

A Crossbow Demonstration Day was held April 17, at the Wilson Conservation Club in Wilson, New York. This was a free event and open to the public. The day started cold wet and windy, improving with the addition of scattered snow, sleet and rain showers. This did not deter nor dampen the enthusiasm of the more than 80 hardy folks who came to the club wanting to learn more about crossbows and to shoot them. Representative bows from Barnett, Crosman, Excalibur, Horton, and TenPoint were available to shoot. These included both compound and re-curve styles and a youth bow. Indoor and outdoor targets were set up from ranges of 15 yards to 30 yards. You had a choice to shoot at bags or two 3D targets, a pig and a goat. Manufactures hats were handed out to those who attended and were much sought after.

Tables were set up inside the clubhouse with various pieces of literature. There was product literature from the bow manufactures and various handouts explaining harvest results from those states that allow the crossbow to be used, public opinion, crossbow performance versus vertical compound bow performance, along with other vital information. There were petitions to be signed and letters available to be mailed to the chairmen of both the New York State Senate and Assembly Environmental Committees.

The purpose of this day was to allow the general public the availability to shoot crossbows, explain why they should be legalized for hunting in New York State and to find out for themselves, how much fun it is to shoot a crossbow. We certainly had many compliments. Everyone in attendance had a great time and was asking if we would do this again. We certainly will! The participants from this day would like to extend a big thank you to the Manufacturers and to all the volunteers for helping make this day a great success.