

# **FY18 Hunter Education Program Details (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018)**

**Total Classes Held: 291**  
**Total Students Certified: 8,955**  
**Total Instructor Volunteer Hours: 11,314**  
**New Instructor Workshops Held: 5**  
**Certified Instructor Workshops Held: 19**  
**New Instructors Certified: 50**  
**Total Instructors Certified: 1,568**

*In FY 2018, we certified 8,955 students in Hunter Education. Of those students, 1,645 (18%) completed the Online/Field Day Course, 2,789 (31%) completed the Adult (18+) Online Only Course, and 4,521 (51%) completed the traditional classroom based course.*

*In FY 2018, we held 291 Hunter Education Classes across the state in 94 of the 99 counties. Of those classes, 190 (65%) were the traditional classroom courses and 101 (35%) were the online/field day course.*



**Incident:** One

**County of Incident:** Webster

**District:** Five

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( X )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Saturday, September 1, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Age:** 50      **Gender:** Male

**Hunter Education:** No

**Years Hunting Experience:** Unknown

**Game Hunted:** Squirrel

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Firearm Used:** Stevens Model 62 .22 rifle

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 54      **Gender:** Male

**Hunter Education:** No

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** No

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 36 yards

**Type of Cover:** Wooded Area

**Narrative:** Party of four were squirrel hunting at Brushy Creek State Recreation Area. Two of the hunters were in a separate area and were not involved in the hunting incident. The shooter saw a squirrel in a tree, fired, missing the squirrel, and hitting his brother 36 yards away. The shooter then moved forward, shot again, and killed the squirrel. He heard his brother yelling and went to render aid. The victim was taken to the hospital. The bullet struck his right shoulder, exited the top of the right shoulder, and re-entered his neck where the bullet came to rest. The doctors decided to leave the bullet in his neck due to the proximity to the vitals.

**Cause(s):** Careless or reckless handling of firearm. Shooter got tunnel vision while shooting at the game.

**Prevention:** Properly identify your target and know what is in front and beyond it.

**Incident:** Two

**County of Incident:** Jackson

**District:** Two

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( X )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, September 9, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 17      **Gender:** Male

**Age:** Same      **Gender:** Same

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 20

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** No

**Game Hunted:** Waterfowl (Teal)

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 2-3 feet

**Attempting to Bag Game:** No

**Type of Cover:** Marsh/Water

**Firearm Used:** Silver Eagle Sporter SE 12 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** Party of two were waterfowl hunting. Hunters shot and were going to retrieve the bird. As the victim placed his gun in storage bunk, the gun went off. He was struck just below and above the left knee. The wounds were not deep and did not require stitches or surgery.

**Cause(s):** Careless or reckless handling of firearm. Drop firearm. Trigger caught on object.

**Prevention:** Unload your firearm before you retrieve your game. Keep your muzzle pointed in a safe direction at all times.

**Incident:** Three

**County of Incident:** Clay

**District:** One

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( X )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, October 14, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 22      **Gender:** Male

**Age:** Same      **Gender:** Same

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 11

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Waterfowl

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 2 feet

**Attempting to Bag Game:** No

**Type of Cover:** Marsh/Water

**Firearm Used:** Tristar Viper 12 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** Hunting party of two were waterfowl hunting. The hunters were having a great day on the marsh and the shooter finished a box of ammunition. He grabbed another box that his father had given him and loaded his gun with two shells. A duck flew by and the shooter shot and killed the duck. He stated that it did not seem to fire correctly, but set his gun down in the boat so he could retrieve his duck. As he set the gun down in the seat, with his left hand wrapped around the action of the gun as it discharged a second time. The shooter immediately had pain in the palm of his left hand and it was black from the gun powder. The shooter was treated for gun powder burns and was released from the hospital the same day.

**Cause(s):** Defective firearm ammunition.

**Prevention:** Know the age and condition of your ammunition before discharging them in your firearm.

**Incident:** Four

**County of Incident:** Washington

**District:** Four

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( X )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, October 21, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 50      **Gender:** Male

**Age:** 71      **Gender:** Male

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** Yes (IL)

**Years Hunting Experience:** 40

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Pheasant

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 40 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Open Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Huglu 12 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** Hunting party of four were hunting with a guide on a hunting preserve. The group was just ending their hunt as they came to the end of a food plot. One hunter went down a ravine to retrieve a pheasant he had shot. The victim was tired and started walking off to sit in the truck, and wait for his brother who was retrieving the pheasant. As the rest of the group was waiting, a hen pheasant flushed, and flew low to the ground in front of the waiting hunters. One hunter shot twice and missed and then the shooter shot, struck the bird, and killed it. The victim yelled and started waiving his arm. The shooter and another hunter ran to the victim, called for help, and was taken back to the lodge. From there the victim was taken by ambulance to the hospital. He was shot by pellets in the left temple, left eye lid, left eye, right center of the throat, right index finger, and one pellet lodged in his left ear. The victim lost eyesight in his left eye as a result of his injuries.

