

Canaan Valley Resort State Park Sporting Clays Target Field

Questions and Answers

What is Sporting Clays Clay Target Field?

Sporting clays shooting is a form of competitive trap shooting (shotgun shooting at clay targets).

Trap shooting has been a sport since the late 1790s when real birds were the targets. Fake birds were introduced around the time of the American Civil War as the Passenger Pigeon was nearing extinction. One of the names for today's clay targets is clay pigeons. Clay targets were introduced in the 1880s.

The Canaan Valley trap shooting facility is a five stand sporting clays clay target field. Shooters fire five rounds from each shooting position for a total of 25 shots in an individual round. The trap can be set for an easy repetitive bird flight path for beginning shooters; or on automatic/wobble for more advanced shooters. The launcher fires birds (clay discs) in a variety of angles and heights. The trap resets itself automatically after each shot so the shooter is never sure which flight path the clay target will take.

When did the Sporting Clays Target Field open at Canaan Valley?

Opening Day is May 25, 2013. The facility dedication is May 17, 2013.

Do you have to have a hunting license to enjoy this park amenity?

No. Sporting Clays Target facility is a shooting sport and is not considered hunting.

Where is the range located?

The range is located in the Canaan Valley Tube Park area. Park signs direct guests to the facility.

Is someone at the Sporting Clays Target Field to help guests shoot?

Yes. There is a range supervisor present at all times the range is open.

Are reservations necessary to participate in this sport shooting activity?

Yes. Reservations may be made by calling Canaan Valley Resort at 304-866-4121.

What are the hours the wobble clay range is open?

The range will be open for reservations after ski season concludes and weather permits until late autumn. The sporting clays field is open 7 days a week – Monday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sunday 12:00 - 4:30 p.m. Reservations recommended but not necessary. 304-866-4121 ext. 92691 Days and hours are also posted at www.canaanresort.com/activities/resort-activities.

What is the cost and what is included for the fee?

Fees for Sporting Clays Target Field are posted at

www.canaanresort.com/activities/resort-activities.

How many people can participate in one reservation round?

5 individuals

How many rounds does each person get to shoot with payment of the range fee?

25 rounds

What types of guns are provided at the facility?

Shotguns

How old do you have to be to shoot at the trap range?

Shooters must be 16 or older and demonstrate competence in weapons handling and safety. Proof of age is required!

Are guns available to rent to try this shooting sport at the wobble clay range?

Guns are provided as a part of the Full Package. Resort owned guns are not for rent and may not be taken off the range site.

Can individuals bring their own guns?

Yes. However, guns brought by the owner must be unloaded and cased on the state park at all times according to WV state law. If shells are in the vehicle, they should be kept separate from the firearm.

DO NOT REMOVE WEAPONS FROM THEIR CASES UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY THE RANGE SUPERVISOR!

If a guest brings their own shotgun and is staying overnight in a lodge room or cabin, can the gun be taken into the rental unit?

Yes, firearms may be taken into a rental unit, but only with the permission of the park superintendent.

Is the Sporting Clays Target Field available for other shooting practice when not open as a clay target range?

No. This range is strictly for the shooting sport intended, sporting clays target shooting.

Does noise from the range bother other park guests?

Range noise is minimal.

Is hearing and eye protection required?

Yes. There are no exceptions. Both hearing and eye protection are provided as part of the cost of the shooting activity fee whether it is the full package or clay only package.

Are pets permitted at the Sporting Clays Target Field?

No.

What happens to clay targets after they are hit?

Clay targets used are biodegradable and decompose over a period of two years. Clays, when hit, fragment into small pieces.

Are people allowed to go look for and retrieve unbroken clays?

No one is allowed down range at any time. The range is not open for removal of any objects.

Will you open the range for groups requesting specific hours?

Yes. Groups requesting and reserving the range in advance are welcome. This is an outstanding break for corporate groups seeking new leisure time activities at Canaan Valley Resort. Call group services to learn more.

Is Canaan Valley Resort State Park open to hunting?

West Virginia state parks *are not* open to hunting. The sporting clay range at Canaan is simply a new amenity or activity available to outdoor minded individuals that enjoy sport shooting, much like skeet shooting offered on cruise ships for a fee. Sporting clays target shooting is a pastime and not a hunting method.

Has there been hunting on state parks in the past?

Yes, but only as controlled hunts organized by the WV Wildlife Resources section and the State Parks section. Those particular hunts are for White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) population control. There are very strict guidelines for this allowance and proper public notification. These hunts permit the Division of Natural Resources to manage the White-tailed deer population so the land can support an appropriate herd size.

Why is this range at Canaan Valley Resort?

Canaan Valley Resort's location welcomes visitors to a four-season outdoor experience through hiking, golf, swimming, skiing and tubing and other scheduled activities. Sport shooting is a growing leisure time activity and is popular at major resorts throughout the United States, as well as a cruise line activity. Trap shooting is a shooting sport. Many individuals enjoy shooting, an opportunity to experience something new outdoors.

The sporting clays target field at Canaan Valley is designed to provide a quality outdoor experience under the watchful eye and instruction of a range supervisor.

For more sporting clays shooting facility information, contact:

Canaan Valley Resort State Park

www.canaanresort.com

304-866-4121