



DNR and Outdoorsman Career Academy Bertha-Hewitt High School

The DNR and Outdoorsman Academy provides students with an introduction to the areas of conservation of water, animals, forests, or related natural resources. Students will learn to compile data pertaining to size, content, condition, and other characteristics of forest tracts, learn about the conservation of managing, improving, and protecting fish and wildlife. In addition, students will learn about wildlife habitats and how the forest is an essential part of their environment. Proper methods for harvesting tree species, identification of plant and animal species, and map interpretation are included. Courses focus on non-renewable and renewable resources with special attention on conservation as well as the ecology of how plants and animals factors interact. The Academy is designed for students interested in environmental studies and a hands-on career.

Academy Courses

Animal Science

1 High School Credit

The Animal Science class includes animal selection, nutrition, breeding, animal health and livestock operations. Emphasis will be on cattle, ruminants, swine and horses. Students will learn about feed selection, balancing rations and breed selection.

Forestry and Wildlife

1 High School Credit

This course is designed to develop awareness and knowledge for the proper management of forest and wildlife resources. Field activities for tree and wildlife identification are essential to the course. Students learn identification, measurement of trees, learn to identify wildlife habitats and compass skills. Students will use the State of Minnesota FFA CDE Handbook for Fish and Wildlife as a reference for course work.

Sportsman's Craft

1 High School Credit

This course is designed to give students a hands-on experience in areas of hunting and fishing. Students will design and build their own equipment for hunting and fishing. Decoys, fishing poles, duck calls, deer stands, fish houses, ice saws, and chisels are samples of the kinds of equipment that students will take into the field.

Academic Completion Standard

Students wishing to receive a certification must complete all courses and must earn at least '80%' or better average.

Business and Industry Experiences

Students will explore and research careers with industry speakers, and attend a Career Fair. Hands-on experiences in the field and in the shop will highlight this academy.

Job Skills

In addition to having technical skills, employers expect their workers to have other skills such as:

- Listening Skills
- Be an Active Member of a Team
- Use Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills
- Effectively Communicate
- Work With Environmental Agencies

Careers Options

Naturalist, Park Ranger, Game Warden, Forestry Technician, Fishery Management, Log and Scale Technician, Water Treatment Technician, Fire Fighter, Water Conservation Technician, Plant and Animal Scientist, Farmer, Breeder, Professional Hunter, Professional Fisherman, Game Farm Owner

Job Outlook

Natural Resource Careers 19 % growth for Central Minnesota

Postsecondary Programs

Please check at www.mnscu.edu for colleges that offer educational programs for this Career Academy such as;

Central Lakes College, Northland Community and Technical College, South Central College, Ridgewater College, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, Hennepin Technical College, Rochester Community and Technical College, Normandale Community College, Bemidji State University, St. Cloud State University, and Mankato State University

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