

# RHODE ISLAND YOUTH WILD TURKEY HUNT

Spring turkey hunts are always a challenge and there's nothing like a big tom gobbling on the run! For the 6th year in a row, we're offering an exciting youth hunting and outdoor experience in Rhode Island for ages 12-15 years old!

We kick off the weekend on Friday night with a dinner open to selected youth hunters, guides, sponsors, volunteers, and landowners then we continue the fun until Saturday afternoon. To add to the adventure, the participants will stay at Pheasant Ridge Lodge. Each year we look forward to this weekend of building great friendships, eating good food, enjoying the thrill of the hunt, and sharing stories of the one that did or didn't get away.

In order to be selected for this hunt, you must complete an application and writing assignment. I encourage each of you to put forth the effort to complete these in order to be chosen for this once in a lifetime chance! Don't worry about being an experienced hunter; our guides will get you close. We will also provide you with all of the tools necessary for a successful hunt, but it will be up to you to come prepared and be ready to bag that bird.



**Matt Light**  
Founder/President  
The Light Foundation

## THE LIGHT FOUNDATION'S MISSION

Our mission is to take young people out of their everyday environments and provide them with unique opportunities that ignite their passion, purpose, and motivation to succeed.



April 24-25  
Addieville East Farm



**LIGHT**  
FOUNDATION



**DEM**  
RHODE ISLAND



## CONTACT

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# APPLICATION DETAILS

[MATTLIGHT72.COM/YOUTH-WILD-TURKEY-HUNTS](https://mattlight72.com/youth-wild-turkey-hunts)

## REQUIREMENTS

- Must be age 12 through 15 as of April 25, 2026
- Submit the application on [mattlight72.com](https://mattlight72.com) by March 10th and include the writing assignment as an attachment.
- By April 15th all youth hunters must:
  - Hold a valid 2026 RI Hunting License & Spring Turkey Tag
  - Be Hunter Education Certified

## IF YOU'RE SELECTED

- Top applicants will be notified by March 24th. Their names will be posted on Light Foundation social media. Only the top applicants will be contacted.
- The weekend hunt will kick off with dinner and a meeting on April 24th at 5:00 pm at Addieville East Farm.
  - Family members are welcome to attend the dinner.
- Pack based on weather conditions and bring camouflaged clothing if you own it.



# WRITING ASSIGNMENT

## REQUIREMENTS

*500 WORD ESSAY, 12 POINT FONT SIZE, DOUBLE SPACED*

## FROM THE DESK OF MATT LIGHT:

With an endless stream of information flooding our lives via TV, cell phones, billboards, and other forms of media, it's easy for us to forget the past. It's also easy for the past to be retold and reshaped in ways that aren't always factual. However, that shouldn't stop us from seeking the knowledge and wisdom earned by those who came before us.

One such lesson from the past comes in the form of sayings. We've all had someone in our lives who uses an old saying every time they're trying to make a point. Or, when frustrated, they say, "If at first you don't succeed..." and we all roll our eyes. Some sayings are silly, and others are very intentional, but regardless of intent, they stand the test of time because they speak to something relatable and timeless.

One such saying came to mind when thinking about lessons from the past that are extremely important today—a saying that speaks to our integrity and the promises we make. It signifies a vow or a personal guarantee: that I am the type of person who recognizes the importance of following through on what I say I'll do.

### ***MY WORD IS MY BOND***

There it is—straightforward, yet very powerful if true. It conveys confidence and strength. It's a way of life and a commitment to truth. What does that saying mean to you? Is your word valued? Who in your life does that saying apply to? Think about the trust that comes with someone who truly upholds the value of the words, "My word is my bond." In a time when commitments are easily made and just as easily broken, the importance of keeping one's word feels more relevant than ever. This essay will explore the meaning behind that saying, why it has endured, and how honoring—or failing to honor—our word shapes our character, our relationships, and the trust we build with others.

Matt

**Applications must be received by March 10, 2026 to be considered.**