

2025 Fall Newsletter

It isn't just about the Hunt



“Reviving the timeless flavors of grandma’s cooking, where every bite feels like home”

“Lets keep the traditions alive and let every plate tell a story.”

Pheasant Hunting with a Guide at Rice Creek-What an Experience!

Our guided pheasant hunts are second to none; a lot of birds, good dog work and a lot of shooting and sometimes a lot of missing. We always keep ample amounts of birds in the fields, they become very strong-flying pheasants. We also have large areas to hunt and tons of cover. For this reason, the birds can be a challenge to hit, retrieve and put in your actual bagged bird possession for you and the guide.

In the early years we hunted by what we called the fair shot rule. The guides would keep track of how many fair chances the hunters had at each pheasant and charge accordingly. They would pick up a rock or a kernel of corn each time a bird was shot at and should have been hit and charged accordingly. These fair shot misses were added to the actual number of birds bagged and then paid for.

Our guides do the very best they can do and their efforts toward providing a quality hunt is their highest priority. Please inform Gregg or Joe of a good job or an unsatisfactory job and any issues you may have with our guided hunt policies we have here at Rice Creek.

HIGHLIGHTING SOME OF OUR GUIDES



Kurt Litke

Kurt started guiding for us part time in 2002 and went to full time in 2017. He was a 5th grade teacher in Pierz, MN. Kurt's choice of guide dogs are labradors, but on occasion I will add a pointing dog to the mix. He is one of our go to guides and runs over 120 hunts a fall.



Craig Smith

Craig started working for us in 2003. He helps out wherever we needed him, from sporting clays to guiding we could always count on him!! Craig retired from Camp Ripley with 25 years of military. If you get him as a guide you'll see him run 2 black labs and a shorthair.



Craig Kempenich

When Craig isn't working his full time job at Northland Drilling wells, you will find him at Rice Creek. He started guiding for us in 2000 and he's on his 6th generation of shorthair.



Rob LeBlanc

Rob started guiding Full-time in 2016 but grew up at Rice Creek as his father was one of the founders. Rob raised German Shorthairs and loves hunting and watching fellow hunters, old and new, shoot as many pheasants as possible.



Krista Smude

Krista started working for us in 2003 in the processing plant. She graduated and we hired her Full-time in 2007. Krista is the manager of Rice Creek. She loves to get out and guide when she can. Krista has 3 of her own dogs, shorthairs "REMY" & "WINDSOR" and a pointing lab Maverick".



Greg Koury

Greg is retired from Air Force both active duty and active reserve. He moved up to Little Falls from St Paul and has worked for us for 9 years. He hunts with a German Wire Hair pointer "Weston"



Jeff Johnson

Jeff Johnson started guiding for us in 2012. Jeff runs all shorthairs anywhere from 2-5 dogs. His dogs love to get out as much as the can and hunt!! When Jeff isn't guiding, you'll find him inside a grader blading township roads.



Matt Seymour

Matt has become an avid upland and waterfowl hunter. This passion led him to start running his own dogs, he currently has two chocolate labs, and has been hunting and guiding over them for 10+ years. His goal includes a safe & fun hunt, with of course plenty of action!



Scott LeBlanc

Scott started guiding when he was just a little over 10 years old on the duck pass. He runs short hairs and labs. When Scott isn't out in the field guiding you'll find him taking care of all of our ducks.



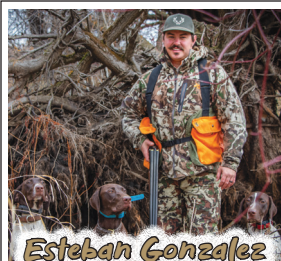
Larry Wielinski

Larry has two dogs he uses for pheasant hunting, Pike and Jenny. He has been guiding since 1990. Larry likes to hunt, fish and some gardening. He also volunteers work through the Sobieski Lions. Larry is retired from laborers union.



Tom Karels

Tom is a full time meat cutter for 35 years at Jerry's Foods in Edina. He also has been a horse farrier for the same amount of time. He loves training flushing dogs and breeding Labradors.



