PROJECT APPLESEED FLORIDA NEWSLETTER

December 1, 2017

The weekend Appleseed experience: not what you expect.

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In today's world of 24-hour news cycles, changing technologies, and push-button gratification, it's a challenge to stay connected to the values that our great country was built on. Ideals like integrity, commitment, and personal responsibility are what our founding fathers relied on to win our independence and to then make America a great nation. At Project Appleseed, we're dedicated to keeping these timeless values alive. We promote civic responsibility through the teaching of colonial history and the American tradition of rifle marksmanship. Even after all of these years, there is much to be learned from our forefathers' examples of perseverance, commitment, and civic virtue. With a full calendar of shooting clinics and events, Project Appleseed is here to make sure these timeless principles live on for generations to come.

What Appleseed is all about:

You can't write the story of America without including several chapters about the skill and bravery of our forefathers. On April 19, 1775, at Lexington and Concord, American colonists stood with muskets in hand and faced down the British forces that were trying to seize their arms. The colonists did it with grit, determination, and superior marksmanship. They were real marksmen: nobly and ably putting their skills on the line in pursuit of liberty. We are the descendants of those fearless men and women who earned our freedom on the battlefield. We honor their pursuit of liberty by passing along the skills and knowledge that aided them in securing it. Today's Rifleman understands that owning and mastering a rifle is part of his/her American heritage. Whether you're a new shooter or a seasoned marksman, Project Appleseed can help transform you from a person with a rifle into a principled and skilled Rifleman.

Dec-17		
Pensacola	December 02, 2017 - December 03, 2017	Appleseed
St. Augustine	December 09, 2017 - December 10, 2017	Appleseed
Bunnell	December 16, 2017 - December 17, 2017	Appleseed
Tallahassee	December 16, 2017 - December 17, 2017	Appleseed
Jan-18		
Palm Bay	January 06, 2018 - January 07, 2018	**Lady Seed**
St. Augustine	January 13, 2018 - January 14, 2018	Appleseed
Bunnell	January 20, 2018 - January 21, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	January 20, 2018 - January 21, 2018	Appleseed
Myakka City	January 27, 2018 - January 28, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	January 28, 2018 - February 02, 2018	**Rifleman Boot Camp**
Feb-18		
Pensacola	February 03, 2018 - February 04, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	February 03, 2018 - February 04, 2018	Appleseed
St. Augustine	February 10, 2018 - February 11, 2018	Appleseed
Bunnell	February 17, 2018 - February 18, 2018	Appleseed
Myakka City	February 17, 2018 - February 18, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	February 17, 2018 - February 18, 2018	Appleseed
Mar-18		
Hollywood	March 03, 2018 - March 04, 2018	Appleseed
St. Augustine	March 10, 2018 - March 11, 2018	Appleseed
Bunnell	March 17, 2018 - March 18, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	March 17, 2018 - March 18, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	March 17, 2018 - March 18, 2018	Appleseed
Hurlburt Field	March 24, 2018 - March 25, 2018	LadySeed
Apr-18		
Pensacola	April 07, 2018 - April 08, 2018	Appleseed
Bunnell	April 14, 2018 - April 15, 2018	Appleseed
Clearwater	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
Hernando	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
St. Augustine	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	April 21, 2018 - April 22, 2018	Appleseed
Myakka City	April 22, 2018 (One Day Event)	Appleseed - 1 Day
Hurlburt Field	April 28, 2018 - April 29, 2018	Appleseed
Palm Bay	April 28, 2018 - April 29, 2018	**Appleseed - KD**
May-18		
Tallahassee	May 19, 2018 - May 20, 2018	Appleseed
Jun-18		
Myakka City	June 16, 2018 - June 17, 2018	Appleseed
Hernando	June 23, 2018 - June 24, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	June 23, 2018 (One Day Event)	Appleseed - 1 Day
Jul-18		
Tallahassee	July 21, 2018 (One Day Event)	Appleseed - 1 Day
Aug-18		
Tallahassee	August 18, 2018 (One Day Event)	Appleseed - 1 Day
Sep-18		
Myakka City	September 15, 2018 - September 16, 2018	Appleseed
Hernando	September 22, 2018 - September 23, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	September 22, 2018 - September 23, 2018	Appleseed
Oct-18		
Pensacola	October 06, 2018 - October 07, 2018	Appleseed
Clearwater	October 20, 2018 - October 21, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	October 20, 2018 - October 21, 2018	Appleseed
Nov-18		
Hurlburt Field	November 03, 2018 - November 04, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	November 10, 2018 - November 11, 2018	Appleseed
Clearwater	November 17, 2018 - November 18, 2018	Appleseed
Dec-18		
Hurlburt Field	December 01, 2018 - December 02, 2018	Appleseed
Pensacola	December 01, 2018 - December 02, 2018	Appleseed
Tallahassee	December 08, 2018 - December 09, 2018	Appleseed
Myakka City	December 15, 2018 - December 16, 2018	Appleseed

