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JULY-SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS BELOW!



WILDLIFE UPDATE

Wildlife staff update us on the status of game and non-game wildlife management happening here in our State. Scroll down to read more.

NEW STAFF

We have a whole new team of full time staff. Meet a couple of the new staff members and be on the lookout for one more to be hired soon.

MAKE A SPLASH

This years park theme is Make a Splash. This theme will help you find all the great ways to explore South Dakota's water adventures. Scroll down to learn more.

BIG NEWS

The Outdoor Campus has been accustomed to running on a 2-3 education staff. This summer we will be at full capacity with a total of 5 full time staff members creating new and exciting opportunities for our SD outdoorsmen. We look forward to building this team and refining what programs we offer. Read more about the new staff below.





## EXCITED TO JOIN THE CAMPUS STAFF

by Aaron Schone

I am excited to be back in the Black Hills and start my new position as a Naturalist with the South Dakota GF&P! I was born and raised in Rapid City and I'm fortunate enough to be returning with my wife Anna, son Kent and our Australian shepherd Lady. My parents did a great job of raising me and my two brothers outside enjoying the Black Hills and I'm excited to do the same with my family. I currently serve in the South Dakota National Guard as a 12C and my wife will be working at Monument Health as a nurse. Outside of work, we're looking forward to being out on the water and camping this summer. I graduated from Black Hills State University in 2017 with my biology degree and then in 2022 with my Master's in Integrative Genomics. After graduating, I've spent the last three years in Pierre teaching science and coaching cross country and track. We will surely miss Pierre and I appreciate all the opportunities we've been given but were excited for this next chapter. I look forward to getting to meet everyone at the Outdoor Campus and working with the community to help prepare the next generation to enjoy the opportunities we have living in this great state!

## NEW STAFF

by Clint Whitley (Naturalist)

We have some exciting new news to share that for the first time in the history of the Rapid City Outdoor Campus we will have 5 staff members serving the public with education on hunting, fishing, trapping and outdoor skills. Lacy Elrod (Campus Director) is the veteran leader of the naturalist staff and is working to fill a great team of educators. Myself (Clint) is staying right where I am at as a naturalist in charge of the 101 programs. Daniel Cox (School Programs Coordinator) was introduced in the last newsletter and just finished his first big field trip season managing the schools.

Aaron Schone, will be joining us as the volunteer coordinator/naturalist. Aaron will be starting mid June and has written up an introduction that is included in this newsletter.

Kaycee Smith is our new Naturalist in charge of Becoming an Outdoor Women program, Youth Conservation Camp and outreach programs. She has hit the ground running. We are extremely thankful she is here. Kaycee is bringing some fun energy and valuable skill set to our team.

As we publish this, our group and community program naturalist position is still being hired. This person will be hired on soon and we are excited to see who will join the team. We will make them do a writeup in the next newsletter but I'm sure you will see them leading some programs later this summer.

As always you will see our summer interns teaching programs from May-August. We have 6 great interns hired and doing a great job this summer. Pay attention to the events calendar and our social media for all the programs we are going to be offering. In the mean time, join us in welcoming lots of new faces around here.



## KAYCEE SMITH

*by KayCee Smith (Naturalist)*

Hello everyone! My name is KayCee Smith. I am the newest naturalist at the Outdoor Campus West in Rapid City for Game, Fish and Parks. Minnesota is where I am originally from, but South Dakota is my home. I am super excited to be providing opportunities for hunting, fishing, trapping, and outdoor skills to people across western South Dakota. My position oversees Becoming and Outdoors-Woman, the Youth Conservation Camp, and coordinating outreach in the region. I have worked for the department since 2021. I've worked as a wildlife damage management intern doing goose depredation, habitat intern, lots of seasonal work, part-time secretary, and as the Assistant Park Manager at Angostura Recreation Area. I had the opportunity to tie together my passion for sharing a love of the outdoors and GFP when I became a naturalist. It is truly a joy to come to work and do the things we do with the people that work here. Game, Fish and Parks does incredible things with the resources, habitats, wildlife, and parks that make South Dakota stand apart from the rest of the country. I am blessed to represent the part of GFP that teaches our communities about that passion for management and servitude. Outside of work, you can find me hunting (turkey is my favorite), fishing, hiking, camping, and travelling when I'm not at home reading, knitting, or cooking.



