

WHILE HUNTING.

(1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRESCRIBE A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION IN CONSERVATION, COMPETENCY AND SAFETY IN THE HANDLING OF FIREARMS.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGNATE THOSE PERSONS OR AGENCIES AUTHORIZED TO GIVE THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION, AND THIS DESIGNATION SHALL BE VALID UNTIL REVOKED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THOSE DESIGNATED PERSONS SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT VALIDATED LISTINGS NAMING ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

(3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AND SAFETY TO EACH PERSON WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION, AND THE CERTIFICATE SHALL BE VALID UNTIL REVOKED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AND SAFETY TO ANY PERSON UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE WHOSE PARENT, GRANDPARENT OR GUARDIAN HAS CERTIFIED THAT THE APPLICANT HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED IN CONSERVATION, COMPETENCY AND SAFETY IN THE HANDLING OF FIREARMS AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED SUCH A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

(C) DEPARTMENT TO COORDINATE STATEWIDE PROGRAM.

(1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INSTITUTE AND COORDINATE A STATEWIDE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION IN CONSERVATION, COMPETENCY AND SAFETY IN THE HANDLING OF FIREARMS, AND IN SO DOING, IT MAY COOPERATE WITH [[LOCAL SUBDIVISIONS OF GOVERNMENT]] ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, OR WITH ANY REPUTABLE ORGANIZATION HAVING AS ONE OF ITS OBJECTIVES THE PROMOTION OF COMPETENCY AND SAFETY IN THE HANDLING OF FIREARMS, SUCH AS THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION AND LOCAL ROD AND GUN CLUBS.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONDUCT THE COURSE IN HUNTER SAFETY AND ISSUE SUCH CERTIFICATES, USING DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL OR OTHER PERSONS AT TIMES AND IN AREAS WHERE OTHER COMPETENT AGENCIES ARE UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO MEET THE DEMAND FOR INSTRUCTION.

(3) ANY SIMILAR CERTIFICATE, OR HUNTING LICENSE, ISSUED OUTSIDE THE STATE BY A GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY, SHALL BE ACCEPTED AS COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1) ABOVE, IF THE PRIVILEGES ARE RECIPROCAL FOR MARYLAND RESIDENTS.

(D) RULES AND REGULATIONS.

THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO [[IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.]] PROVIDE FOR THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION AND THE ISSUANCE OF THE CERTIFICATES.