

Citizen Resolution # 441422

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Restrict Lead Ammunition for Hunting in Wisconsin

A recent study that sampled 1200 eagles in thirty-eight states, including Wisconsin, found nearly half of all bald and golden eagles suffer from chronic lead poisoning. Unsafe levels of lead are present in many of our state's game species, impacting the health of our ecosystem and the safety of our food chain. Lead-based ammunition rapidly expands on impact and fragments into hundreds of pieces. These fragments scatter as far as eighteen inches from entry point, rendering the practice of trimming around the wound unreliable and fragment detection difficult. A detailed 2008 report from Wisconsin's Department of Health Services reported on the potential for ingestion exposure of lead fragments in donated venison. The WDHS recommends the use of non-lead ammunition as the simplest and most effective solution to lead poisoning, in both humans and wildlife, arising from the consumption of deer killed with lead ammunition. Lead loyalists cite concerns over price and effectiveness of copper alternatives. Yet, there is no major difference in the retail price of equivalent lead-free ammunition for most popular calibers. Modern lead-free ammunition has set benchmark standards for accuracy, lethality, in some cases proving superior in terminal performance and takedown effectiveness. As responsible hunters and stewards of the land, it is our responsibility to reduce lead in the environment to ensure a diverse and viable wildlife population for future generations.

Do you support the WCC working with the DNR, the Natural Resources Board and state legislature to implement limitations on lead ammunition? This would exclude ammunition used in target shooting and could be phased in over time.

Additional Information provided by author:

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Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.