



Roger G. Laro, III (top left), age 15, was hunting with his dad, Roger Jr. His turkey was 13.5 pounds with an 8.5" beard and 3/4" spurs. Roger was successful in last year's Youth Turkey Hunt as well.

Adam Ellis (top right) was hunting with Tim Moquin, his dad's hunting buddy, when he got his turkey - 19 pounds with an 8 1/4" beard.

Zach and Ethan Barton, sons of David Barton, each got a turkey. Zach's (bottom left) was 18 pounds with a 9" beard and 1" spurs. Ethan's (bottom right) was 21 pounds with an 8 1/2" beard.

A.J. Barton, son of Steven Barton, also got a turkey.

## YOUTH TURKEY HUNT 2007

By New Hampshire Fish & Game

The 2007 youth turkey hunt took place on April 28 - 29. Anecdotal reports suggest that many gobblers were still "henned-up." This, coupled with less than ideal weather, may have limited the overall harvest, though numbers haven't been tallied yet.

What we know for sure is that the youth turkey season has become extremely popular and is an excellent way to introduce young people to our amazing spring woodlands and our proud hunting heritage. The youth turkey weekend has been offered in New Hampshire since 2004.

### Turkey Habitat

When you're working on your yard or land this spring, encourage our turkey population by preserving their habitat. Good turkey habitat includes mature mast-producing hardwoods (mostly oaks), smaller hardwoods, and a mixture of understory plants like

grapes and berries.

Manage hardwood forests for maximum acorn production; other mast producers like beech, birch, and ash are also important seed producers relied on by turkeys, especially in years of low acorn yield.

Turkeys need mature timber for roosting year-round. The edges of woods, brushy areas, farmlands, cutovers, and old fields offer important nesting cover and feeding areas and escape cover for broods.

Good turkey habitat also includes small openings that produce insects, seeds, and berries, as well as larger open areas like agricultural fields, pastures, and roadsides. Help reduce impacts on turkey nests and incubating hens by delaying field mowing until after July 1.

Maintain existing openings and create more - these can be planted with supplemental foods for turkeys. Consult with the UNH Cooperative Extension at Extension.UNH.edu for details.

### No Commitment Required!

Where else can you get a deal like this! You can do something that you enjoy to help the *Beacon*, and you only have to do it when it's convenient for you.

There's lots to be done, so we need lots of volunteers - especially you!

To learn more, call Charlie at 735-6099

## FLY-FISHING WORKSHOP

If you're looking for special something to do with dad on Father's Day weekend - or just want a chance to learn more about the skill of fly-fishing - the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's "Let's Go Fishing" Program and the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation have a perfect solution. "The North Country Experience" is a fly-fishing weekend offered June 16 and 17 at Coleman State Park in Stewartstown. This free course will give you the chance to learn about the traditional and timeless sport of fly-fishing.

Class space is limited, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. To sign up, print out and return a registration form, which can be found on the Fish and Game Web site at [wildlife.state.nh.us/Fishing/lets\\_go\\_fishing\\_class\\_schedule.htm](http://wildlife.state.nh.us/Fishing/lets_go_fishing_class_schedule.htm). Registration forms can also be obtained by contacting Lisa Collins at 271-3212 or [aquatic-ed@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:aquatic-ed@wildlife.nh.gov). The class is open to anyone age 13 and over, however those 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Designed primarily for first-time fly-fishers, the workshop will cover the basics of equipment, fly casting, stream ecology, knot tying, safety, and how to find those "hot spots" along New Hampshire's rivers and lakes. The highlight of the two days will be Sunday, when we'll pull on our waders and head out to Little Diamond Pond to put our newly

learned skills to the test.

Participants should plan to bring their own or borrowed equipment. A limited number of rods will be available for use, so please let Fish and Game know if you will need to borrow their equipment. Non-local participants are expected to make their own arrangements for overnight accommodations; camping is available by reservation at Coleman State Park, and there are also motels and lodges available in the area.

Over the past ten years, the Fish and Game Department's "Let's Go Fishing" program has taught thousands of children and adults to be safe, ethical, and successful anglers.

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