**Cause(s):** Failure to check beyond target. Victim in line of fire. Victim covered by shooter swinging on game.

**Prevention:** Know what is beyond your shot. Stay with your hunting party and let them know where you are.

**Incident:** Five

**County of Incident:** Page

**District:** Three

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( X )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Thursday, November 1, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 54, 56

**Gender:** Male, Male

**Age:** 58

**Gender:** Male

**Hunter Education:** No, Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** Unknown

**Years Hunting Experience:** 40, 40

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Pheasant/Quail

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 70-80 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Field/Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Smith and Wesson Model 1000, Remington 870 Wingmaster, both 12 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** Hunting party of five were pheasant and quail hunting. Victim was standing as blocker and three of four members of the hunting party shot in his direction. Two hunters were shooting the same ammo and both shot at the victim. The victim was stuck in the abdomen, but it did not pierce the skin. Two other pellets struck the left side of his face and lodged in his skin. The doctor opted to leave them in place. Without the pellets, the officers are unable to determine which of the two shooters was responsible.

**Cause(s):** Careless or reckless handling of firearm. Not knowing what is beyond the target. Failure to identify target.

**Prevention:** Keep a safe distance between drivers and blockers. Properly identify your target and know what is in front and beyond it.

**Incident:** Six

**County of Incident:** Cedar

**District:** Two

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( X )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Saturday, December 1, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 14      **Gender:** Male

**Age:** 64, 16      **Gender:** Male, Male

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Years Hunting Experience:** 2

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 89 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Wooded Area

**Firearm Used:** Browning A5 20 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** A grandfather was out hunting with his two grandsons. The victim was standing with Grandpa and the shooter was across the road about 90 yards away. Three deer appeared, spooked, and started to run. The shooter shot at the deer and he missed. The victim and the Grandfather turned to see if they could take a shot. The shooter shot again and stuck both the victim and the Grandfather. The 20 gauge slug traveled through Grandpa's rain pants, pants, boots, and struck his right calf. The slug continued through the victim's pants, boots, and grazed both of the victims shins.

**Cause(s):** Victim in line of fire. Victim covered by shooter swining on game. Failure to check beyond target.

**Prevention:** Don't shoot at running deer. Competent adult hunting with each youth hunter.

**Incident:** Seven

**County of Incident:** Poweshiek

**District:** Six

**Property Damage ( X )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, December 2, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 56

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** N/A

**Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Internet)

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 40

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 196 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** No

**Type of Cover:** Field/Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Remington 1187 12 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** Hunter was out deer hunting and parked his truck. On his way home, his truck started overheating and he had to add more coolant. He checked the engine and found a hole in the radiator. A 12 gauge slug fell from the radiator. Another hunting party was hunting in the same area. The shooter shot five times at a running deer and one of the slugs hit the parked truck, 196 yards away.

**Cause(s):** Failure to check beyond target. Victim covered by shooter swinging on game.

**Prevention:** Don't shoot at running deer. Be aware of what is beyond the target.

**Incident:** Eight

**County of Incident:** Warren

**District:** Six

**Property Damage ( X )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Saturday, December 1, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** Unknown

**Gender:** Unknown

**Age:** N/A

**Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** Unknown

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** Unknown

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** Unknown

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Field/Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Unknown 12 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** Hunting party of nineteen were deer hunting a field. A homeowner came home to find a hole in his front window, drywall damage to his living room wall, drywall damage to his bathroom wall and damage to his tub and bathroom tile. The homeowner did not want to do more damage to his home, so the slug was not retrieved. It was determined to be a 12 gauge slug, but seventeen of the hunters were using a 12 gauge shotgun. The hunting group agreed to pay for the damage caused to the homeowner.