What Should You Bring

** Very important things

Personal items

- A teachable attitude (most important thing) **
- Ear protection Muffs and plugs **
- Eye protection **
- Elbow pads or shooting Jacket
- Ground cover (Rug remnant will work)
- A hat
- Little notebook (those little 2.5 X 3.5 work well)
- Pen – not only for taking notes, but for marking your targets. A Sharpie marker is handy as well
- Sun Screen
- Lots of water (Must stay hydrated)
- Light Lunch
- Snacks
- Folding Chair (not necessary but nice)
- Wet wipes
- Bug spray
- Necessary clothing for any kind of weather

Rifle specific preparations

- Rifle preferably zeroed for 25 meters
- At least 500 rounds of ammo for a two day event
- At least 250 rounds of ammo for a one day event
- At least 250 rounds of ammo for a Known Distance event
- Sight adjustment tools
- Two mags. 10 rds. each. Bring extra mags. if you have them. 20rds works well if State law allows
- Gun cleaning supplies and lube
- Instructions for your rifle (if you have them)
- Know your rifle
- GI Web Sling
- Something to cover your rifle to keep blowing sand or rain off it.
- Staple gun, or thumb tacks, or push-pins.
- Staples
- Know the laws of the State you are going to and only bring that which is within the law

Ready your equipment

- Be prepared for blowing sand and dust, rain, mud all those weather conditions a rifleman would have to generally put up with.
- In event of blowing sand and dust, you'll need to totally degrease your rifle. Any lube should be a dry lube, like graphite. Be ready to protect your rifle with a plastic rifle bag or a simple waterproof wrap for the action.
- Be ready to protect ammo and mags from the same weather. Ziploc bags are great for this.
- Again, be prepared. You should function-test your rifle and, if possible, have it zeroed for 25 meters. Doing so will leave you properly sighted for the 25m AQT.
- It's a good idea to get down into the prone position and dry-fire ten shots "by the numbers." If you will do this three times a week, you'll be way ahead of everyone else. Hey, while you're at it, put a GI web sling on your rifle, and get it adjusted so it supports the rifle in prone, too.
- Practice at home is a GREAT way to prep for arriving at the range. By doing so your range time will be FAR more productive.

**** Due to a gun industry safety bulletin, .17HMR semi-autos are not recommended.**

**** Effective immediately the use of Smith and Wesson M&P 15/22'S at and Appleseed are hereby temporarily prohibited due to recent safety issues.**

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Sighting-in a rifle the easy way. By Bruce Smith

Start at 25 yards (50 yards max) with a large clean target backer and a central target square of 1 inch (2 inches at 50 yards). Simply drawing in a square on a sheet of grid paper with a magic market works well. You will also need a ruler, a pen, and something to write on. Check before you start that the sights and/or scope mounts are tight, the action screws in the stock are snug and the ammunition is the type and brand to intend to use. If you have one, a bore sighter may be used to get at least a rough alignment of the scope. Don't try to begin sighting in at longer ranges as you may miss the backer entirely and waste a lot of ammunition--or worse, put a round over the backstop. You will need at least 10 rounds although 6 rounds may be enough. If you only intend to shoot from a bench, then sight in from the bench. If shooting from field positions, then sight in from your most stable field position, which is usually prone using a sling. Realize that your zero will change slightly as you move from the bench to field positions. Also, be aware that the zero will change slightly with temperature changes so if you plan on shooting in very hot or cold weather try to sight in during similar conditions. Best results will be obtained on days with little to no wind and a high overcast to help diffuse the light.

