



SHERWOOD PARK FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

F A L L 2 0 1 1

President's Report

Richard Rothwell, SPFGA President

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Summer is nearing its end and fall is fast approaching. Hope that everyone had a good summer. The ranges will start to get busy with folks getting ready for the upcoming hunting seasons. A good time to go to avoid the rush is during the week days if you can. When at the ranges be vigilant with respect to safety and follow the rules. This summer has been relatively quiet with less new work and improvements to the property. In the next couple weeks there will be some brush clearing to enlarge trailer and tent sites in the campground. This should not greatly affect availability for camping. The work is expected to take a few hours and there will be a need to do some clean-up of debris afterwards. We may need some volunteer time from members for this. Will let you know if that is the case.

The video surveillance is more or less complete, but there is a problem with reception between some cameras and the monitor that records activity. We expect this to be corrected soon.

Negotiations with the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) to establish a conservation easement on our property are nearing an end. It has been a protracted process with numerous meetings and discussions. The

purpose of the easement is to protect and maintain the wildlife habitat of undeveloped parcels of land on the property in a natural state. Some of these parcels of land already have covenants on them that limit development. The NCC easement ensures that all will be protected. The quarter section that contains the firing ranges, clubhouse and other developments are exempt from the easement. In closing, remember to attend the Hunter's Night meeting in September at the ACT centre in Rundle Park with Fish and Wildlife personnel to get an update on changes in hunting regulations. I believe the date for the meeting is September 8th. An announcement of the meeting as usual will be sent out to members.

Rich Rothwell



Range Orientation Sessions

9:00 AM Last Sunday of each month Contact Pat Harris or email: to confirm attendance.

ARCHERY RANGE RULES

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME
All sling shots, primitive & long bows, compounds & cross-bows welcome.

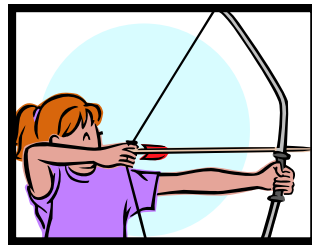
Target points only.

NO BROADHEADS
OF ANY KIND ALLOWED

ABSOLUTELY
NO FIREARMS ALLOWED IN THIS
AREA.
STAY SAFE, DON'T LITTER HAVE FUN



Since the first report of the archery program renewal in the last newsletter quite a bit of progress has been made. An evaluation of the area and trail were made by Rick Harvey and my self in early May. Since then the trail has been weed-whacked and a brush saw used to open up shooting lanes to the 3D targets. Likewise the area near the fixed distance target butts, near the shed,



has been cut back with a brush saw. Given all the rain we have had it likely needs to be done again. Ten new 3D targets were purchased from the Trophy Book Archery shop in Spruce Grove. As you probably recall Trophy Book sponsors a trophy in our association and in addition to that gave us a considerable break on prices. Second Vice-

President Dave Hollingshead and I did the trail clearing, target purchase and target installation. In exchange for his help Dave got to put the first arrow hole in each target. We also purchased four used targets from the Capital Archery Association as they had to shut down their range because of encroaching



city development. These deer and Russian Boar targets were repaired and repainted in my garage and are now in the Archery Shed at the range, ready to put in place at the next opportunity.

Some additional round target Butt material was also obtained from the Capital Archers. Two of the butt targets, like the ones used in competitive archery and the Olympics, are ready to go but I will need some help to install them. And we have the materials to assemble two more Also a bow rack and folding

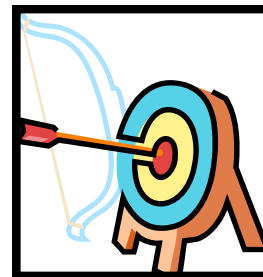


table will be in place once some minor repairs are done. The rules of the Archery Range are quite simple. They are as shown above. A sign with the rules (to hang on the shed) and some directional