**Cause(s):** Failure to identify a proper backstop.

**Prevention:** Do not shoot up a hill at game without a backstop.

**Incident:** Nine

**County of Incident:** Warren

**District:** Six

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( X )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Monday, December 3, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 49

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** N/A

**Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 29

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** Skin contact

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Field/Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Henry Big Boy 45-70 rifle

**Narrative:** Hunting party of three was hunting on family land. The shooter was hunting with a new Henry 45/70 rifle. The shooter was in the process of reloading his firearm. The hammer was in the full cock position when he placed the butt stock on the ground. He went to remove the plunger from the magazine tube and the firearm discharged. Victim lost his left index finger at the middle knuckle and suffered burn marks on both hands.

**Cause(s):** Loading firearm.

**Prevention:** Do not attempt to reload a lever action firearm when the hammer is in the full cocked fire position.

**Incident:** Ten

**County of Incident:** Woodbury

**District:** One

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( X )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Wednesday, December 5, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 72

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** N/A

**Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** No

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 50

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Pheasant

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** skin contact

**Attempting to Bag Game:** No

**Type of Cover:** Roadway

**Firearm Used:** Remington Model 11, 12 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** Pheasant hunting party of two saw a rooster pheasant in the road ditch. The shooter exited the vehicle and shoot the pheasant. The victim was getting back in the vehicle to go pick up the rooster. While getting back into the vehicle, he was reloading the gun, and he shot himself in the left foot at point blank range. He was not familiar with the firearm. He was transported to the hospital by private vehicle and he might loose toes on his left foot.

**Cause(s):** Loading firearm. Discharge firearm in/on a vehicle.

**Prevention:** Unload your firearm prior to entering vehicle.

**Incident:** Eleven

**County of Incident:** Jasper

**District:** Six

**Property Damage ( X )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Saturday, December 8, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 13

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** N/A

**Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 1

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 480 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Field/Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Mossberg 500 20 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** Father and son were out deer hunting in a field. They both shot at the deer. The father shot a 12 gauge and the son shot a 20 gauge shotgun. The father killed the deer. The son's slug traveled 480 yards and hit a house. The slug penetrated the siding and came to rest in the floor joists between the first and second story.

**Cause(s):** Failure to check beyond target. Shooting at running game.

**Prevention:** Shooter should have checked beyond deer. Be aware of your surroundings and the locations of any houses in the area.

**Incident:** Twelve

**County of Incident:** Madison

**District:** Six

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( X )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( X )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, December 9, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 39

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** N/A

**Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 20

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 0-2 inches

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Public road ditch

**Firearm Used:** CVA Apollo 50 caliber muzzleloader

**Narrative:** Hunting party of two were deer hunting. The shooter had just exited the vehicle and placed a 209 primer in his muzzleloading 50 caliber rifle. After placing the primer in the firearm, he lowered the bolt so that it was resting on the primer. The gun slipped out of the shooters hand and he ended up dropping the gun. The gun discharged, striking him in the left wrist and left pectoral. He was taken by ambulance and then airlifted to the hospital.

**Cause(s):** Drop firearm.

**Prevention:** Safe firearm handling. Keep your muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

**Incident:** Thirteen

**County of Incident:** Decatur

**District:** Six

**Property Damage ( X )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, December 9, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 18

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** N/A

**Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 8

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 637 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Wooded Area

**Firearm Used:** Marlin Governer 45-70 rifle

**Narrative:** Hunting party of seven were whitetail deer hunting. The shooter saw a deer on a side hill about 200 yards away. The shooter shot at the deer. The slug traveled 637 yards and hit a house. The slug entered the house on the south side and exited the house on the west side of the house.

**Cause(s):** Failure to have a safe backstop.

**Prevention:** Identify a safe backstop for your shot. Know what is beyond your shot.

**Incident:** Fourteen

**County of Incident:** Marion

**District:** Four

**Property Damage ( )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( X )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( X )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, December 9, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 31

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** 23

**Gender:** Male

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Years Hunting Experience:** 20

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 172 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Field/Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Noreen Firearm BBN-223 450 Bushmastesr rifle

**Narrative:** Hunting party of fourteen were participating in a deer drive on the north side of Lake Red Rock. The shooter was on "stand" when a buck deer ran between him and the victim. The shooter shot three times at the running deer. One of the rounds hit the victim in the right bicep, passed through the arm, entered his chest, and came to rest in the spinal column. The victim was 172 yards from the shooter.