Our first task is to fire a 3-5 round group, holding the exact same sight picture for every shot. If you can see the bullet holes through your scope do not "chase" the shots but continue to hold the exact same aiming point for each shot. You should call every shot and reject any shots that called "bad". The object is to produce a small group. Use a stable position (bench supported with a rest/ sandbags/bipod or prone with a properly fitted sling), employ the six steps to firing the shot: sight alignment, sight picture, respiratory pause, focus on the crosshairs or front sight and focus on keeping it on the target, steady squeeze of the trigger straight back without the trigger finger contacting the stock, and follow through by holding the trigger back briefly while "calling the shot". Your natural point of aim should be aligned on the target so that you are not muscling the rifle to get on target. Consistent proper application of the basics is key to shooting a tight group.

We will now measure the group in minutes of angle for calculation of the sight adjustment needed. A minute of angle is a measurement of the dispersion of your rounds or the "cone of fire". This measurement concept is independent of range and is used to describe group size as well as the distance of the groups point of impact from the point of aim. A minute of angle is 1/60th of a degree and this angle begins at the muzzle of the rifle and continues to the target. This angle starting at the muzzle would have legs 1" apart at 100 yards. Simply defined, a minute of angle (MOA) is equal to 1 inch per hundred yards. (Actually, one MOA = 1.047” per hundred yards; we can use 1” per 100 yards, which will be close enough.) At 200 yards, one MOA equals two inches; at 300 yards, one MOA equals three inches, and so on. If one MOA equals an inch at 100 yards, then at 50 yards one MOA equals 1/2 inch and at 25 yards one MOA equals 1/4". What we want to do is measure the group size and location in inches, convert that into minutes of angle, and then translate that into sight changes to move our group so that point of aim equals point of impact. In order to sight in properly we must first have an acceptably small group. Described in minutes of angle this is a 6 MOA group or less (less is preferred). Let's say we are sighting in at 25 yards and our group is 1-1/2" in diameter. Since at 25 yards one MOA equals 1/4", then our group can be described as a 6 MOA group, which is sufficiently small to work with. If your group is larger than that, then the problem is in the fundamentals of firing the shot and adjusting the sights will be largely a waste of time. Key concept: get a tight group first, then adjust the sights. Once we have a sufficiently tight group of shots, we will draw horizontal and vertical lines through the center of the group and then measure the distance from the center of the group to the center of the aiming point. This measurement in inches is then converted into minutes of angle. Let's say we are shooting at 50 yards and our group measures 1" in diameter with the center of the group 2" to the right and 1-1/2" inches low of our aiming point. Recall that at 50 yards one MOA equals 1/2" so we know we have a 2 MOA group, which is certainly small enough, but it is not centered where we were aiming. If the group is 2" to the right, that translates to 4 MOA to the right (2"= 1/2" x 4) and if it is 1-1/2" low, that is 3 MOA (1-1/2"= 1/2" x 3) too low. We will write down that we need to move the sights 4 MOA left and 3 MOA up before we go back to the rifle. Write it down because you will forget! Now you will need to know your rifle as the number of clicks required to move your cone of fire one MOA will need to be known. If you are shooting a M1 Garand for instance, then it is easy as one click of the rear sight moves the impact exactly one MOA. Most scopes will use 1/4 MOA clicks and that is usually indicated on the adjustment turrets under the caps. You may see something like "1 click = 1/4" @ 100 yards" (remember: 1/4” at 100 yards = 1/4 MOA). But some scopes will use 1/2, 1/3, or even 1/8 MOA clicks. If there are no marking at all, then you will have to adjust the scope a fairly large amount, say 20 clicks, shoot another group, measure the distance from the first group to the second group (in minutes of angle), and finally divide that distance by the number of clicks you moved the scope to determine the minutes of angle moved per click. Once we know that information, you might want to record that for future use! Now back to our example. We determined that we needed to move our point of impact (POI) 4 MOA left and 3 MOA up to bring it to our point of aim (POA). Our scope uses 1/4 MOA clicks so that would be 16 clicks left and 12 clicks up. Be sure to turn the turret adjustment the correct direction! Rather than counting clicks, I like to count MOA's when I adjust a scope. For example, I would count "one-two-three-four, two-two-three-four, three-two-three-four, four-two-three-four" to make the 4 MOA adjustment for windage. Likewise, for the vertical adjustment. I find that easier than counting to 16 but higher math never was my strong suite!

