

Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) Committee  
Bob Schwalm

I had the pleasure of representing the PA NWTF at PA "2011" YHEC, that was held at Scotia Range, State College on Saturday June 18th, with approximately 186 boys and girls participating in what is referred to as the NRA's "Graduate Studies" program in outdoor skills and safety training for young hunters, who have completed Hunter Safety training on the state level, the program is conducted under simulated hunting conditions to provide the best practical environment for reinforcing and testing a young hunter's skills. From rifle, bow and muzzleloader shooting at life sized targets to wildlife identification to map and compass orienteering and more, the young hunters get a hands on experience in eight different hunting skills, meanwhile, competing with teams from across the state. PA NWTF presented YHEC with a monetary donation and also two beautiful prints for the first place winners. In closing, I'd like to say that based upon the many young hunters that I met, while manning the archery station and also, presenting the awards...The future is looking very positive, each and every student was respectful and courteous and demonstrated a passion for the outdoors!