



## “Ag Clays” Shooting Program

This program introduces Clay Target Shooting, also known as “Ag Clays” to schools and students who participate in Wildlife, Fisheries, and Ecology Management curriculum. The curriculum is taught by Ag Science teachers in conjunction with the FFA classroom instruction. The program is an extension of the classroom as extracurricular time all while enhancing the Ecology Management portion of the curriculum. The program develops personal skills, teaches laws and ethics related to shooting, hunting, and firearms that may be carried on throughout a lifetime of enjoyment of the outdoors.

*Ag Clays* is introduced in the classroom; however both Ag Science teachers and or parent volunteers are the backbone to the program’s success. Shooting sports activities, like clay target shooting, provide participants the opportunity to practice procedures in safe firearm handling and shooting.

A variety of competitions are held throughout the state each year that extend invitations to *Ag Clays* participants. These competitions offer team and individual prizes, as well as cash and/or scholarships. Some of the competitions include, but are not limited to,

- The Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) State *Ag Clays* Shoot,
- Texas Stock Show & Rodeo shoots,
- FFA / *Ag Clays* fundraisers and/or rodeo qualifier shoots

## **Ag Science Teacher (AST) /Advisor & School Eligibility:**

- Responsible for implementing the Ag Clays program in their school and insuring all students and adult volunteers know and follow the Ag Clays rules and requirements.
- Offer Wildlife, Fisheries, and Ecology Management curriculum **(in classroom or via [iCEV](#))**
- **AST/Team Leader / Coach / Assigned volunteer**
  - **One or more shooting team AST/Team Leader / Coach / Assigned volunteer**
  - **Certified Hunter Education Instructor** (may be the AST or an AST approved adult volunteer that has completed TPWD Hunter Education Instructor).
  - **Certification – NRA Range Safety Officer (RSO) or Shotgun level Coach (4H/NRA/USA Shooting/ATA/NSCA etc.)** \*will have 1 year grace period to obtain
  - **Understand the rules of:**
    - **National Sporting Clays Association Rules ([NSCA](#))**
    - **Amateur Trap Association Rules ([ATA](#))**
  - **A shooting team leader/coach must be present at all practices and competitions.**
- Teams are responsible for supplies, (i.e. eye and ear protection, ammo, firearms, etc.)
- Teams are responsible for securing adequate ranges (public or private) for their practice outside the competition.
- Schools are encouraged to obtain sponsors and support for their teams through businesses, organizations and individuals.

## Ag Clays Student/Athlete Eligibility:

- Be an active **Jr. FFA or FFA** member in good standing with a duly chartered FFA chapter **and on current year's formal roster**. This includes students who are enrolled in school or have graduated at mid-term, or will graduate in the current school year.
  - Athletes must have the following to participate in Ag Clays Program: **(Please note that ALL information will be vetted)**
    - Hunter Education Certification –
      - Provide proof of completion or enrollment to AST
    - Complete one of the following:
      - Wildlife, Fisheries, and Ecology Management (WFEM) curriculum/course.
      - [iCEV – Duck Unlimited Ecological Conservation & Management Certification](#)
      - [An SAE \(Supervised Ag Project\)\\* conservation related project.](#)
      - **10 hours of conservation volunteerism\***

**\*Examples of SAE & Conservation volunteerism will be provided as an appendix A**

- Must maintain UIL grade requirements. No pass, No play
- Zero tolerance for any Penal Code violation or Game/Fish Law violation.
- Students may use their own firearms if maintained in operable and safe condition.
- Shotguns may not be larger than 12 gauge.
- Shot size may not be larger than 7 ½.
- Reloads are not allowed.

Alumni / Parents and Coaches are invited to participate in the Sporting Clays Fundraiser during the Annual State Ag Clays Tournament each year.

### Ag Clays Program established in 2007

Founded by Charlie Wilson, Mobile Shooting Range coordinator for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

State Partner – Texas State Rifle Association Foundation, Inc.

Logo Artist – Callan Seale, Dripping Springs HS 19'

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