



The number of hunters in the United States has steadily decreased over the past several years. If I were put in charge of recruiting more people to participate in hunting, I would start an organization to help hunters get back out to the outdoors. I am a senior at Joshua High School and I plan to attend Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. The reason I want to attend college at Tarleton is because my dream is to become a major part in Wildlife Management. If I can achieve my goal, I could help in many different ways. I think one of the reasons that we are losing so many hunters is because of the price of hunting leases. Now that we are in an economic situation, people just can't spend money like they used to. If you look around, I bet you can't find a hunting lease that is under \$1000. To solve this problem, an organization could gradually buy land over time and provide land for hunters that can not afford the sport they love. We could have some kind of a contest for the lucky hunters. We could have a lodge on the land and provided everything except for transportation. As for the hunting guides~ many young people have tried to find a career in being a hunting guide. We could also help the young men and women to become hunting guides on the ranch. It is like killing two birds with one stone. The organization could be called WILDLIFE (Worldly Intervention Loves Deer Like Its Fun Education).

Other reason hunters are setting down their weapons may be because of the rumors of hunters not having the right to bear arms any longer. I try to ignore the situation and hope that never happens. There is not much I could do to help this problem, other than to have major meetings against gun getters. Maybe one weekend of each year, we could have some huge celebration, where hunters all around come and join. At this big party there would be door prizes and so many contests that at least everyone there would win something. The big hunting celebrities could be there to help accomplish our goals. We can also throw in a big buck contest, which everyone loves to enter in. This organization could find ranches that really need deer management and manage it to give meat to needy families. I am not saying to kill out the population, but just to manage the deer population of the ranch.

There are so many great different ways people like myself could help the hunting industry, we just need more people to join the crowd. With this idea of a huge organization, I believe we could achieve this goal. With everyone's help anything could and will happen!

Garrett - high school