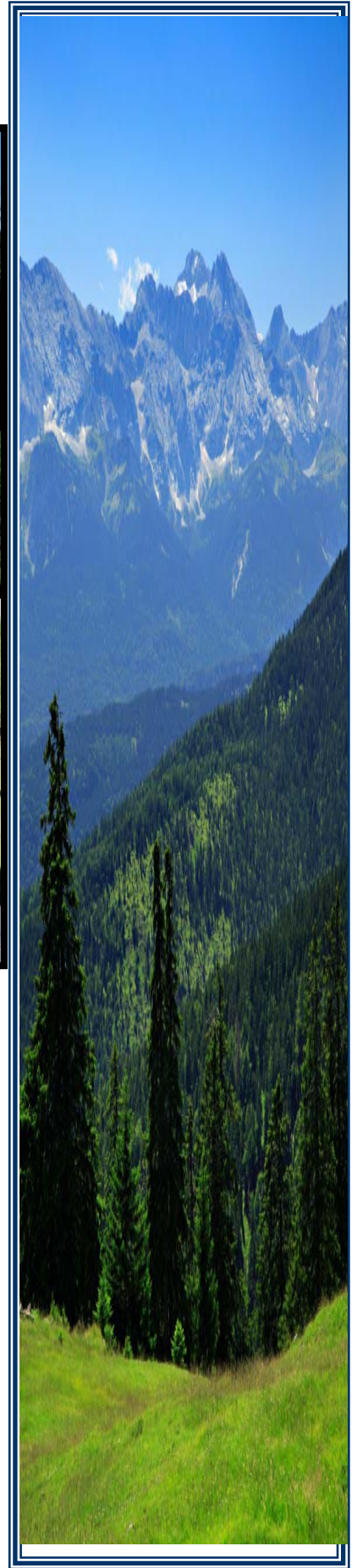
signs have been requested. If budget allows we will do some work at the shed area to level a bit more ground, widen the fixed target area and put more gravel for parking. Hope to see you out there before the snow flies in November

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE OUT ON NOVEMBER 15, 2011. IF YOU WOULD LIKE AN ARTICLE INCLUDED IN THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER PLEASE HAVE IT SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 31, 2011.

RANGE NEWS AND VIEWS



NEW RANGE MEMBER ORIENTATION



SUMMER TIME PICS



SUMMER TIME PICS

cont'd





SPFGA Group A ctivities



Fun Shoot

Bring the family out to try your hand at the club trophy for best overall. Also, awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place adult and youth for each event.

Saturday August 27th 9am to 1pm.

Events include:

Big Bore Rifle : 300m freestanding rifle, 200m prone, sitting or kneeling with rest, and 100m prone, sitting or kneeling without rest.

Handgun: .22 handgun event (50 rounds). Loaner handguns may be available.

Shotgun: Round of trap (25 shots).

\$5/event. Prizes. Family friendly. BBQ. Bring your own ammo.

Meet at the Shotgun Range at 9am for registration.

Contact Pete Beauvais at 780-9233831 or Richard Rothwell at _____ to register.



Trap Shooting

Join Les Berry and his crew for trap shooting at the shotgun range from mid-May to mid-October. We challenge you to score a 25.

Sunday afternoon noon to 3pm. Les may bring out the rabbit or teal machine for an extra challenge after trap.

Wednesday evening 6pm to 8pm as long as there is light.

\$5/round covers clays and scoring. Bring your own shotgun and ammo.



Handgun Events

Come out to shoot handguns with Gary Chambers at the handgun range second Sunday of the month May through October.

September 11th 10am to 12pm to be announced

October 9th 10am to 12pm to be announced

Free. Bring ammo. Loaner handguns may be available for some events.

Contact Gary Chambers at _____ handgun@spfga.org to register.



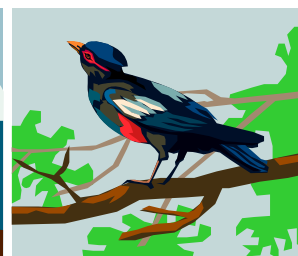
Bird Watching

Join the SPFGA and the Wildbird General Store to count warblers, waterfowl, raptors and more.

