The New Hunter Mentor Program (NHMP) is an outreach initiative focused on educating and influencing all new hunters including youth, women, young adults, veterans, older adults and others.

**Morning Session**

Morning session includes RGS biologist habitat presentation, how to find public land, gun safety and dog demonstration. The Program includes an educational component intended to provide a well-rounded upland hunting, safety, habitat and bird ecology education for better understanding of grouse and woodcock hunting.

**Educational topics include:**
Section 1. Gun Safety & Marksmanship, Shooting (emphasis on safety, guns and shells)
Section 2. Dog Handling, Care (safety, dog breeds, dog care and handling afield)
Section 3. Field Skills & Habitat Awareness, Mapping (habitat, bird facts and identification)

**Afternoon Session**

Afternoon session includes trap shooting and mentored hunt.

**Mentor Hunting Experience**

Potential for fall mentored hunt where participants accompany an experienced hunter to the grouse/woodcock woods or a game preserve, if necessary, to implement the skills learned. New hunters must pass all three initial sections before enjoying the mentor hunting experience, and after passing each section, they will receive a patch they can put on their hunting vest or gear to show their participation in the program.

The program is put on under the auspices of, “Be Safe, Be Smart, Be Yourself,” with an emphasis on safety, science and ethics. Through this program, RGS and AWS will educate and encourage future generations of grouse and woodcock hunters to preserve the legacy of our cherished sport.

REGISTRATION FORMS DUE BY MARCH 27. MAXIMUM OF 15 PARTICIPANTS.

Mark Fouts is the Ruffed Grouse Society Coordinator of this program.