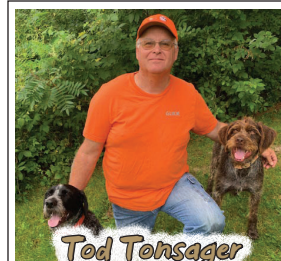
Esteban Gonzalez

Esteban, known as Este. He's been guiding on/off for about 10 years. He loves running 3 to 4 dogs at a time and watching them work. When he is not guiding, he is in the kitchen working as a food blogger alongside his wife on their website, Pretty Simple Sweet. He loves creating recipes and sharing them with others.



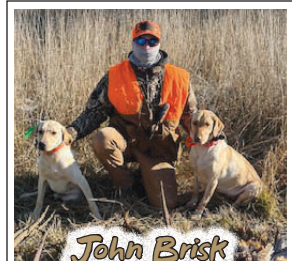
Andrew LeBlanc

Andrew started guiding on his dad's shoulders 30 years ago running his own labs now switching to spaniels he loves watching his dogs work. He spends his non guiding days as a full-time firefighter or with his family and hopes to continue his family's legacy in the business



Tod Tonsager

Todd is an retired state worker with the DNR in Little Falls. He is going into his 5th season with us. He has two German Wirehair Pointer dogs this year, Trigger & Buck. He enjoys sporting clays and is an avid pheasant hunter



John Brisk

John works carpentry and is an avid outdoorsman. He has two dogs this year, Bailey and Pete. He has been pheasant guiding for a few years now and works mainly on the weekends. He enjoys bowhunting, rifle hunting, sporting clays and fishing.

Our Hunting Club isn't just a destination for the outdoors!!!

We can accommodate groups of 4 – 400 people for a gathering. We have multiple meeting rooms here at Rice Creek.



Large Dining room 20 – 50 people



Our Sunroom can hold 4 – 8 people



Event Center for 50 - 400 people

Rice Creek can meet your hospitality needs. Whether you're planning a company meeting, a casual luncheon, or an unforgettable social gathering, our lodge offers a warm, rustic atmosphere with all the comforts you need.

Set against a backdrop of

fields, pine trees and fresh country air, we provide private meeting spaces. Our hearty meals are prepared in true home-style fashion, creating the perfect setting for team building or celebration. From corporate retreats to milestone parties,

our staff ensures every detail is handled with care so you can focus on the moments that matter.

Whether you come for the hunt, shoot sporting clays, food, or simply the company we got you covered!



These dates are taken as of August 16th. Also included are dates we are closed. If you find a date that works, make sure to call us and double check before lining up the groups. To help you better understand the calendar, the number listed on that day is the number we have available. For example, if we have pheasant 7 A.M. we have 7 fields left in the A.M. Another is if we have pheasant 0 P.M. we don't have any fields left.

SEPTEMBER

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
	1 CLOSED 5 rooms 2 cabins	2 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	3 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	4 12 am 11 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	5 10 am 10 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins	6 2 am 12 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins
7 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	8 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	9 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	10 12 am 9 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	11 11 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	12 12 am 12 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins	13 12 am 12 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins
14 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	15 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	16 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	17 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	18 11 am 11 pm 5 rooms 0 cabins	19 9 am 12 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins	20 7 am 12 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins
21 10 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	22 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	23 12 am 11 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	24 12 am 11 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	25 9 am 11 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	26 9 am 11 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	27 11 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins
28 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	29 12 am 10 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	30 12 am 11 pm 5 room 1 cabins				

OCTOBER

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
			1 11 am 10 pm 4 rooms 1 cabins	2 11 am 3 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	3 10 am 8 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	4 9 am 7 pm 5 rooms 0 cabins
5 10 am 11 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	6 11 am 9 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	7 11 am 8 pm 1 rooms 0 cabins	8 1 am 6 pm 3 rooms 0 cabins	9 8 am 0 pm 2 rooms 2 cabins	10 0 am 0 pm 3 rooms 2 cabins	11 12 am 0 pm 5 rooms 0 cabins
12 10 am 10 pm 0 room 2 cabins	13 8 am 4 pm 0 rooms 2 cabins	14 8 am 0 pm 0 rooms 1 cabins	15 11 am 5 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	16 5 am 0 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	17 3 am 10 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	18 6 am 7 pm 1 rooms 0 cabins
19 9 am 8 pm 1 room 1 cabins	20 9 am 5 pm 0 room 0 cabins	21 9 am 0 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins	22 11 am 0 pm 4 rooms 0 cabins	23 10 am 0 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins	24 3 am 6 pm 5 rooms 0 cabins	25 11 am 12 pm 1 rooms 0 cabins
26 10 am 10 pm 1 room 1 cabins	27 10 am 0 pm 1 room 1 cabins	28 10 am 7 pm 1 room 0 cabins	29 12 am 0 pm 5 room 2 cabins	30 1 am 0 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins	31 6 am 10 pm 4 rooms 2 cabins	

