



# Southern Tier of NY NAVHDA



[www.southerntier-navhda.org](http://www.southerntier-navhda.org)

September 2011

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## **COMING EVENTS**

Sept 18: Training  
Day at Long Pond

**SEPT 24 & 25:  
FALL TEST**

## **President's Message:**

Unfortunately we did not attend the last training day, having made a run up to the Southern Adirondack Chapter to see how they were doing. We understand that attendance was a bit lower, but a few made it and we assume a fun time was had by all.

Reporting on the SADK Chapter, we had a good time. They are a new enthusiastic group and they host a good training day. They apparently hold about two training days per month, each focusing respectively on field and water. They do an effective job of setting up stations that address each of several topics and most leap-frog around going to whatever station they need to work on. They have good training grounds as well. It was suggested that maybe next year our two chapters joint-venture a training seminar or a collaborative training weekend at a central location. Something to definitely think about. I believe we should discuss this at our next business meeting as we plan for next year's events and schedule.

A week or so ago, Wheezy and I made a run up to Greene R&G and to our fields in Smithville Flats to check things out and saw that Scott Phelps has done a good bit of mowing. A huge thank you to Scott for doing that. I thought the way the fields were cut was great, and a lot easier working the dogs - and it was a lot easier on the dogs. Our upcoming Fall Test is about two weeks away! Hope to see every one there to pitch in and help. For those new to NAVHDA and our chapter, it is a great way to further your understanding of our testing system and our goals for training.

Apologies for not getting this out sooner. It was our intention to issue this newsletter last week, but the flooding dampened things a bit. Many families' lives are impacted by this mess, our thoughts and prayers go out to all.

DATES – also listed on our website ([www.southerntier-navhda.org](http://www.southerntier-navhda.org))

Our 2011 Test Dates are as follows: Spring = May 21 & 22

Fall = September 24 & 25

Our regular Training Days, held at Long Pond Area are as follows: April 17th, May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, August 21nd, and September 18th. We start at the field at about 9 AM and move to the water site (Greene Rod & Gun Club) in the early afternoon.

Contact us if anyone wants to host additional training days so we can get it on the calendar.

#### Memberships:

Chapter membership applications are available on our website.

Please also be aware that each chapter member must also be a member of the International organization of NAVHDA

**Fall Test Entries:** Our Test Secretary Dan Kremers has indicated that both days of the Fall Test are filled, with no one on the Waiting List. If there are any changes to your ability to run in the Fall Test, let Dan Kremers know immediately. We may be able to get word out to other chapters whose members which to get a late entry in.

**Birds:** We have one more training day ahead of our Fall Test, anyone who has access to birds to bring to training days to share (sell), please let us know ahead of time so we can alert members to that.

**Chapter Apparel:** We still have a few shirts left over from our first order of shirts. Anyone who missed out can still get one at the next training day. They are \$12 each. Anyone who is interested in assembling an order of some other specific articles, please contact Tim Lewis at Training Day.

#### Other Dog News:

Congratulations to Tim Lewis for being approved to be an apprentice judge. Tim started his apprenticeship the week before up at the Finger Lakes Chapter Test and most recently at the Southern Adirondack Chapter.

If anyone has any news or would like to make a submission for our newsletter, please forward them to our editor Jen Patterson.

See you at the September 18th Training Day! Don

### **Training Tip of the Month:**

By late summer, weed and algae growth is at its most abundant in many bodies of water; particularly stagnate or slow-moving bodies of water (such as ponds). Some may have heard of "blue-green algae", some may have not. Included with this newsletter is a write-up from the NYS Dept of Health that discusses some of the potential issues with blue-green algae and its effects on health. Those who continue to train duck searches and retrieving through the late summer should at least be aware of the issues and pay attention to your dog's health.

## Blue-green Algae

These questions and answers provide information to address health concerns about exposure to blue-green algal toxins in surface waters (lakes, rivers, streams and reservoirs).