## WILDLIFE UPDATE

*by Alec Baker (Resource Biologist)*

Greetings everyone this is Alec Baker, I am a new Resource Biologist for SD Game, Fish, and Parks based here in Region 1 out of the Rapid City office. Currently my fellow resource biologists and I'm assisting our big game wildlife biologists in reviewing trail camera photos from our trail camera array in DAU3. The camera array and photos the cameras take are ideally going to offer a different method to help us estimate out deer and elk populations in the Black Hills as an alternative to our current surveying techniques. We will be focusing on reviewing the trail camera data and identifying species and how many of each species are detected in the photos taken by the cameras. We will soon be getting ready to get supplies around to check these cameras in July where we physically go to each camera to check if the camera needs new batteries, swap SD cards, make sure the camera is still upright, and clear any vegetation that might be blocking the cameras view. Aside from everything to do with our camera array we will also be assisting with Osprey surveys looking for nesting activity and fledgling success. We will also start our turkey surveys in July as well. While things are pretty calm now for the resource biologists here in Region 1, things will soon start getting super busy again soon!





## MAKE A SPLASH IN 2025

By April Larson

Your State Park Water Adventure Starts Here!

It's time to turn up the fun and dive into a year full of water-filled adventures. Make a Splash in 2025 is your invite to explore the best of South Dakota's great outdoors in, on, and around the water. Whether you're casting a line at sunrise, floating under the afternoon sun, hiking along a scenic shoreline, or just making splashes swimming with the kids, this is your year to find your favorite water escape.

Start your adventure at [gfp.sd.gov/splash2025](https://gfp.sd.gov/splash2025) where you'll find an interactive map of where to participate, a quick photo submission form, and everything else you need to jump in!

Try something new or stick with your go-to favorite. Either way, you'll earn prizes as you go! Complete 1, 5, and 10 activities, and submit each tier to collect up to three fun stickers. Once you complete 10 activities, your name goes into the grand prize drawing at the end of the year!

And we listened! You can now complete all your activities at just one park. There's no need to travel to 10 different locations across the state like in past years. This challenge is all about discovering new water-based activities right in your favorite South Dakota State Park. It's the perfect opportunity to bring friends and family, try something new together, and make unforgettable memories--all close to home.

Many parks offer fun local events and hands-on educational programs focused on water recreation--and yes, count participating in the program towards your activity submissions! Even a waterfowl bird watch class counts. You can also try out something new with affordable rentals like kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, and even lily pads.

Don't forget to also tag us #SDInTheField--we want to see how you Make a Splash. See you in, on, and around the water!

View a list of parks to get involved at

<https://sdgfp.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/basic/index.html?appid=88b3025d369f427296e13328c4c1f5b7>

Submit an adventure at <https://arcg.is/OG8L40>



## CSP ROUND UP

By Aaron Douglas  
(*naturalist*)

Celebrate 60 Years of Tradition at the Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup

Mark your calendars! On Friday, September 27, 2025, Custer State Park will host the 60th Annual Buffalo Roundup, one of South Dakota's most iconic and awe-inspiring events.

Each fall, more than 1,300 bison thunder across the southern prairie, herded by teams of riders on horseback. What began in 1965 as a simple management tool has become a celebration of conservation, culture, and the spirit of the American West.

More than just a spectacle, the Roundup plays a vital role in maintaining the health of the bison herd. Each animal is counted, vaccinated, and sorted to ensure the prairie ecosystem remains in balance.

