

Greene County Federation of Sportsmen

Clerk of the Legislature
411 Main Street 4th Floor
Catskill, NY 12414

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Subject: Federation Report for 2015

Dear Legislators:

The Greene County Federation of Sportsmen once again thanks the entire legislature for its support for the Federation's activities. We are happy to report that all funds provided by the legislature have been used wisely and prudently and we are looking forward to many successful years in the future. The majority of our annual expenses are targeted for youth oriented and educational programs for the county.

Our accomplishments are as follow in the form of monetary sponsorship (grants):

1. Department of Environmental Camps for children. Several children from Greene County are welcomed at several DEC camps throughout the state where they are taught basic skills of fishing, canoeing, hiking, archery, and also enjoyed swimming, volleyball, and softballs.
2. Fishing derbies for children at the Bavarian Manor, Tannersville Lake, Catskill Point, and Earleton. Youth fishing derbies are perhaps the most popular programs we sponsor both in the valley and on the mountaintop. The derbies are held where children not only fish and learn the skills of fishing but each child receives a prize and refreshments such as hot dogs, hamburgers, soda, water, and ice cream at all events as rewards for their efforts.
3. Greene County Youth Activity and Fishing Derby Day. This event is held annually at Catskill Point and, as stated, is in conjunction with the fishing derby and is sponsored by the legislators and the federation to help promote tourism in the form of sportsmen who may attend. The New York Bow Hunters set up a display at the even and allow children of all ages to learn about archery.
4. Trout stocking is a major activity for the federation in Greene County. This also helps promote tourism for the county, providing fishing opportunities for both local and out of the area fishermen. We stock trout in Greene Lake, Colgate Lake, the Schoharie Creek, Eastkill Creek, Bataviakill Creek, Catskill Creek and others. Each year several volunteers from the federation participate in this effort and provide enjoyment for residents and non-residents alike.
5. Junior Civilian Marksmanship Program. Cocksackie Sportsmen's Club opens its doors to all youth from ages 12 through 16 who are interested in the basics of shooting and marksmanship. The club's NRA qualified instructors teach the basic skills and stress safety in the program. .22 rimfire target rifles are provided by the club and ammunition is paid for by the federation
6. Hunter Education Courses as well as trapping courses as mandated by the state are provided by several local sportsmen's clubs belonging to the federation and these are also

- taught by NRA qualified instructors. Adults and youngsters must take these courses to enable them to obtain licenses to go in the field. Our clubs also provide courses for individuals seeking to obtain a pistol permit. These courses again stress safety and law.
7. The federation holds an annual Youth Pheasant Hunt each September for youth who have never hunted before. Again, children not only get a chance to ply the skills they have learned in Hunter Safety Classes, but learn how trained hunting dogs play a part in the activity. They also enjoy refreshments after the hunt in the form of hot dogs, hamburgers, soda, water, etc.
 8. New York State Conservation Council dues are \$200 and the federation must provide two delegates with rooms and meals which comes to quite a substantial amount over the year. All new bills concerning sportsmen are reviewed and sent to the State Senate or Assembly for action.
 9. There is always postage and it is kept to a minimum as several individual members absorb the cost themselves.

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Sincerely,



Henry L. Coons, President
Greene County Federation of Sportsmen