NOVEMBER

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
30 12 am 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins						1 11 am 11 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins
2 12 am 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	3 CLOSED 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	4 12 am 11 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	5 11 am 8 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	6 5 am 7 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	7 9 am 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	8 CLOSED Deer Hunt
9 CLOSED Deer Hunt	10 CLOSED Deer Hunt	11 CLOSED Deer Hunt	12 12 am 10 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	13 12 am 8 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	14 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	15 10 am 11 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins
16 11 am 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	17 CLOSED 5 rooms 2 cabins	18 12 am 10 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	19 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	20 12 am 7 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	21 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	22 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins
23 12 am 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	24 CLOSED 5 rooms 2 cabins	25 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	26 10 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	27 CLOSED	28 11 am 11 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	29 5 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins

DECEMBER

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
	1 CLOSED 5 rooms 1 cabins	2 10 am 12 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	3 10 am 12 pm 5 rooms 1 cabins	4 11 am 7 pm 0 rooms 1 cabins	5 11 am 10 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins	6 10 am 12 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins
7 12 am 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	8 CLOSED 5 rooms 2 cabins	9 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	10 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	11 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	12 10 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	13 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins
14 12 am 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	15 CLOSED 5 rooms 2 cabins	16 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	17 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	18 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	19 12 am 12 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins	20 12 am 12 pm 0 rooms 0 cabins
21 12 am 0 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	22 CLOSED 5 rooms 2 cabins	23 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	24 CLOSED	25 CLOSED	26 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	27 12 am 11 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins
28 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	29 CLOSED 5 rooms 2 cabins	30 12 am 12 pm 5 rooms 2 cabins	31 CLOSED			

Just a reminder: for new hunters, **we have you fill out your order sheets before you go hunting which we will be REQUIRED now. This saves us from having to scramble to get hunters out and box birds at the same time during our busy noon hour!**

“NEW” Pot Pie recipe this year

Donna’s timeless, hearty recipe meets Rachel’s creative twist. Every bite carries the warmth of Donna’s home-style comfort and the flavorful spark of Rachel’s culinary artistry.

Trade-In Options

Pheasant Pot Pies, Duck Chili, Pheasant Wild Rice Hotdish, Wild Game Sausage, Pheasant Sticks, Filleted Pheasant or Duck.

If you know when you book your hunt that you would like a lot of these products, Please let us know so we can have enough on hand for you.

**NO WHOLE OR
SMOKED
PHEASANTS!!**

NEW Late Fall/Winter HOURS at Rice Creek!!

NOVEMBER, starting Nov. 2nd, CLOSED Sunday afternoons & Monday’s all day.

DECEMBER, CLOSED Sunday afternoons & Monday’s all day

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, CLOSED ALL Sunday’s, Monday’s & Tuesday’s.

OPEN Wednesday’s, Thursday’s, Friday’s & Saturday’s

FALL Office Hours – 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Monday – Sunday, give us a call!!

Call us before noon and someone will be here to answer any questions about booking (probably Gregg, Krista, Pamela or Charlie). Info you should have ready for us should be:

- **What type of day** you will want to enjoy. Pheasant hunting, duck hunting, chukar hunting, sporting clays, meals (Lunch, dinner, or just hors d’oeuvres), staying overnight, all the above or any other ideas you may have.
- **How many birds** your group will want to be hunting for and will be taking home. Please tell us the total number of birds for the whole group. This is the number you will be charged for as we price by the hunt. This can be changed as late as **a day before the hunt**.
- If you are planning a **guided hunt** or **hunt on release** and **how many guests**, you will be having.
- If you are planning to shoot **sporting clays** or **warm up targets**, **before** or **after** your hunt.
- **What time** you will be **arriving** and **when** you will be **hunting** (Pheasant & Chukar hunts start at 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. hunt, Ducks can be hunted any time before 3:30 p.m.).