"Few events capture the heart of the West like the Buffalo Roundup," said Lydia Austin, Visitor Services Supervisor. "We're excited to welcome visitors to celebrate 60 years of tradition and stewardship."

Viewing areas fill quickly—plan to arrive early! Gates open at 6:15 a.m. and the roundup begins around 9:30 a.m.

Learn more at [custerstatepark.com](https://custerstatepark.com).



# PADDLEFISH

by Clint Whitley (Naturalist)

Paddlefish are some of the most ancient species we have here in SD and in my opinion one of the wildest things we have swimming in our river systems. They are found primarily in the Missouri River and we have a few different seasons for them. One at Gavin's point Dam in October and one at Lake Francis Case in May. There is an archery season for them but they are primarily sought after during the snagging season. In order to fish for paddlefish you will need to apply ahead of time for a tag. These ancient giants won't feed on things that can be represented as a lure in a traditional fishing style.

There are some great techniques and fun stories to follow during the season but I was reminded recently how great they taste. Each fish is loaded with lots of meat, it just has to be handled correctly. After removing the notochord (google it, it's crazy) you can slice the whole fish into steaks. Later I will pull them out of the freezer and peel off the skin and cut away any dark colored meat leaving a nice opaque colored meat. There are lots of ways to prepare paddlefish but with little kids in my households, nuggets take the cake. I cut that steak into 1" nuggets, dip in egg and dredge that in a shore lunch breading. Heat your oil to 375 and fry until cooked through. These delights are firmer than any other fish we have in SD but not tough. To me it tastes like a cross between Walleye and chicken nuggets. The great thing is that they don't have bones in the back part of their body so you don't have to worry about choking on bones.



# OUTREACH PROGRAMS

by KayCee Smith (Naturalist)

The Outdoor Campus West will be offering outreach programming throughout western South Dakota. Programs that are offered at the campus can be brought to communities in Pennington, Custer, Fall River, Oglala Lakota, Bennett, Harding, Perkins, Haakon, Lawrence, Meade, Ziebach, Jackson, and Butte counties. Archery, fly fishing, traditional fishing, outdoor cooking, backpacking, wildlife and habitats, trapping, gun handling, and many others are available to do outside of the Rapid City office. Summer youth clubs, community groups, businesses, and group events with people of all ages are great opportunities to utilize the outreach programming. The campus emphasizes recruiting new users to skills they are interested in, further development of skills people already has in the outdoors, and providing outdoor recreation exploration for all South Dakota communities. We love to share out knowledge with enthusiastic people who are passionate about hunting, fishing, trapping, cooking and outdoor skills. They are free but must be within align with appropriate ages of activities, safely conducted, and parameters of GFP education goals of increasing access to quality hunting, fishing and trapping and increase awareness and engagement with diverse populations. If you or someone you know would be interested in, we'd be happy to come out! Please reach out to KayCee at 605-394-3354 or at [kaycee.smith@state.sd.us](mailto:kaycee.smith@state.sd.us) for scheduling or questions.





## VOLUNTEERS

by Lacy Elrod (Campus Director)

The Outdoor Campus will be restarting our volunteer program this summer. Starting in July we will be accepting applications for adult volunteers. If you are interested in the outdoors, conservation, or just looking for a fun group of people to work with, then the Outdoor Campus is your place! Volunteer opportunities include working our front desk as a greeter or assisting in gardening and landscaping. We also have the perfect opportunity for retired educators or those interested in working with school aged kids as they come to the campus for field trips. If hunting or fishing is your specialty, we would love your help as a volunteer instructor teaching hunting and fishing to program participant or become a hunting or fishing mentor. The opportunities are endless! Don't miss out! Check out <https://gfp.sd.gov/toc-west/> or reach out to Aaron Schone ([aaron.schone@state.sd.us](mailto:aaron.schone@state.sd.us)) after July 1<sup>st</sup> for more information.