Keeps your eyes on the weather for sun and on the events calendar for specific dates closer to the event.

Free. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing.

or info@spfga.org or stop by the Wildbird General Store to register.



New to SPFGA ? Join Pat Harris the last Sunday of the month January through October at 10am for an orientation to our ranges. Free Contact Pat at 780-662-4738 or patnicola@yahoo.com

For more information on club events please visit our website calendar at www.spfga.org/calendar.htm Also, Bill Missen will send out a phone call and email from time to time announcing these special events.

MEMBERSHIPS

Deanna Loewen, Membership Chair

Membership classes and fee schedules for the Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association (and affiliation with the Alberta Fish and Game Association) are shown on the front cover of membership books for new members to see when applying for membership.

The Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association is an organization composed of various types of members. We have a variety of age groups, special interest groups, target shooters, hunters, fishermen/women, bird watchers, conservationists and many others. These individuals come together to enjoy and use the property and facilities provided by membership in the club/organization. We can enjoy nature, assist with conservation efforts, improve the facilities and have fellowship with those of similar interest. At appropriate places on the property we can hike, camp, participate in archery, and use firearms (rifles, handguns, shotguns, black powder guns). Youth under 18 years of age can learn how to fish in the stocked fish pond. We do these activities in a responsible manner with respect to other club members and neighbors.

In pursuing these activities, we must abide with club rules. Many of these rules deal with standard procedures and conduct related to handling and care of bows and arrows and firearms. When violations of these rules occur it is not only a danger to the individuals involved but to the association itself. Many of you will know that some members of the general public do not share our enthusiasm for our chosen activities. Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association cannot tolerate any behavior that would compromise the safety of our members, neighbors or the general public. In addition to general rules regarding firearms and ammunition (see material supplied by firearm manufacturers and ammunition manufacturers), the club has other rules that define where and when we can enjoy our activities. Shooting at appropriate sites and times are important and necessary.

Benefits of Membership

There are many benefits to membership in the association. One of the major benefits is our affiliated membership in the Alberta Fish and Game Association. Part of your dues to the Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association are paid to Alberta Fish and Game Association. This provides members with insurance (while using the range), other insurance benefits, the Outdoor Edge Magazine, discounts at various businesses, and a combined voice on matters of common interest to government and other groups.

Problems

We must have proper insurance coverage to utilize the range facilities. When you purchase a membership in the club, your membership fee includes a portion for insurance that is paid to Alberta Fish and Game Association. Your membership class must conform with the classes of insurance coverage.

The major problem the club has is with persons who apply for some form of family membership because some dependants are not eligible under the Family Range Membership. To eliminate the problems, all Family Range Members and all Family Regular Members must submit a written application to the club. The application can be mailed or emailed to memberships@spfga.org. Members can call the Membership Chair or the Membership Co-Chair."Please note our classes of membership.

Family Regular Memberships shall constitute one regular member, a spouse or partner and all dependent children under 18 years of age (cost \$70 per Year) with no access to shooting ranges.

Family Range Memberships shall constitute one range member, a spouse or partner and all dependent children under 18 years of age (cost \$130 per Year) with access to shooting ranges.

Family Range Memberships and Family Regular Memberships DO NOT INCLUDE grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and in-law relations.

Dependent includes a spouse or partner and sons or daughters under 18 years of age.

Youth Membership is open to all young people under 18 years of age

Memberships

Deanna Loewen, Membership Chair

Membership fees for 2011 are as follows:

Range	\$90
Family Rang	\$130
Regular	\$50
Family Regular	\$70
Youth	\$20



**NOTICE MEMBERSHIP
INCREASE FOR 2012**

RANGE	\$ 110.00
FAMILY RANGE	\$ 150.00
REGULAR	\$ 55.00
FAMILY REGULAR	\$ 75.00

- Family Range Membership includes the Range Member, the spouse/partner and their children under 18 years of age.
- Family Range Membership does not include brothers, sisters, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews.
- Family Range Membership does not include students over 18 years of age even though they are living at home.