Billing Policy at Rice Creek

Please bring a check or cash or set up a charge account (must be a member). We do accept Master Card, Visa & Discover but **each time a credit card is used we charge a 3% convenience charge.**

Please plan to buy your ammunition here at Rice Creek we will have a full line of both lead & steel shot (hunting & target loads)

BRINGING A DOG, BUT ALSO TAKING A GUIDE.....

All dogs are welcome, but here are some things to think about when considering bringing a dog: if you are a guest of someone else’s hunt, do they want you to bring one? Can your dog handle lots of birds, lots of shooting, lots of hunters, without freaking out?

Here are some suggestions to help us, you, and your dog:

- Let us know if you will be bringing a dog ahead of time.
- You can separate from your group and you can take a small number with you, or just get an area to hunt by yourself and your dog.
- Ask to take the dog where there are less birds first, if the dog gets to excited.

Bird hunting and dogs go together, and your dog may be quite mad if he gets left behind, we can help make a great hunt for all.

Our policy is, if your dog is wrecking a hunt with a guide, (chasing birds away out of range, dog fighting, or totally out of control) the guide will ask you to put it away, that’s the guide’s call.

Dogs are allowed in the cabins, but they are NOT allowed in the clubhouse.

Rice Creek Adventure!

Our Youth Adventures have been a huge success. Many outdoor lessons and shooting skills were learned, and a great time was had by all. Forty-seven youth attended this year. They shot at hundreds of targets, went fishing, swimming, went to Two Rivers to float down the Platte with tubes, went on a chukar/pheasant hunt where all the campers harvested at least one bird and participated in a Rice Creek Outdoor skills fair. Twenty-four of the forty-seven youth campers attended our Firearm Safety Camp in June. Graduation from the DNR Firearm Safety Course was 100%. Along with achieving their Firearm Safety Certificate, the kids had an outdoor action - packed experience.



If you would like to be involved with our youth camps, volunteering or sponsoring campers, please contact Kristal!

The activities included target shooting, an afternoon of fishing and swimming, a trip to Camp Ripley military base, big game blood trail tracking, nature identification, and actual hunting of pheasants/chukars.

We appreciate all the help we have received running these camps. Thanks to our counselor's that stayed with the kids 24-7, Craig Smith and Pamela Kosloske our certified Firearm Safety Instructors. Kitchen staff always keeping everyone fed well, and of course Krista our camp coordinator, Gregg and Joe for an amazing facility to host these camps. Thanks to Morrell Companies for donating the youth shooting vest and sponsoring kids!

We've had some confusion in the past, so to make everything clear. At Rice Creek, we charge by the hunt. If a guided group schedules a 25-bird pheasant hunt, the guide tries to put up at least 25 fair opportunities to bag all 25 pheasants, a lot of times more. It is up to the guide if they determine that birds shot at should be added to the total birds, as pheasants get hit by BBs and continue to fly and soon die and are never recovered. Some hunts, the dogs may catch wounded birds, or find dead birds and it is up to the guide to decide if they should be added to the bagged pheasant's total. In summary, hunters are guaranteed the 25-bird pheasant hunt, get to shoot at and have a chance to bag at least 25, they are also guaranteed take home 25 cleaned pheasants.



Mallard Hunting

**DUCKS ARE AT A FIRST
COME, FIRST HUNT!!**

Our Mallard pass is located right in the middle of our shooting preserve and is a series of four ponds. We are able to position hunters in between for great pass shooting. Mallards are only available after Labor Day on a first come, first serve basis. We are usually done harvesting Mallards by end of October.

Steel shot is required, which we have for sale at the clubhouse, nothing larger than #3 shot. We do require a guide with each group, minimum of 4 ducks per gun. Price

is \$28.50 per duck, but we do charge for 10% of the total kill. Example: 27 birds harvested = 30 charged for. It typically takes 1½ hours to shoot Mallards, so plan accordingly, this can be a great warm up to a pheasant hunt.

