Be Part of the Solution

We have removed lead from paint, gasoline and water pipes. It makes sense to keep it away from wildlife and remove it from your food.



Notice how many fragments are created with the lead bullet on the left, compared to the non-lead bullet on the right.



Aid Conservation

Hunters who use non-lead ammunition carry on sportsmen's proud tradition of wildlife conservation.

- Protect Your Family's Health



Eating game that is shot with non-lead bullets is healthier, especially for children and pregnant women.



Better Performance

According to reviews, surveys, and interviews with hunters who have used it.



Protect Eagles & Other Scavengers



90% of gut piles examined by x-ray contained lead, some as many as 200 fragments.

Lead bullets shatter on impact, losing about 30% of their mass, spreading toxic lead fragments as far as 18'' into meat and gut piles.



Photo courtesy of Drew Becker

Of 58 dead Bald Eagles collected in the mid-west,

Eagles that consume lead fragments from gut piles or lost game can be impaired or die. A fragment the size of a grain of rice can kill an eagle.



This tracked Golden Eagle fed at a site with lead-contaminated carcasses before disappearing. A Bald Eagle dying of lead poisoning was found nearby.

Copper and copper alloy bullets retain 99% of their weight, resulting in improved terminal performance.

If you continue to use lead bullets, please bury your gut piles.

Lead poisoning is a serious problem for both wildlife and humans

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state, for children ''lead may impair development and have harmful health effects even at lower levels, and there is no known safe exposure level.''



Commercially processed venison showing lead fragments glowing in a CT scan





Photo courtesy of Drs. Eric and William Cornatzer and Dr. Ted. Fogarty

Packages of ground venison viewed with a CT scanner. Bright objects are lead fragments.

The original copper bullets made by Barnes were designed for better performance. Non-toxic qualities are a fringe benefit. "Deeper penetration; Opens to four razor-sharp cutting edges; Retain nearly 100% of their weight."

Monolithic bullets get very high rankings in on-line reviews, typically 4.8 out of 5. Read them on large retailer websites.

A Delaware County hunter says, Federal Premium Vital Shok Trophy Copper Bullets "shoot as well as any of my best hand loads."

In AZ, "93% of hunters who used the non-lead ammunition said it performed as well as or better than lead bullets."



"Our experience with monolithic bullets has been entirely positive. They are as accurate as copper jacketed lead bullets with better terminal performance."

Tom Salo is a past President and current Director of the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society.



Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I buy non-lead bullets? Large retailers stock these products, if not in the store, online. They can be shipped to your local retailer or gun shop. In NYS, ammo cannot be shipped directly to you.

Do copper bullets cost more than lead? Copper bullets cost more than cheap lead bullets. They cost about the same as premium lead bullets. Any additional cost, if used only for hunting, is minimal.

Do you advocate a ban on lead ammunition?
No. We encourage hunters to voluntarily use copper bullets for hunting.

Will copper bullets be as accurate in my rifle? Most hunters find copper bullets as accurate, or more so, than lead bullets. Different brands may perform differently in your rifle. Try them!



For more information, visit huntingwithnonlead.org. Funding is provided by the American Eagle Foundation and the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society.