Memberships are available at General Meetings or you can mail an Application Form to:

Sherwood Park Fish & Game Association
PO Box 3098, Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2T1.

MilArm Co. Ltd. 10769 – 99 Street, Edmonton	(780) 424-5281	Alberta Fish & Game Association 6924 – 104 Street, Edmonton	(780) 437-2342
Wholesale Sports - North 12610 St. Albert Trail, Edmonton	(780) 477-3737	Sherwood Park Archery Lanes Inc. 429 Sioux Road, Sherwood Park	(780) 464-0017
Wholesale Sports – South Common 2033 – 98 Street NW, Edmonton	(780) 461-2001	Sabre Sports & Cycle 52 Brentwood Boulevard, Sherwood Park	(780) 464-3100
P & D Enterprises 10552 – 115 Street, Edmonton	(780) 420-6419	Alberta Field and Stream 4932 – 51 Avenue, Tofield	(780) 662-0077

SPFGA Memberships may be purchased directly from:

If you change your address, please:

- send an email to: membership@spfga.org
- or call Deanna Loewen
- MEMBERSHIP AS OF JU LY31, 2011.....2506

Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association

Affiliated with Alberta Fish and Game Association
PO Box 3098, Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2t1

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Regular	\$50	Member benefits for one person without range privileges	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> NEW
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Family Regular	\$70	Member benefits include spouse/partner, dependent children under 18 years of age, without range privileges	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Range	\$90	All privileges for one person including range privileges	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> MALE
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Family Range	\$130	Member benefits include spouse/partner, dependent children under 18 years of age with all privileges	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	\$20	Open to any young person under 18 years of age, who is supervised by a Range Member	<div>BIRTH YEAR</div>

Name

Mailing Address

Town/City.....Province.....Postal Code.....

Phone (.....).....Email.....

To be used only for emailing Club information such as notices of Meetings. NO SPAM advertising will result.

PAYMENT METHOD

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> CHEQUE	Please make cheques payable to <i>Sherwood Park Fish & Game Association</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> VISA	Name On Card.....
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD	Card No.....
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	Expiry Date.....Signature

Amount Enclosed
\$

NAMES AND INFORMATION ABOUT ALL DEPENDANTS LISTED UNDER FAMILY REGULAR AND FAMILY RANGE MEMBERSHIPS

This information is essential for dependant members under Family Memberships to qualify for Club Insurance.

Name	Birth Year	Relationship

NAIT Forest Technology Returns.

By: Heath Schneider, RPFT, Instructor.

After a long absence the Forest Technology Program is once again partnering with Sherwood Park Fish & Game Association (SPFGA) at the Ketchamoot Creek Property. First I would like to introduce myself, I am a graduate of forestry program at NAIT (1992) and I have had many different roles throughout my career, from fire-fighter to operations supervisor, to my current instructional role. I am very pleased to be able to partner with your group as I remember working on this site in 1990, as a student. The objective of the partnership is twofold; first it provides forestry a field lab site that is in close proximity to Edmonton, second it will assist SPFGA with their woodlot management plan for the property.

There are benefits to each party, both in skills and information. It provides the NAIT students with additional opportunities to develop their measurement skills while creating an inventory of the forest on the site. The association will gain valuable information on what is actually on the landscape and that will allow for further planning to



take place in regards to the management of the site. This past spring we held our first labs on the site, just east of the range. This project allowed our students to get some more practice in falling timber under the close supervision of two certified instructors. Each student fell 2-3 trees and then bucked them into firewood. Just to alleviate any concerns, this was not done as a "clear-cut",

but more of a selective harvest.

Part of our arrangement is to assist the association with the removal of hazard trees on the property. This commenced in May with three NAIT FOT staff members removing 35 trees in the campground and another 15 on the Black Powder Trail. We will be assessing other hazard trees as the summer progresses

In the fall we will look at conducting some timber cruising to help determine the base volumes in the various timber stands. Next spring a more detailed project will occur when our students install several "permanent sample plots", which will give very specific information on timber size, age, stand composition, and health. These plots will be repeated each year so that both parties have a complete data set on the growth and diversity of the site.

