

DNR Aiming To Provide Archery Opportunities To Youth Of All Backgrounds



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Greetings!

My name is Ryan VanLanduyt, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to introduce myself as the new Assistant Archery Education Specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

First, I want to acknowledge my predecessor, Gregg Kurzynski, for his dedication and hard work in helping Wisconsin's youth become interested in the outdoors. I look forward to working with

Gregg in his new role as Wisconsin's coordinator for Raised at Full Draw.

As for me, I am passionate about bowhunting and fondly recall days spent shooting a sort of fiberglass recurve or long bow in my youth. My family did not hunt growing up, so my exposure to our sport was limited. Thinking back on my own journey in this sport, I can't help but be amazed by our state's current Learn to Hunt and mentorship programs – they're exactly what I would have loved to participate in.

I am pleased to report about 1,600 student archers were registered to compete at the Wisconsin National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) State Tournament held in March in Wisconsin Dells. Seeing so many families and friends supporting the young competitors is always inspiring. Equally inspiring was the fact that nearly half of this year's NASP State Tournament competitors (47%) were girls. That's a wonderful thing and something we should all take pride in, as archery is for everyone. Let's work together to keep this momentum going and to ensure all interested students can explore the world of archery.

I look forward to meeting and working with many of you across the state to share our passion for archery with the next generation. Please feel free to email me at Ryan.VanLanduyt@Wisconsin.gov. I'm always looking for more learning opportunities and would enjoy hearing from you.