**Cause(s):** Shooting at deer running between hunters.

**Prevention:** Do not party hunt. Identify a backstop before you take a shot.

**Incident:** Fifteen

**County of Incident:** Butler

**District:** Five

**Property Damage ( X )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Saturday, December 16, 2017

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** Unknown      **Gender:** Unknown

**Age:** N/A      **Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** Unknown

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** Unknown

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Unknown

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 475 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Field/Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Unknown

**Narrative:** A hunting party of seven were deer hunting in a corn field. A house across the street was hit through a window with a 1 oz foster style slug. After the investigation, it could not be determined who shot the house.

**Cause(s):** Not being aware of what is beyond the target.

**Prevention:** Being aware of what's in front and beyond the target. Ensure a proper backstop before taking a shot.

**Incident:** Sixteen

**County of Incident:** Dickinson

**District:** One

**Property Damage ( X )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, December 9, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Age:** Unknown

**Gender:** Unknown

**Hunter Education:** Unknown

**Years Hunting Experience:** Unknown

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Firearm Used:** Unknown

**Victim Information**

**Age:** Unknown

**Gender:** Unknown

**Hunter Education:** Unknown

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Unknown

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 150-175 yards

**Type of Cover:** Roadway Ditch

**Narrative:** Slug hit building through exterior wall, several interior walls and came to rest on the floor. Shell casings were found 150-175 yards away. After investigation, it could not be determined who shot the house.

**Cause(s):** Failure to identify what is beyond the target.

**Prevention:** Identify a backstop before taking a shot.

**Incident:** Seventeen

**County of Incident:** Marion

**District:** Six

**Property Damage ( X )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Saturday, December 16, 2017

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 60

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** N/A

**Gender:** N/A

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Classroom)

**Hunter Education:** N/A

**Years Hunting Experience:** 50

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 375 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Steep hill

**Firearm Used:** Mossberg 500 12 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** The shooter was participating in a deer drive. He shot five times at deer that were running. One round hit house number one over 400 yards away. It struck the frame of a sliding glass patio door, where two young girls were looking out the window. Another round hit a horse at property number two over 375 yards away. The horse was taken to a vet and after attempting to save it, was finally euthanized.

**Cause(s):** Not knowing what is beyond the target.

**Prevention:** Always properly identify your target and ensure you have a safe backstop before taking a shot.

**Incident:** Eighteen

**County of Incident:** Linn

**District:** Two

**Property Damage ( X )**

**Personal Injury ( )**

**Fatal ( )**

**Self Inflicted ( )**

**Same Party ( )**

**Date and Day of the Week:** Sunday, December 9, 2018

**Shooter Information**

**Victim Information**

**Age:** 30

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** 41

**Gender:** Female

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Field Day)

**Hunter Education:** Yes (Online)

**Years Hunting Experience:** 20

**Blaze Orange Apparel:** Yes

**Game Hunted:** Whitetail Deer

**Distance of Muzzle to Damage:** 125 yards

**Attempting to Bag Game:** Yes

**Type of Cover:** Field/Cropland

**Firearm Used:** Remington 870 Wingmaster 20 gauge shotgun

**Narrative:** A hunting party of six were hunting a property. Three of the hunters were posted while others in her party were pushing deer. The pushers drove eight deer out and they ran across an open cornfield. Two of the posted hunters started shooting at the deer. The victim shot three times and the shooter shot five times. One deer was killed and another deer was wounded. During the shooting, the victim was hit by a bullet that skipped off the frozen ground and ricocheted toward the victim, striking her in the upper right thigh. The victim was in pain, however did not seek medical attention until two days later. She was diagnosed with internal bruising and was evaluated for a possible blood clot.

**Cause(s):** Victim covered by shooter swinging on game. Failure to check beyond target. Ricochet.

**Prevention:** Always properly identify your target and ensure you have a safe backstop before taking a shot.

## **2018 Elevated Hunting Incident Recap**

Incident One Synopsis - The victim was using a ladder style treestand that was not his, while whitetail deer hunting. He stood up to grab his bow and because he was unfamiliar with the stand, the platform was smaller than he was used to. He stepped off the platform and fell 12 feet. He broke his ankle and tore ligaments.

Incident Two Synopsis - A deer hunter was hunting on the last day of the season. He was bundled up in lots of clothing and pac boots due to the frigid temperatures. He got ready to climb down his screw in step ladder. He placed one hand on the stand and one hand on a nearby branch. As he swung his leg towards the step, the branch broke and his momentum carried him out of the tree. The hunter fell approximately 15 feet, landing on his knees and then falling to his right shoulder blade. He was evaluated and was lucky to not tear a ligament or break a bone.