



The YHBF program seeks to provide any interested youngster in Florida the opportunity to attend a safe, mentored hunting experience after having been taught the basic skills, values, techniques and responsibilities of hunting by a team of dedicated volunteers.

does, hogs, exotics and other species. Making the program appealing to landowners is a critical component as we seek to expand opportunities for youth.

Only through the work and resources of volunteers will the YHPF be able to provide safe, educational and memorable hunting experiences. It takes thousands of volunteer hours each year to make the program successful.

Each youth hunt requires volunteers to plan, coordinate, manage and lead the youth hunt. The leader (Huntmaster) and volunteers supervise the hunts, provide firearms instruction, supervise ranges, conduct hunter safety activities, serve as guides, provide basic medical expertise, cook and prepare meals and perform various other duties. It's these essential and dedicated volunteers who provide an outdoor experience of a lifetime for the participants.

While only one trained Huntmaster is necessary on each hunt according to YHPF requirements, it's desirable that all volunteers complete a Huntmaster training workshop. Having teams of volunteers who fully understand policies and procedures and their relationship to the program objectives definitely enhances the program and provides volunteer depth.

Those interested in the future of hunting can help by taking kids hunting, locating places to hunt for youth programs, volunteering with youth organizations, identifying groups or organizations that might be interested in developing their own youth hunting program and developing a program for your agency, organization or corporation.

The goal of YHPF is to identify, assist and train other organizations in developing their own youth hunting programs. This will allow hunting to expand exponentially. Success will result in numerous organizations helping thousands of youth and adults get involved with hunting.

The long-term success of YHPF and other youth programs will be measured as participants purchase hunting licenses, equipment and continue to promote the sport. More importantly, in the years to come, we will track all youth hunting participants to analyze



their views of conservation, wildlife and management as well as how they may vote on wildlife, hunting, outdoor recreation and responsible gun ownership.

For more information on YHPF or youth hunting programs in general, please contact Alan Busenbark at (850) 413-0084. Information is also available through our Web site at MyFWC.com YHPF's mailing address is:

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