I am very excited with the potential opportunities that this partnership provides. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at or via e-mail at

Ketchamoot Creek Range and Conservation Properties Woodlot Management Program

The Sherwood Park F&G Association's Woodlot (Habitat) Management Program continues to make progress. As planned, Heath Schneider and his associates as well as students from NAIT felled a large number of hazardous trees around the camp ground as well as some on the Black Powder Trail. These trees were a concern for potential property damage and injuries, particularly on windy days. All trees were bucked up by the students as part of a training exercise and subsequently on Clean-up day hauled the club house firewood piles. Heath and I subsequently reviewed the campground area to determine what further tree removal was desirable. (See Heath's article elsewhere in this newsletter).

Areas east of the range proper were examined in late winter to determine what areas might best serve as training grounds for tree felling, bucking and serve as survey sample areas for student training in timber rot inventories used in determining volume estimates in commercial pulp and other hardwood harvest operations. At the same time we looked at where some tree harvest might serve habitat renewal without loss of forest diversity. Two small areas were identified which will meet a few years of management.

The program which allowed us to have 4,000 spruce seedlings planned for a total cost of \$1,000 last year was no longer available in 2011. Through an arrangement with NAIT we were able to obtain about 800 seedlings this year, which Frank Lee had planted in June. We still have about 150 seedlings to plant between mid-August and the end of September. (Any volunteers?)



Forest bird surveys were again conducted by Jim Lange of the Wildbird General Store. Unfortunately no members of the naturalist groups or of the S. P. Fish & Game joined him in this effort. Aren't there any naturalists in our

Association? Anyway the opportunity will continue.

Wetland conditions were much improved from last year with resulting increases in waterfowl, particularly Canada Geese. Shorebird (sandpipers, killdeer, etc) numbers were down as much of the mudflats which they use were covered by water. Many bird such as yellow warblers were common as usual but a number of sparrows (such as) were down. We have not done enough forest manipulation to be the cause of this but rather it is within the normal annual variations or part of a declining trend observed throughout western North America. Of course the seemingly, endless rain didn't help either. Between droughts and floods one begins to wonder what a normal year is anyway.

The good news we can expect about all the moisture is that the seedlings of last year and this should be doing well.

Gordon Kerr

By the time you receive this newsletter, the much anticipated hunting season will have begun for some. Every year there are numerous hunters who are buying their first knife, adding to their knife collection, or start selecting knives for a specific purpose.

In my opinion it would difficult to select one knife that will perform all your hunting needs well. This is not to suggest that you can not go hunting with one knife, but there are certain styles that will perform better in certain situations.

There are lots of things to consider when selecting knife, and you should decide what you are going to using the knife for, the majority of the time. You will want to consider the following features, fixed, folding or multi purpose, wood or rubber handle, tip style, blade length, blade style, and blade composition. Each style of knife has their advantages and disadvantages.

Personally I usually carry at least two knives, one a 4-5" fixed



fixed, drop point with straight blade

blade with a drop point style blade. The second knife is a folding style with about a 4" clip point. I find the drop point style knives easier to skin an animal and the clip point (for piercing) skin, hide or cleaning waterfowl. I also

like rubber handled knives with a smooth contour on the handle. The knives I use have a low to mid level carbon content



folding, clip point with serrated blade

(hardness). Although these knives do not hold an edge as long as a high carbon steel blade I find

them much easier and faster to sharpen. These are all just personal preferences, but everyone will have their own favourites.

One of the newer knives on the market is the swing blade knife. This knife has a drop point blade along with a



Swingblade

blade that has been designed for initialling opening up the animal. Due to the concave design of this blade it should be almost impossible to pierce the stomach while gutting your animal.

Although I find the multi-purpose knives work good for a camp or work knife, I do not carry one while hunting. I find the handle edges a bit sharp, to slippery, the blades are to short, and the knives are difficult to clean .



