

New Jersey
Hunting & Trapping
Digest

August 2015



**Highlights of
Regulation
Changes**

page 6



A Summary of Regulations
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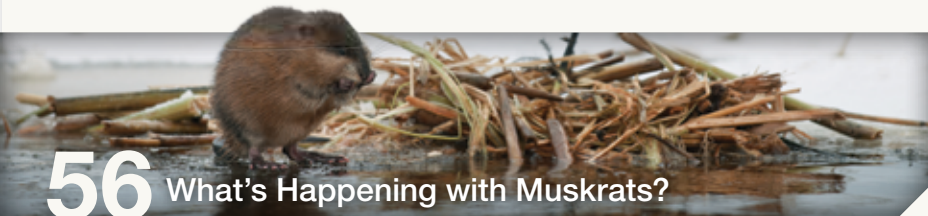
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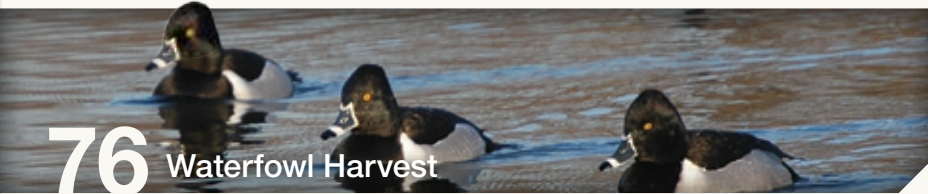
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License Information & Fees 2015–16

Licenses are valid from date of purchase to Dec. 31 of each year. For license sales by phone or Internet, call (888) 773-8450 or go to www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. See also pages 20–21 for license agent listings.

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Non-Resident Bow & Arrow Hunting	\$135.50
Youth Bow (ages 10–15, see page 10)	FREE

TRAPPING LICENSES

Resident Trapping	\$32.50
Non-Resident Trapping	\$200.50
Youth Trapping (ages 12–15, see page 10)	FREE

PERMITS

Deer Permits for Bow, Shotgun, Muzzleloader or Bucks	\$28
Youth Deer and Turkey Permit (ages 10–15)	\$12
Turkey Season Permit	\$21
Black Bear Permit	\$2
Rifle Permit (Valid from July 1–June 30, 16 years old and older)	\$10.50
Rifle Permit, Youth (Valid from July 1–June 30, under 16 only)	\$6
Beaver Trapping Permit	\$17
Coyote/Fox Permit	\$2
Otter Trapping Permit	\$2

STAMPS

Pheasant & Quail Stamp	\$40
Resident Waterfowl Stamp	\$5
Non-Resident Waterfowl Stamp	\$10

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Duplicate License, Permit or Stamp	\$2

• New licenses become available on Dec. 15 annually. See page 8 for additional license information.

• **Do NOT** hear laminate a durable license or permit. High temperature will destroy these waterproof, heat-sensitive documents.



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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife is a professional, environmental organization dedicated to the protection, management and wise use of the state's fish and wildlife resources.

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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

Our Mission

To protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

Our Goals

- To maintain New Jersey's rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.
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Director's Message

DAVE CHANDA



Hunters in New Jersey can look forward to exciting changes for this hunting season. Recent revisions to the Game Code now offer more opportunities to enjoy the sport than ever before, increased convenience for hunters and additional protection for our wildlife resources. The

opening of turkey hunting areas, formally closed to fall hunting, the expansion of the black bear hunting area and the addition of hunting days in some deer management zones are examples of changes made to offer increased opportunity for 2015.

The elimination of the lottery for fall turkey hunting is an added convenience for hunters who now may simply purchase a permit at any license agent. Garden State hunters can also look forward to future increased opportunity for black bear hunting beginning in 2016. These changes will enable us to better manage a New Jersey black bear population which is increasing in number and expanding in range. Stay tuned for details on the proposed additions to black bear hunting beginning in the summer of 2016.

