

Citizen Resolution #

71-07-16

Elimination of Lead Ammunition & Lead Fishing Tackle

Based on serious health risks to humans and wildlife due to lead poisoning, the use of lead ammunition or projectiles containing lead for hunting, or those containing lead for fishing, should be restricted and eliminated by the year 2019 or sooner.

Please consider:

“Lead poisoning continues to be a significant mortality factor for several species of birds in Wisconsin. Lead is still regularly deposited in the environment as a result of lead shot used for upland game hunting, lead in rifle bullets, and lead fishing weights.” (Strom Et al.)

Mortality associated with exposure of birds to lead has been shown to result from direct consumption of lead shot or bullet fragments embedded in food items, and from ingestion of lead fishing weights. (Franson 1996)

Funding should be set aside to:

Educate the public on the risks of lead in deer meat from the use of lead bullets and projectiles containing lead.

Educate anglers on the direct association with high mortality rates in WI waterfowl and birds of prey due to lead poisoning, including loons and bald eagles.

Educate sportsmen and women regarding other alternatives to lead projectiles and fishing weights/tackle containing lead.

Create incentive to turn in lead projectiles and lead based fishing weights/tackle for proper disposal.

Create incentive for munitions & fishing tackle manufacturers to produce non-lead alternatives, and for said items to be carried in regular inventory of sporting related retail establishments.

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Conservation Congress work to introduce a bill in the state legislature in the earliest legislative cycle that would completely eliminate the use of lead projectiles/ammunition and fishing tackle/weights that contain lead in the State of Wisconsin on or before January 1, 2019.

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