

HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN

GREAT OUTDOORS

It is a veritable jungle out there, and a swamp, and a big wide river, too. The angler or hunter on your holiday gift list is going to need the right gear to keep warm, stay dry, and have the best assortment of equipment and knowledge to be successful. We live in one of the prime areas of the country for fishing and hunting and for shoppers to bag the best gear.

— Matt Markey
BLADE OUTDOORS EDITOR



Trail camera: The Outfitter Series puts a round-the-clock set of eyes in the woods, waiting to capture vivid images of any wildlife activity. This trail camera picks up movement up to 85 feet away, and its flash has a range of 80 feet. It takes images in 8MP or 5MP resolution and records video at 16 frames per second, so you get more full-body images. It has a camo face, an easy-to-use LCD screen, and a rugged case with a rubber seal to shut out the rain and snow. **Cabela's \$149.99**

Women's spinning rod: More and more fishing and hunting products are being designed specifically for use by women, and this 6-foot Lady Spinning Rod from Gander Mountain is in that class. It features a soft-touch graphite reel seat for a comfortable feel and a graphite blank with stainless steel guides that make it both lightweight and strong. The two-piece rod comes in med/light, medium, or med/heavy weights for any kind of fishing. **Gander Mountain \$39.99**

Tackle box: Fish are finicky, so anglers need lots of stuff, and they need it organized. The Plano Guide Series Tackle Box uses an innovative rack system to keep a fisherman's lures, tackle, and tools in a clutter-free and easy to find order. This is a heavy duty, durable, versatile angler's file cabinet. The top compartment has deeper storage for reels and spools of line, while the four slide-out utility boxes can be customized to accommodate all types of tackle. **Dick's \$49.99**



Baitcasting reel: The Prodigy is equipped with 10 ball bearings that allow it to provide an incredibly smooth performance. It has precision-machined marine bronze gears that give this reel the strength and corrosion-resistant cranking power an angler relies on. The one-piece aluminum frame gives it a rigid backbone and allows it to achieve the desired strength in a lightweight package. This reel is built with a magnetic anti-backlash system to provide long casts and solid hooksets. **Cabela's \$99.99**



Spinnerbait kit: The angler on your holiday list will be fishing for bass and walleye next spring with custom-crafted spinnerbaits they made themselves with this all-inclusive, easy-to-use kit. This kit contains the parts to build 10 great spinnerbaits in popular sizes and colors. This is just one of many kits available locally from Netcraft. **Jann's Netcraft \$23.75**

Boot dryer: The only thing better than a dry boot is a warm and dry boot, and this Hy'n Dry boot dryer provides that luxury for all outdoors endeavors. The special design of the unit uses natural thermal convection to send the heat circulating through boots, waders, or hiking shoes, providing maximum drying time. The one-piece base can accommodate most styles of boots and shoes, and the unit is safe to use overnight. **MC Sports \$39.99**

Youth bow: The Vortex by Barnett comes in a package that contains everything needed to properly introduce a young person to the sport of archery. The bow is adjustable to fit most beginning archers, but it also comes with the performance and styling you see in many adult-size bows. The bow has dual cams for a smooth draw, with adjustable draw length, and it comes with a three-pin sight, arrow rest and quiver, and three arrows. **Bass Pro \$99.99**

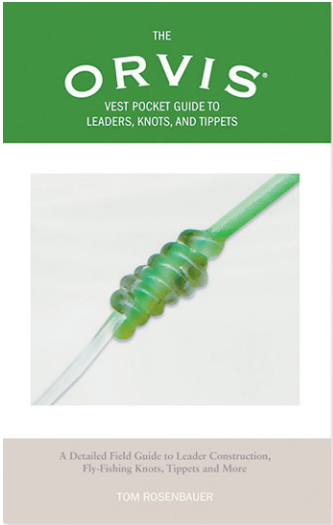


Gun case: Firearms need to be stored in safe, strong containers for proper transportation, and Plano makes a variety of cases that will accommodate most firearms. This Plano Single Gun Case is airline approved and will keep a rifle or shotgun clean, dry, and safe from damage. The hard plastic exterior and foam-core interior give the finely-tuned optics mounted on firearms a shock-proof ride so the gun stays accurate. **Dunhams \$25**

* Prices and availability subject to change



Portable heater: It is cold out there in the duck blind, in the tent at deer camp, or in the ice-fishing shanty, and this radiant propane heater does more than take the chill off. It is easy to carry, simple to use, and it can heat up to 200 square feet for more than 100 hours. The swivel-out fuel connection on the Mr. Buddy Heater makes hooking up with a variety of propane cylinders hassle free. **Bass Pro \$99.99**



Pocket guide to fishing knots: The use of the proper knot has a lot to do with an angler's success, from the trout stream to Lake Erie. The *Orvis Vest Pocket Guide to Leaders, Knots, and Tippets* is the fisherman's bible on making the appropriate connections to maintain line strength, and it is packed with easy-to-follow diagrams on how to make natural presentations of flies and lures. **Orvis \$12.95**