Another option that is really gaining popularity over the past

few years are the kit knives. These kits not only carry multiple styles of knives, they may also carry a saw, and sharpening stone. Although these



may be a bit heavy for a belt knife, I have observed that most hunters now carry their knives in some kind of fanny or back pack anyway, along with the multitude of other gear now used when hunting.

There are numerous other blade designs out there, like



the tanto blade. The blades on these knives are very stiff, heavy, and thick . Although they work well for prying and piercing through tough surfaces I have never really found a use for them while hunting.



Knives with a serrated blade are designed for cutting rope and string, but once

again I have never really found a use for this kind of blade in my hunting bag.

Whatever knife you choose be sure to pick up a sharpening system for you knives. I used a Scotty sharpener, it is light and very portable and very east to use. There are numerous systems out their with the Lansky system being one of the most popular. Have a great season and good luck putting that knife to use.

2011 Calendar of Events



AUGUST

Aug 27 9:00am to 2:00pm Fun Shoot – Big Bore Range, Handgun Range, Shotgun Range, Clubhouse. Contact: Pete Beauvais or Richard Rothwell,

Aug 28 10:00am Range Orientation Session – Last Sunday of the month. Start at SPFGA Big Bore Range and work around to other ranges. One hour. Contact: Pat Harris,

SEPTEMBER

Sep 4 1:00pm to 3:00pm Trap Shooting at Shotgun Range starts – Every Sunday afternoon mid-May to mid-September (Sep 11, 18, 25)

Sep 7 6:00pm to 8:00pm Trap Shooting at Shotgun Range starts – Every Wednesday evening mid-May to mid-September (Sep 14, 21, 28)

Sep 8 7:00pm Hunter's Night – ACT Aquatic and Recreation Center Boardroom Rundle Park (2909 113 Avenue NW), Edmonton. Contact: Dave Hollingshead

Sep 11 10:00am to 12:00pm Handgun Event – To Be Announced. Contact: Gary Chambers

Sep 13 7:00pm Executive Meeting – Chamber of Commerce (100 Ordze Avenue), Sherwood Park

Sep 25 10:00am Range Orientation Session – Last Sunday of the month. Start at SPFGA Big Bore Range and work around to other ranges. One

hour. Contact: Pat Harris,

OCTOBER

Oct 9 10:00am to 12:00pm Handgun Event – To Be Announced. Contact: Gary Chambers

Oct 11 7:00pm Executive Meeting – Chamber of Commerce (100 Ordze Avenue), Sherwood Park

Oct 27 7:30pm General Meeting – Old Log Cabin (50 Spruce Avenue), Sherwood Park

Oct 30 10:00am Range Orientation Session – Last Sunday of the month. Start at SPFGA Big Bore Range and work around to other ranges. One hour. Contact: Pat Harris,

NOVEMBER

Nov 1 WINTER SHOOTING HOURS IN EFFECT 8:30AM TO 5:00PM

Nov 8 11 7:00pm Executive Meeting – Chamber of Commerce (100 Ordze Avenue), Sherwood Park

DECEMBER

Dec 1 General Meeting – Election Night – Old Log Cabin (50 Spruce Avenue), Sherwood Park

KETCHAMOOT CREEK RECREATION FACILITY

CAMPGROUND RULES

- Overnight campground use is restricted to SPFGA members, and their immediate family members staying at the same campsite.
- Campers are required to sign in at campground entrance on arrival, and sign out on departure.
- Campsites are available on a first-come basis.
- Open fires are permitted inside the fire pit rings provided by SPFGA. For fire ban updates call 1-866-663-3730.
- Do not move fire pit rings.
- Firewood is located in the shed on the west side of the loop. Do not take wood from the Clubhouse Shed!
- Do not cut any standing trees in the campground, or elsewhere on the property.
- Use outdoor toilets in the campground.
- On-site discharge of grey or black water is prohibited.
- Potable water is available from the outside faucet at the clubhouse.
- Noise must be kept to a reasonable level at all times.
- Dogs must be on a leash.
- All garbage / refuse must be removed from the property.
- Leave a clean campsite on departure.

Thank You! SHERWOOD PARK FISH & GAME ASSOCIATION