## KAYCEE - BOW

by Clint Whitley (Naturalist)

Game, Fish and Parks will be hosting the Becoming an Outdoors-Woman, or BOW, workshop this fall from September 12-14. BOW is a nationally recognized program to get women involved in the outdoors. In a state like South Dakota where hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, hiking and other outdoor skills are something women have traditionally participated in, you may ask yourself why BOW of such high importance to GFP. Even though we live in a state where women participate in these activities, that does not mean all women or match that of men. We want to encourage more women of all ages to contribute to the outdoor sportsmanship that makes South Dakota great as 50% of our state's population is female.

Learning new outdoors skills as women can feel inaccessible or intimidating, especially in male-dominated activities. This workshop is critical to providing the tools and resources needed for women to grow their relationship with the outdoors. The workshop is broken into thirds; one third focusing on hunting, shooting and management through conservation; another third on fishing or water activities, and the last third on nature-based outdoor recreation such as backpacking, wilderness survival, and outdoor cooking. The weekend will consist of classes, seminars, and camaraderie. Sleeping and lodging will be provided. This encourages strong relationships with their families, significant others, and other women built around the outdoors.

At BOW, we want to serve women who are participating in outdoor recreation, contributing to conservation through effective management of our wildlife populations, and connecting them to our world-class state park system. There is something very empowering for women when they being to provide for themselves, feel confident, and pass their knowledge on to the next generation. Please contact KayCee at the OCW for more information at [kaycee.smith@state.sd.us](mailto:kaycee.smith@state.sd.us) or at 605-394-3354.



## RANGE UPDATE

by Clint Whitley (Naturalist)



GET READY!!!! Our new gun range is set to have it's opening day October 10<sup>th</sup>. This has been a long awaited opportunity for gun enthusiasts. The traditional shooting lanes will be free to the public while some of the more specialty shooting opportunities like the 1200 yard range and shotgun options will have a minimal charge or proficiency test to ensure safety and to cover the costs of clays. This fall you will have a great place to do some shooting in preparation for the deer seasons so watch our social media for more details.



## FOLLOW US!

Stay up to date on program information in Rapid City by following us!



[@outdoorcampus\\_rapidcity](https://www.instagram.com/outdoorcampus_rapidcity)



[Game, Fish & Parks Outdoor Campus-Rapid City](https://www.facebook.com/GameFishParksOutdoorCampusRapidCity)



[South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks-Education](https://www.youtube.com/SouthDakotaGameFishParksEducation)



## BLACK HILLS SPORTSMEN CLUB

by Clint Whitley (Naturalist)

We have conservation groups for just about all huntable big game species but we have been lacking a focus across the nation. A few conservation minded individuals stepped up to be only the 2nd state level Antelope focused foundation in the nation. South Dakota proudly now has the South Dakota Antelope Foundation. One of South Dakotas most almost prehistoric species needs some help. I can't say it any better then the foundation themselves so here is the reason they started.

Reason: The South Dakota Antelope Foundation was established with the aim of safeguarding the Pronghorn Antelope population in South Dakota. Our journey began with a vision to address the challenges faced by these magnificent animals and create a sustainable ecosystem for their thriving existence. We are committed to upholding the legacy of preserving the native wildlife and ensuring a harmonious coexistence between humans and the Pronghorn Antelope. (<https://www.sdantelopefoundation.org/about-us>)

Mission: The mission of the South Dakota Antelope Foundation is to dedicate our time and efforts to the welfare of Pronghorn Antelope. We actively seek to increase pronghorn populations in South Dakota through habitat improvements, education opportunities for hunters and non hunters as well as providing public comment on activities affecting pronghorn in South Dakota. As a 501c3 non-profit, all of our proceeds and donations help advance our mission. (South Dakota Antelope Foundation)

To get involved or support go to <https://blackhillssportsmenclub.com/>



# OUTDOOR CAMPUS

— RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA —

## JULY PROGRAMS

### **Intro to Archery**

Learn the basic techniques of archery, parts of a bow, range safety and how to safely shoot different bows. Class is held in our indoor climate-controlled range for year-round comfort. Ages 8 and up, everyone must be registered, and youth must be accompanied by an adult.

