can also say, when I vote, I vote policy not personality. I am not looking for someone to have over for dinner. I am looking for someone that most closely aligns with my core values as it relates to our outdoor heritage among other things. If you will be out of town on election day, get an absentee ballot!

I know of a very wise statement that an old boss told me once. "If you're not part of the solution, you are part of the problem" Don't be part of the problem, make your voice and your vote count.

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