Now let's say that you are using iron sights instead of a scope. You will want to move the rear sight in the direction that you want your group to move so if you need to move the group to the left, you would move the rear sight to the left. As before you will need to know your rifle to know how much each graduation of rear sight movement moves the shot group. Many military style rifles such as the AR-15 and M1A use 1 MOA per click but some do use 1/2 MOA clicks (or other gradations). If you are not sure then find out by doing what we did in the scope example above: shoot another group after moving the sight a fairly large amount, say 10 clicks, measure the distance between groups, divide by the number of clicks you moved the sights, and you will know the MOA per click of sight adjustment. Again, write it down as you may need that information again someday! If you need to move the front sight for windage or elevation changes, then the front sight moves opposite the direction you want the group to move. So, if you want the group to move up, you move the front sight down. You may find it easier to visualize by imagining the sights are completely fixed on the bullseye and you are moving the rifle under them to move the group. Another mnemonic to help you is "FORS": front opposite, rear same. If you are using sights that have no clicks in their adjustment (analog sights), then these are commonly adjusted using either a sight adjusting tool or sometimes a hammer and drift punch. On the AK/SKS style rifles, the windage is frequently adjusted at the front sight using a screw type sight adjusting tool which resembles a C-clamp. One complete turn of the handle will typically move the impact about 8 MOA. If your rifle has a dovetail mounted rear sight (and a fixed front sight), then you will be using a hammer and drift punch to adjust the rear sight. First scribe a line across the sight base and dovetail using a fine pencil so that you can gauge how much you move the sight. Moving the rear sight 0.006" (about the thickness of a sheet of paper) will move the POI about 1 MOA. There is much trial and error

involved and very small adjustments are in order. With the most primitive of sights, there is no adjustment for elevation and your only recourse is to either file down the front sight (to raise the group) or replace it with a taller one (to lower the group).

We have now made the sight adjustment we calculated to move our POI to the POA. So, let's confirm it by firing another group. This group should be very close to the aiming point but if a little more refinement is needed then we again measure, convert to MOA, and apply that correction to our sights. If the sight zeroing distance needs to be for a longer range, say 100 yards (or more), a perusal of ballistics tables for the load you are using will give you the approximate bullet rise or drop from our initial zero and using this information will allow you to make the appropriate sight adjustment for elevation. Confirmation of this information by shooting at actual distance should be done but it will be pretty close. If further adjustment is needed when shooting at actual distance, then once again do the process of measuring, converting to minutes of angle, and applying the correction to the sights. A minute of angle is a minute of angle whatever the range. Finally, keep records of the weather conditions, ammo, time of day, and rifle used and this will allow you to duplicate your results some day in the future. If you change ammo or shoot in markedly different conditions, then you will need to check the zero again.

BIG NEWS FLORIDA: THE ANNUAL RIFLEMAN BOOTCAMP IN TALLAHASSEE AT THE IDMR IS COMING UP FAST ON JAN 28 THROUGH FEB 2

If you have never been to the Isaac Davis Memorial Range and Gardens in Tallahassee or attended an RBC now is your chance for glory my friends. If you LOVE Appleseed, you'll LOVE the weeklong RBC experience. Camping on site and hotels nearby. This is your chance to hone your shooting skills or become a instructor. There are 400 yards of known distance shooting goodness available too. The IDMR is the premiere destination in Florida for all things Appleseed. The sovereign citizen is always welcome to come for the experience of a lifetime. A full week of marksmanship instruction, history and spending quality time with the best folks to be found anywhere awaits. I you have ever wondered what goes on at a RBC, please watch this YouTube video: **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KB7PLXGfIRg**

https://appleseedinfo.org/

Contact your local State Coordinator Chris Heffron with any needs or questions at:
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