

DEER: White-tail hunting brings the Lindquist family together

FROM PAGE 1

the sunrise, seeing the birds, having time to read a book, the time spent together and the practicality of learning the connection and value of what we eat.”

Jason agreed. “I enjoy being outdoors, the challenge of the hunt and the experience of being with each other ... There’s excitement, anticipation, and kind of just walking through life and the emotions that come with deciding if you kill the animal or not.”

It’s a big experience, especially when it comes to field-dressing the animal (removing the internal organs). Jason said it was interesting to see his sons react in different ways. While Ian was initially a bit more apprehensive and put off by the smell, Devin seemed more intrigued.

Jason takes it as an opportunity to teach about anatomy and biology, giving the boys a tour of the organs as they go and even demonstrating how the lungs work.

For the Lindquist family, hunting season is about more than just waiting for white-tails. It’s also about being together with family: sisters, brothers, grandparents and cousins — all together.

It’s a time of year when they get to spend quality time with each other in the outdoors, away from electronic distractions. When it comes to the tasks of hauling, skinning and processing the meat of the deer, many hands make light work.

The family also enjoys big meals together, like a hot breakfast of pancakes and bacon after the morning hunt.

Another one of Don and Vicki’s grandchildren, Isaac, has just turned 10 and will be hunting for his first deer during this deer season.

For next year, Ian will be doing some target practice. “I need to practice long range,” he said.



Ten-year-old Ian Lindquist shot his first deer at his grandparent’s property east of Mora.

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Ian field dresses his first deer while guided by his dad, Jason Lindquist (right), and grandpa, Don Lindquist (left). Ian’s younger siblings and grandma, Vicki Lindquist, watch.

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The family all helps to butcher the deer and wrap the meat for storage in the freezer.

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From l-r, Ian, Jason and Anna passed the time together in the deer stand.

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LEDs best choice for outdoor holiday lighting

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Old fashioned string lights are a bad choice for outdoor trees. A better choice – trade your old-fashioned lights for LED lights when decorating outdoor trees.

Old-fashioned string lights heat the needles, buds and

bark when the lights are lit. Then, when the lights are shut off, the cold winter air rapidly cools the sap in the cells to below freezing.

When a person uses old-fashioned string lights on young trees or trees that are just getting established, it causes ice crystals to form before the cell’s natural protective

mechanisms can kick in. This can damage or kill the tree. A better alternative is LED string lights because they don’t conduct heat.

In addition, in young trees that are just getting established, new growth becomes very brittle in the low temperatures associated with Minnesota winters. Putting

string lights on and then later taking them off can cause the brittle branches to break off. Trees grow during the winter, but at a much slower rate than in the summer. If a tree has a damaged branch, its healing won’t be totally complete until next summer, leaving the tree at risk for diseases and tissue damage from the cold. Best

to keep the lights on until spring to avoid breaking brittle branches.

Wait until the new growth on your evergreen trees is hardened before you string lights. Wait to remove the lights in spring until the temperatures are consistently above freezing.

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