

Stuff That Works

by Chris Smith

DryGuy

When it comes to being in the great outdoors in pursuit of waterfowl or upland birds, and if you're like me, you get wet, thoroughly and often, plain and simple. It might be from rain trickling down your sleeves or pant legs and into your boots; it might be from perspiration; it might be because, like me, you have two left feet and manage to take a swim through the decoys every few times out. And it doesn't matter if you're wearing the most expensive, most waterproof garments or boots or waders or gloves on the market.... You. Get. Wet.

Now the only thing worse than being wet (and wet and cold) is putting on wet or cold gear the next time we venture out. So, I'm always on the lookout for quality dryers for my waders, boots, and gloves, and have finally found them from DryGuy. Since 1994, DryGuy has been supplying people who play outside - hunting, fishing, skiing, or anything that can render us wet and/or cold - with reliable, innovative dryers for their gear.

The Long Ranger is the wader dryer, with extensions for up to 48". This forced-air dryer has settings for heat or no heat, and a

timer with intervals up to three hours. The times I've used it after a good dunking have only required two hours at the most, usually an hour. For this review, I filled up my neoprene chest waders to the brim and let them sit for 10 minutes, something that if we did it for real in the marsh someplace would probably have our next-of-kin identifying us. Even that soaked, in 180 minutes, I had perfectly dry, toasty, waders. I like the no heat feature for summer trout waders when I'm not crazy about heating the boot, just drying it.

The Sreet 16 is a small, portable, forced-air dryer with two 14"-extensions. These allow boots up to 16" to be dried, like knee-high rubber boots that many of us wear to hunt or train in. There are four heating chambers that hold shoes, boots, and gloves, which is nice because after a hunt, if my boots are wet, my gloves are usually wet, too, and I can dry both at once. Running tests similar to the one I did with the chest waders produced the same result, with dry gloves and boots in one to two hours. A similar heat or no-heat dial and three-hour timer were featured; as you might expect, I found that heat dried things a little quicker. This model is small enough to go into luggage, too.

The Circulator is a neat two-piece dryer that fits one in each shoe, boot, or glove. Operating by convection drying, the Circulator dries



in only several hours, or heats in minutes. It can be packed inside shoes in your luggage, so it's perfect to take anywhere - I use mine for hunting gloves and golf shoes. It is also silent and runs either by outlet or 12-volt DC.



A couple of other features of DryGuy products - they do not warm their garments, boots, waders, etc. to above human body temp, so you can set the timer and takeoff; and the rotary blower system shoots out warm air to dry quickly but quietly. These three dryers/warmers are great buys - prices are very reasonable, and you won't need to look further, except maybe for a few more products from their website. I'm already making a Christmas list. ●

For more information: www.dryguy.net, info@dryguy.net, (206) 230-9452.