*July 1 6:00 – 7:30 PM*

*July 12 1-2:30 PM*

### **Women's Night Out Fishing**

Learn the basics of shore fishing with a spin cast rod. Learn fishing safety, how to rig the rod, what bait to choose, how to cast and how to get the fish off the hook! Bring a friend and practice in our pond.

*July 1, 6:00 – 7:30 PM*

### **Bugs and Brews fly tying for adults:**

Meet at local brewery to learn a beginner's pattern for year-round successful fishing in the Black Hills. Ages 21 and up.

*July 2 6:00 – 8:00 PM*

*July 17 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Intro to Canning**

Join the Campus crew for a night of cooking with canned deer meat. Get your hands on all the equipment for canning your wild game meats.

*July 3 6:00-8:00*

### **Firearm Maintenance**

Learn basic techniques and tips for maintaining firearms. Then try your new skills on some of campus firearms.

*July 7 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Intro to Fishing**

Learn how to cast, tie knots, ID different local species and learn techniques to catch fish followed by fishing in our Outdoor Campus pond. All gear will be provided. Hats, eye protection and sunscreen are encouraged. Ages 6 and up, children must be accompanied by an adult.

*July 8 6:00-8:00 PM*

*July 26 10:00-12 PM*

### **Intro to Shotgun Shooting**

Learn how to safely handle and shoot a shotgun at the Rapid City Trap Club. Shotgun shooting is a great way to spend time with your family while developing safe firearms competency. Ages 12 and up, youth must be accompanied by an adult and only the shooter needs to be registered.

*July 9 6:00-8:00 PM*

*July 23 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Rod Building**

In this class we will be building custom spinning rods for your summer fishing plans. We will meet multiple times to complete this project. There is no cost to you and the rods are yours to keep in the end. You must be able to attend all 3 dates to register for this event. Ages 16+, youth must be accompanied by an adult.

*July 10-12 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Date Night Pellet Rifle Shooting**

Learn basic gun safety and shooting techniques before taking part in some friendly competition with your date!

*July 11 6:00-7:30*

### **Dutch Oven Cooking**

Learn how cook with and care for cast iron Dutch ovens. You will be making food so come hungry! Closed-toed shoes are required for safety. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

*July 11 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Intro to Paddling**

Learn techniques to safely paddle canoes and kayaks on our Campus Pond. Lifejackets will be available. Must be 10 or older to participate and youth must be accompanied by an adult.

*July 12 10-12:00 PM*

### **3D Shoot League Night**

*Bring your bow and enjoy some friendly competition shooting our 3D targets on the range.*

*July 10, 17, 24, 31 6:00-7:30*

**\*ALL YOUTH ATTENDING PROGRAMS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTERED ADULT\***  
**Go to the events tab at [www.gfp.sd.gov](http://www.gfp.sd.gov) to register**



## JULY PROGRAMS

### **Intro to Firearms**

The Outdoor Campus will teach you the operating components of different firearms and the fundamentals of safety. Class includes handling our inert safety guns. Youth must be accompanied by an adult, for ages 10 and up.

*July 14 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Waterfowl ID at Canyon Lake**

Canyon Lake hosts many different species of waterfowl. Meet our Outdoor Campus staff and use our binoculars or spotting scopes for an up-close ID and observation event. Ages 10 and up.

*July 15, 19 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Family Lure Making**

Make spinners and flies that can be used to catch a variety of fish species. Materials will be provided.

Ages 8 and up, children must be accompanied by an adult.

*July 15 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Campfire Cooking**

Try some recipes while learning campfire safety. You will be making food so come hungry! Closed-toed shoes are required for safety. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

*July 16 6:00-9:00 PM*

### **Ladies Archery**

Learn the basic techniques of archery, parts of a bow, range safety and how to safely shoot different bows. Class is held in our indoor climate-controlled range for year-round comfort. Ages 8 and up, everyone must be registered, and youth must be accompanied by an adult. Ladies only.

