

Bend man injured in accidental self-inflicted shooting

by Cheryl McDermott

A 43-year old Bend man who accidentally shot himself in the hip Saturday morning prompted gun-safety reminders by Deschutes County Sheriff's deputies.

Deputies were called to a residence in the Deschutes River Woods area southwest of Bend about 11:15 a.m. to a report of an accidental, self-inflicted gunshot wound, deputy Sean Bell and Sgt. Dan Bilyeu reported.

The Sheriff's Office has gunlocks available to the public at no charge (limited to two-locks per household).

The man was home with one other person at the time, deputies said, and was handling a .22 caliber single-action revolver when the gun discharged, striking him in the right hip. There were no other injuries or property damage.

The victim received non-life threatening injuries and was transported by Bend Fire paramedics to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend for evaluation and treatment.

The incident prompted deputies to remind citizens to be cognizant of basic firearms safety when in the home and in the field.

*Only handle/use firearms in good working condition (factory condition/specifications are recommended).

*Treat all firearms as if they are loaded, at all times.

*Never point or aim a firearm at anything you do not intend to shoot.

*Be sure of your backstop and what is beyond the intended target.

*Keep firearms and ammunition in a safe location, beyond the reach of children and preferably in a safe or other locked container.

Deputy Bell and Sgt. Bilyeu said the Sheriff's Office has a limited number of gunlocks available to the public at no charge, but ask that requests be limited to two locks per household.

The sheriff's office also offers firearms safety classes, available upon request, the deputies said, adding that the classes can be tailored to nearly any age or group.

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