### What are blue-green algae?

Blue-green algae, technically known as **cyanobacteria**, are microscopic organisms that are naturally present in lakes and streams. They usually are present in low numbers. Blue-green algae can become very abundant in warm, shallow, undisturbed surface water that receives a lot of sunlight. When this occurs, they can form blooms that discolor the water or produce floating rafts or scums on the surface of the water.

### What are the potential health effects from drinking or coming in contact with water containing blue-green algae?

Some blue-green algae produce toxins that could pose a health risk to people and animals when they are exposed to them in large enough quantities. Health effects could occur when surface scums or water containing high levels of blue-green algal toxins are swallowed, through contact with the skin or when airborne droplets containing toxins are inhaled while swimming, bathing or showering.

Consuming water containing high levels of blue-green algal toxins has been associated with effects on the liver and on the nervous system in laboratory animals, pets, livestock and people. Livestock and pet deaths have occurred when animals consumed very large amounts of accumulated algal scum from along shorelines.

Direct contact or breathing airborne droplets containing high levels of blue-green algal toxins during swimming or showering can cause irritation of the skin, eyes, nose and throat and inflammation in the respiratory tract.



Surface water affected by blue-green algae often is so strongly colored that it can develop a paint-like appearance.



Under some environmental conditions, blue-green algae can become so abundant that they form floating rafts or scums on the surface of the water.

Recreational contact, such as swimming, and household contact, such as bathing or showering, with water not visibly affected by a blue-green algae bloom is not expected to cause health effects. However, some individuals could be especially sensitive to even low levels of algal toxins and might experience mild symptoms such as skin, eye or throat irritation or allergic reactions.

There is less information available about the potential health effects of long-term exposure to low levels of blue-green algal toxins. Some limited evidence from human studies suggests that long-term consumption of untreated surface waters containing high levels of blue-green algal toxins could be associated with an increased risk of liver cancer. However, people in these studies also were exposed to other factors associated with liver cancer. As a result, it is unknown whether algal toxin exposure contributed to this risk.

Long-term, continuous exposure to algal toxins in the Northeast is unlikely, because blue-green algal blooms are likely to occur only during the hottest part of the summer. New York State public water supplies that use surface water sources also have operational controls to minimize the introduction of blue-green algae in drinking water.

### **How do I know if I am being exposed to blue-green algae?**

People should suspect that blue-green algae could be present in water that is visibly discolored or that has surface scums. Colors can include shades of green, blue-green, yellow, brown or red. Water affected by blue-green algal blooms often is so strongly colored that it can develop a paint-like appearance.

Unpleasant tastes or odors are not reliable indicators of blue-green algal toxins or other toxic substances, because species producing blue-green algal toxins may or may not also produce chemicals that affect the taste or odor of drinking water. Similarly, the absence of unpleasant tastes and odors does not guarantee the absence of blue-green algal toxins.

## **Avoiding exposure to blue-green algae**

**Never drink untreated surface water, whether or not algae blooms are present.** Untreated surface water may contain other bacteria, parasites or viruses, as well as algal toxins, that all could cause illness if consumed.

**People not on public water supplies should not drink surface water, even if it is treated, during an algal bloom** because in-home treatments such as boiling and disinfecting water with chlorine or UV and water filtration units do not protect people from blue-green algal toxins.

**If washing dishes in untreated surface water is unavoidable, rinsing with bottled water may reduce possible residues.** While we don't know if water containing low levels of blue-green algal toxins could leave residues on dishes, taking this precaution may help reduce possible exposures.

**People, pets and livestock should avoid contact with water that is discolored or has scums on the surface.** Colors can include shades of green, blue-green, yellow, brown or red. If contact does occur, wash with soap and water or rinse thoroughly with clean water to remove algae.

**Stop using the water and seek medical attention if needed** if symptoms such as skin, eye or throat irritation, allergic reactions or breathing difficulties occur while in contact with untreated surface waters. However, swimming, bathing or showering with water not visibly affected by a blue-green algae bloom is not expected to cause health effects.