*July 18 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **On Location Fishing: Canoes & Kayaks**

Meet us for this destination fishing event. All equipment will be provided (or bring your own) along with advice on how to catch fish and use specific equipment. Participants must have taken an Intro to Paddling class to participate.

*July 19 10-12*

### **Intro to trapping**

Get hands on training with traps and the equipment for different furbearer species. Leather gloves for setting traps is recommended.

*July 21 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Range Day**

Practice for hunting season this Fall and spend some time getting comfortable handling firearms safely and responsibly while practicing with .223 and .243 rifles.

*July 22 10:00-12:00 PM*

*July 30 10:00-12:00 PM*

### **Date Night Archery**

Are you interested in spending time getting to know that special someone better while learning a new outdoor skill set in a fun class setting. Intro to archery date night is right on target with that, maybe even a Bullseye of a memory!

*July 25 6:00-7:30 PM*

### **Catch It, Clean It, Cook It**

Learn how to use fishing equipment to catch a fish in our front pond. Then learn how to clean your catch and cook it! Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

*July 28 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Campfire Cooking**

Try some recipes while learning campfire safety. You will be making food so come hungry! Closed-toed shoes are required for safety. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

*July 31<sup>st</sup> 6:00-8:00 PM*



# OUTDOOR CAMPUS

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

## AUGUST PROGRAMS

### **Intro to Fly Casting**

The Black Hills is an amazing place to flyfish. Join us to learn the basics of Fly-Casting and fly-Fishing gear. Ages of 12 and up.

*August 1 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Date Night Fishing**

Are you interested in spending time getting to know that special someone while learning a new outdoor skill set in a fun class setting. Intro to fly fishing date night may help you land that catch of a lifetime, or practice catch and release. Come learn the basic principles of fly casting and equipment.

*August 1 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Intro to Bow Fishing**

Learn about the equipment and skills needed to bowfish. Then take some practice shots in our pond at the Outdoor Campus. Equipment will be provided but you may bring your own.

*August 2 10-11:30 PM*

### **.22 Range Day**

The .22 rimfire is a low recoil, low sound, and inexpensive way to get into shooting sports. Learn proper marksmanship and firearm safety fundamentals with a rifle that is great for both target practice and small game hunting.

*August 5 6-8:00 PM*

### **Intro to Shotgun Shooting**

Learn how to safely handle and shoot a shotgun at the Rapid City Trap Club. Shotgun shooting is a great way to spend time with your family while developing safe firearms competency. Ages 12 and up, youth must be accompanied by an adult and only the shooter needs to be registered.

*August 6 6:00-8:00 PM*

*August 20 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Catch It, Clean It, Cook It**

Learn how to use fishing equipment to catch a fish in our front pond. Then learn how to clean your catch and cook it! Children must be accompanied by a registered adult.

*August 7 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **3D Shoot League Night**

Bring your bow and enjoy some friendly competition shooting our 3D targets on the range.

*August 7, 14, 21, 28 6:00-7:30 PM*

### **Intro to Reloading**

Learn the skills, process and equipment needed to reload your own bullets.

*August 8 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **Women's Archery**

Learn the basic techniques of archery, parts of a bow, range safety and how to safely shoot different bows. Class is held in our indoor climate-controlled range for year-round comfort. Ages 8 and up, everyone must be registered, and youth must be accompanied by an adult. Ladies only

*August 8 6:00-7:30*

### **Intro to Paddling**

Learn techniques to safely paddle canoes and kayaks on our Campus Pond. Lifejackets will be available. Must be 10 or older to participate and youth must be accompanied by an adult.

*August 9 10:00-12:00 PM*

### **Intro to Fishing**

Learn how to cast, tie knots, ID different local species and learn techniques to catch fish followed by fishing in our Outdoor Campus pond. All gear will be provided. Hats, eye protection and sunscreen are encouraged. Ages 6 and up, children must be accompanied by an adult.

