

Frequently Asked Questions

Does the youth have to register?

No, only the mentor has to register. There is a line on the permission slip for the youth's information, which simply needs to be written in before hunting the property. The youth's guardian, if not the mentor, also must sign the permission slip.

Can someone else come along on the hunt?

In addition to the mentor and the youth, one other person of any age may accompany the youth and mentor but may not hunt.

Why are there different restrictions for different sites?

The program was designed to bring together landowners who were open to youth hunting on their property, youth looking for a place to start building their hunting skills, and mentors willing to help the youth build those skills. In order to accommodate landowner needs, special restrictions are allowed on the properties. These restrictions are listed in the site description and on the permission slip.

Are hunting dogs allowed?

Unless specified in the special restrictions for the site, normal use of hunting dogs is allowed.



Wildlife Crimestoppers

Report a game violation to the Nebraska Wildlife Crimestoppers toll-free hotline at 1-800-742-7627. Your call will be kept confidential and you may be eligible for a cash reward. This service is sponsored by the Nebraska Wildlife Protectors Association in cooperation with the Game and Parks.

Contact:

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PATH



Passing Along The
Heritage



NEBRASKA



OutdoorNebraska.org

Passing Along the Heritage (PATH)

What Is It?

The PATH (Passing Along the Heritage) program provides Nebraska youth and their mentors access to private lands to foster mentored youth hunting opportunities. This program is a partnership between the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, National Wild Turkey Federation, National Shooting Sports Foundation and Nebraska landowners.

How the Program Works

- Landowners, for a small payment, make private lands available to the Game and Parks for inclusion in the program.
- Nebraska youth 17 years or younger are eligible to hunt with a mentor on PATH lands.
- Only the youth may hunt. The mentors are to guide, see to the safety of the youth and provide a quality hunting experience.
- Mentors must carry with them a PATH permission slip when accessing PATH lands.
- The mentors and youth may only access the lands on the dates specified on the permission slip.



Benefits to Landowners

Landowners receive a payment in exchange for enrolling their land in the PATH program. They may choose specific days and types of hunts offered on their land. They may even request a phone call before the youth and mentor access their land. Landowners also may use this program to address wildlife management issues on their land, such as reducing excessive populations of deer and turkey.

How to Enroll Land

Any landowner interested in including property in the PATH program should contact the nearest Game and Parks district office.

Northeast – Norfolk – 402-370-3374
Northwest – Alliance – 308-763-2940
Southeast – Lincoln – 402-471-0641
Southwest – North Platte – 308-535-8025



How to Become a Mentor

Mentors must be at least 18; however, this may vary according to age of the youth hunter and species being hunted. Consult the current Hunting and/or Big Game Guide for regulations. All statutes and federal regulations apply.

Mentors may have no more than five reservations: five times on one site, one time each on five separate sites or any such combination. The program does not allow mentors to hunt. The mentors are to guide, see to the safety of the youth, and provide a quality hunting experience.



How and When to Access the Lands

PATH lands are open to any youth and mentor during any legal season where the youth can hunt and the land is open to that type of hunting – not just during youth seasons.

To access the PATH lands database, visit OutdoorNebraska.org/path. When applying, a list of PATH lands will be displayed, and a permission slip will be available for printing after a specific land and date are chosen for the hunt. All special information and landowner rules will be listed.

You must print and complete a permission slip and answer all questions accurately. Only persons 18 or older may obtain these permission slips for the specific purpose of finding private lands to mentor youth for hunting. You must have this slip with you while accessing a specific property.

All PATH lands are marked with blue signs that signify restricted access. Each tract of land has a site number displayed on its sign that matches a site number on the permission slip. For the purpose of this program, only PATH participants may access these properties for hunting during approved dates once they have obtained a PATH permission slip.

STEP OUTSIDE

PATH is an element of STEP OUTSIDE, a program of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which encourages current outdoor enthusiasts to introduce family, friends and special guests to traditional outdoor sports.