

## GUN CLEANING IN A “SNAP”

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Although the pay may not be the best, there are some nice “perks” to being an outdoor writer. Product manufacturers occasionally send me doo-dads and gadgets to test and offer my opinion. Some of the things I find in my mailbox, frankly, don’t merit a recommendation, so I don’t. Others, though, impress me to the point that I want to share what I’ve found with the folks who read my columns.

One of those products that didn’t make the grade with me still sits on a shelf in my office. I figure if I hold onto it long enough, it may become a valuable collectible. The audacity of the manufacturer to think he could fool turkey hunters into buying “Turkey Scent” attractant is ridiculous. Turkeys, thank goodness, have no sense of smell. If they didn’t, we’d never bag one. Another product that got my seal of approval a couple of years ago was the ThermaCell mosquito repellent unit. It works just like the manufacturer said it would and I don’t go to the woods today during warm months without having this product with me.

A couple of weeks ago, a friend recommended that the manufacturer of a new gun cleaning product send me a sample to try. The product, Stinger Bore Cleaner, comes encapsulated in a shotgun shell casing and according to the data that accompanied the product, the casing contains materials that not only clean the bore of your shotgun but lubricates and protects the barrel all in one smooth motion.

I admit I’m sometimes skeptical of claims such as the folks at Rhose, Inc. who market the Stinger made. There was only one way to find out; I gave it a try and 10 seconds later, I was seriously impressed.

Here’s how the Stinger works. You load the shotgun casing into your gun, step outside and pull the trigger. The primer ignites, propelling a cord out of the end of the barrel. Grasp the cord and pull the materials inside the casing through the barrel and, like magic, the barrel is shiny clean, lubricated and protected.

I can see where this product would be valuable to hunters and shooters in the field to insure their gun bores get a quick and efficient cleaning in a matter of seconds. Dove hunters and sporting clay shooters would love this product. Of course, the Stinger does not take the place of a total dismantling of the gun for a complete cleaning at season’s end. However, it beats the heck out of what I usually do after a day in the field, which involves dragging an oily rag through the barrel a couple of times.

Should you want to give this product a try, I suggest slipping on a glove before grasping the cord to pull through the barrel because the initial resistance can be a bit rough on tender fingers. Once the resistance is met, though, the Stinger slides easily through the barrel, and you will be surprised at the residue it removes from your gun barrel.

The Stinger Bore Cleaner would make a great stocking stuffer for the hunter or shooter in your family. A sleeve of five sells for about \$15 and is well worth the price. Call 1-817-249-2822 or visit [www.rhoseinc.com](http://www.rhoseinc.com) for ordering information.