*August 11 6:00-8:00 PM*

### **On Location Fishing: Canoes & Kayaks**

Meet us for this destination fishing event. All equipment will be provided (or bring your own) along with advice on how to catch fish and use specific equipment. Participants must have taken an Intro to Paddling class to participate.

*August 23 10:00-12:00 PM*

**\*ALL YOUTH ATTENDING PROGRAMS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTERED ADULT\***  
**Go to the events tab at [www.gfp.sd.gov](http://www.gfp.sd.gov) to register**



# OUTDOOR CAMPUS

— RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA —

## SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS

### **Grouse and Upland hunting Seminar**

Pheasant forever presents a guide to hunting grouse and pheasants in western South Dakota.

**September 3 6:00 - 8:00 PM**

### **Intro to Shotgun Shooting**

Learn how to safely handle and shoot a shotgun at the Rapid City Trap Club. Shotgun shooting is a great way to spend time with your family while developing safe firearms competency. Ages 12 and up, youth must be accompanied by an adult and only the shooter needs to be registered.

**September 3 6:00-8:00 PM**

**September 17 6:00 - 8:00 PM**

### **Intro to Archery**

Learn the basic techniques of archery, parts of a bow, range safety and how to safely shoot different bows. Class is held in our indoor climate-controlled range for year-round comfort. Ages 8 and up, everyone must be registered, and youth must be accompanied by an adult.

September 4 6:00-7:30

September 17 6-7:30

### **Trout Poke Bowls**

Utilize the abundant trout resource that we are so blessed to have here in the Black Hills. A new variation of our catch it, cook it, clean it series; this class will provide some brined and smoked rainbow trout along with all the supplies needed to make a delicious and fun meal experience. This is sure to impress your dinner guests and get you excited to pursue more trout fishing opportunities. Any age group, youth must be accompanied by an adult.

**September 5 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

### **Where Can I Fish?**

Sheridan, Pactola and Angostura are very popular fishing destinations but where else is there great fishing? Come to this class to learn about other options that could be closer to home or offer a new species of fish to target.

**September 9 6-7:30**

### **Intro to Fishing**

Learn how to cast, tie knots, ID different local species and learn techniques to catch fish followed by fishing in our Outdoor Campus pond. All gear will be provided. Hats, eye protection and sunscreen are encouraged. Ages 6 and up, children must be accompanied by an adult.

**September 10 6:00-7:30**

**September 27 10-11:30**

### **Becoming an Outdoors-Women**

Ladies! The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks invites you to apply for the 2025 Becoming an Outdoors-Woman workshop, happening September 12th through 14th. It's a fun, supportive weekend to try activities like hunting, fishing, and outdoor skills, connect with nature, and grow your confidence in the outdoors. Visit [gfp.sd.gov](http://gfp.sd.gov) under the Education Events tab, or follow the SD Becoming an Outdoors-Woman and GFP Outdoor Campus West pages on Facebook for updates and application information.

**September 12-14**

### **Deer Processing**

In this class we will show you how to butcher and process your deer, elk or pronghorn. A deer will be butchered from start to finish during this class. We will be cutting steaks, roasts and grinding burger. We will also discuss jerky, canning and recipes to help you use your harvest to its potential all while learning a valuable and cost-effective skillset. The whole family is invited!

**September 25 6:00-8:00 PM**

### **Bow Setup Seminar with Al Krause from Black Hills Archery**

Al will walk us through a complete bow build from choosing a bow to accessories and proper setup. You don't want to miss this one as Al owns an award winning bow shop just down the road from us.

**September 24 6:00-8:00**

**\*ALL YOUTH ATTENDING PROGRAMS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTERED ADULT\***  
**Go to the events tab at [www.gfp.sd.gov](http://www.gfp.sd.gov) to register**