Remember membership prices go up after September 15th

Hunting at Rice Creek This Fall - How Much Does It Cost?

Membership

- One person in the hunting party must be a member (Individual – \$536.88 w/tax, Corporate \$966.38 w/tax before Sept. 15th (**after Sept 15th prices go Individual \$636.88, Corporate \$1066.38 w/tax**) (3 people can be listed on Corporate) or one day membership of \$300 to hunt at Rice Creek between the dates of September 15th and the last day of Thanksgiving weekend.
- No membership needed after thanksgiving weekend. Birds cost extra for non-members and their guests. Depending on bird availability, it might not be available to non-members.

Pheasant hunts start at \$144.00 per person hunting

- Four birds hunted and guaranteed birds in the field, four birds cleaned and packaged to take home.
- Must have your own dog if going without a guide.
- Guides and their dogs available to hire for ½ day at \$70 plus \$100 gratuity or more. Guides take from one to six hunters per group. Groups can be one to 60 hunters in the am and one to 60 hunters in the pm.
- Hunters can harvest additional birds and have them cleaned at \$36 each. Pheasants that are knocked down are counted in the bag – cripples caught by the dog may be taken away from the count at the guides discretion. We try not to plan more than 10 birds per half day/ per hunter, as it gets to be more than can be harvested.

Mallard hunts start at \$144.00 per person + guide(s) required; guide fee is \$50 + \$70 gratuity.

- Four birds hunted and guaranteed bagged per hunter.
- Hunters are required to count and add to the actual downed ducks of 10% for ducks wounded as part of their harvest which we can recover later after the hunt. Example 7 birds bagged for a group of two, pay for 8 and take home 8 cleaned mallards.
- Hunters can harvest additional birds and have them cleaned at \$36 each, there is no limit to how many can be harvested.

MEALS AVAILABLE IN THE LODGE

- **Breakfast**, LIMITED...must call for available spots. You are welcome to bring your own “fixin’s” to make in the small kitchen in the main clubhouse. There are also full kitchens in the North cabin or CB South cabin. (We are short-staffed, so we hope you understand). Perkins is 7 miles Southwest of us.
- **Lunches** will be served in two shifts this year due to improve service quality: 11:30 am - 12:15 pm for morning hunters and 12:15 pm - 1:00 pm for afternoon hunters. **Lunches** will be buffet style only “it will be chefs’ choice of the day”, \$18.50 + gratuity.
- **Dinners** will be served 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm - no later than 6:00, \$20.00 buffet style ‘chefs’ choice” or \$21.50-\$35.00 per plate, per other options.
- **Our Wild Game Feast** will still be available, it is our signature meal since the hunting club was started in 1961. The Wild Game Feast is only available to members and their guests, as we use the pheasants/ducks you harvest.

Lodging available: **NEW NEXT YEAR: is a 10% deposit day of booking for lodging**

- The clubhouse, five individual rooms with multiple beds and their own bathrooms, one is handicapped accessible; range from \$150 to \$160 per room, per night (no dogs)
- The cabin, (west of the clubhouse) five rooms with 10 beds, three bathrooms, kitchen, two lounge areas with TV’s, dogs allowed: \$450 per night.
- The CB South Cabin - (1/4 mile away, but on property) four bedrooms with 10 beds, two bathrooms, kitchen, one lounge area with TV’s, dogs allowed: \$450 per night.
- Stay in Pierz (six miles east) – Hillbilly Haven Motel – right on main street and allows dogs.
- Stay in Little Falls (six miles west) – Country Inn Suites allows dogs.

Extra Fun

- Trap, 5-Stand and Sporting Clays: 2- 50 target courses open until the snow flies: \$28.25 per 50 targets, special prices for youth and ladies



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To the Members and Friends of Rice Creek Hunting and Recreation



NIPPENNEH NEWS

August 2025

Inside this newsletter:

- **Hunting Season Starts at Rice Creek**
 - **Let's Keep the Traditions Alive**
- **Meals Prepared Old-Fashioned Way**
 - **New Late Fall/Winter Hours**
 - **Host a company party/meeting**
 - **Prices and Info for 2025**
 - **Youth Camp this Last Summer**
- **Check out our Calendar (DATES ARE BOOKING FAST)**