Caddo Sheriff offers First Gun safety course for kids

Tuesday, November 5, 2013

Registration is currently underway for children ages 8 to 12 to participate in the Caddo Sheriff’s Office "First Gun Course." The 4-hour class will be offered from 8 a.m. until noon on December 14 and January 4. All classes will be held at the Sheriff's Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy, 15639 Highway One South.

The course is recommended for kids who will receive a new BB gun, shotgun, or hunting rifle for Christmas or for those who may already have a gun, but whose parents want them to learn how to use it safely.

“Children who will receive a gun for Christmas can try it for the first time in front of certified law enforcement academy firearms instructors,” Sheriff Steve Prator said. “Parents are wise to want their children to know basic firearms safety before a gun is given as a gift.”

Children are welcome to attend the course with BB guns, pellet guns, .22 rifles, and small caliber shotguns. No high-powered rifles will be allowed. Only BB's and .22 caliber ammunition will be supplied by the training academy. Through generous donations by local citizens, Wal-Mart, and local wholesalers, those children without a gun can use one supplied at the academy. All children will shoot at both fixed targets and skeet.

There's no cost for the course, but pre-registration is required. Space is very limited, and Caddo Parish residents will be given preference. An adult must remain with the child throughout the course. To register, call Andrea Samuel at the Regional Academy at 681-0735.