### **Where to get more information**

NYS Department of Health  
Bureau of Toxic Substance Assessment  
ph: 800-458-1158 ext. 2-7820



NYS Department of Health  
Center for Environmental Health  
547 River Street, Troy, NY 12180

# Southern Tier of NY NAVHDA Calendar of Events 2010

## SEPTEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Training Day at Long Pond	19	20	21	22	23	24 FALL TEST
25 FALL TEST	26	27	28	29	30	

## 2011 Dates

### March

March 27: Training Day  
Lawton's Farm

### April

April 17: Training Day at Long Pond

### May

May 15: Training Day at Long Pond  
May 21-22: Spring Test

### June

June 19: Training Day at Long Pond  
June 25-26: Handler's Clinic

### July

July 17: Training Day at Long Pond

### August

Aug 21: Training Day at Long Pond

### September

**Sept 15-18: Invitational**  
**Sept 18: Training Day at Long Pond**  
**Sept 24-25: Fall Test**

### 2011 AKC Events for NY and PA

#### Hunt tests:

Pointer Club of Central New Jersey	Weatherly, PA	Apr 9, 2011
Garden State Weimaraner Club	Weatherly, PA	Apr 10, 2011
Oak Ridge Pointing Dog Club	Harrisville, PA	Apr 16, 2011
GSP Club of Western NY	Darien, NY	Apr 16, 2011
Oak Ridge Pointing Dog Club	Harrisville, PA	Apr 17, 2011
GSP Club of Western NY	Darien, NY	Apr 17, 2011
GSP Club of Greater Pittsburgh	Harrisville, PA	May 14, 2011
GSP Club of Greater Pittsburgh	Harrisville, PA	May 15, 2011
Penn's Woods Pointing Dog Trainers Club	Polk, PA	May 21, 2011
Penn's Woods Pointing Dog Trainers Club	Polk, PA	May 22, 2011
Delaware Valley GWP Club	Weatherly, PA	May 28, 2011
Delaware Valley GWP Club	Weatherly, PA	May 29, 2011
GSP Club of Western NY	Darien, NY	June 4, 2011
GSP Club of Western NY	Darien, NY	June 5, 2011
GSP Club of Western NY	Darien, NY	Sept 10, 2011
GSP Club of Western NY	Darien, NY	Sept 11, 2011
Vizsla Club of Greater New York	Weatherly, PA	Oct 8, 2011
Vizsla Club of Greater New York	Weatherly, PA	Oct 9, 2011
GSP Club of the Finger Lakes	Montour Falls, NY	Nov 5, 2011
GSP Club of the Finger Lakes	Montour Falls, NY	Nov 6, 2011

#### Field Trials:

GSP Club of Ohio	Polk, PA	April 1, 2011
Brittany Club of Upper New York	Baldwinsville, NY	April 16, 2011
Pennsylvania Brittany Club	Polk, PA	April 30, 2011
Pennsylvania Brittany Club	Polk, PA	May 6, 2011
Oak Ridge Pointing Dog Club	Polk, PA	May 28, 2011

\* All training days start at 9:00am unless otherwise noted.  
Tests start at 7:00 at Greene Rod & Gun Club.

## *Southern Tier of New York NAVHDA Chapter*

We were certified as Southern Tier of New York Chapter of the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association (NAVHDA) on January 18, 1985. NAVHDA is a nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to foster, promote and improve the versatile hunting dog breeds in North America; to conserve game by using well trained, reliable dogs before and after the shot; and to aid in the prevention of cruelty to animals by discouraging nonselective and uncontrolled breeding which produces unwanted and uncared for dogs. Many members have contributed to the success of this chapter and we thank them for their efforts. At the Southern Tier Chapter we strive to help members become confident, capable trainers with the goal of developing excellent versatile hunting dogs. We also emphasize fun, camaraderie and value the lasting friendships made along the way.

**WE FEED & RECOMMEND**



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