Changes which enable Fish and Wildlife to continue specific conservation efforts include the

mandatory reporting of incidentally-caught bobcats, the inclusion of foot-encapsulating traps and relaxing locks on snares which will help protect non-target species. Other projects in the works to promote and maintain the hunting traditions is the cooperative research conducted by our agency with research partners on bobwhite quail restoration in New Jersey's pinelands; see page 80.

Fish and Wildlife is also very excited to be planning a showcase archery training center in Clinton Township, Hunterdon County. This proposed facility supports our agency's mission to protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife population while maximizing their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans. It supports New Jersey's rapidly growing Archery in the Schools and the state-mandated Hunter Education programs. This state-of-the-art community archery, shooting and natural resource education center is currently in the design phase. If built as proposed, this facility could serve as the Northeast's elite Olympic archery training center.

Young people from across the nation are inspired to learn archery. This facility will provide the perfect setting to support the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). NASP brings the sport of archery to millions of students in schools throughout the United States. Last year, Fish and Wildlife's participation in this program resulted in

two national awards. Over the past two years we enrolled more than 100 schools in the program. NASP is taught in physical education classes as in-school curriculum for grades 4–12. During the 2012 school year, more than 2,486,550 students throughout the country participated in this archery program, exceeding youth participation in all of Little League Baseball.

This recreational/educational/training facility has the potential to generate more than \$500,000 per year in revenue for the Division of Fish and Wildlife. In addition, visitors and events conducted at this facility are expected to generate more than \$3 million annually in economic activity to the local economy. This exciting project is truly a win-win for New Jersey. Our aim is to begin construction during FY 2017. Once the archery training center is completed, our sights are set to build a companion facility on our Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area (Lenape Farms Unit) in Atlantic County.

Look to our website for additional information as these projects develop. ♪

Dave Chanda is the Director of New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife.



Canada geese on Holiday Lake in Manalapan, New Jersey.

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Highlights of Regulation Changes

2015–2016 HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Changes to deer regulations for the 2015–16 seasons are extensive and involve **the mandatory tagging of all harvested deer**; the ability to harvest two deer before registering them via the Automated Harvest Report System during bow seasons in certain deer management zones (DMZs); a change in Regulation Set for four DMZs; the expansion of the permit bow season in zones in Regulation Set 4; Regulation Set 0's permit muzzleloader season is restructured and changes to some Special Area DMZs.

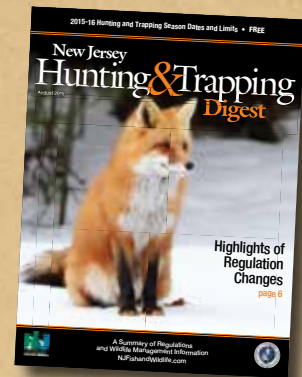
- ♦ Hunters are once again **required to tag all deer upon harvest**, as with the former live check station system. See pages 29 and 32 for cut-out tags and additional information.
- ♦ **DMZs in Regulation Sets 6, 7, and 8 are now included** in the regulation to **take two deer before reporting the harvest** via the Automated Harvest Report System for all bow seasons.
- ♦ **DMZs 10, 11 and 15 are moved** from Regulation Set 7 to **Regulation Set 8**; **DMZ 17 is moved** from Regulation Set 6 to **Regulation Set 7**.
- ♦ **The permit bow season is extended in Regulation Set 4** and will close on December 31.
- ♦ **Regulation Set 0's permit muzzleloader season** has two days moved from the week after the Six-day Firearm Season to the week before New Year's Day.
- ♦ **DMZ 37** (Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst) is **removed from antler point restriction** regulations.
- ♦ **DMZ 39** (Earle Naval Weapons Station) is **added to earn-a-buck** regulations during the fall bow deer season.

A new Youth Division is now part of the Outstanding Deer Program! See page 73 for details.

Other Game Code amendments for the 2015–16 hunting seasons include the following:

- ♦ The opening of the north zone **ruffed grouse season** is changed to the third Saturday in October; see page 62.
- ♦ A **requirement to report incidentally-caught bobcat** is added for trappers to allow Fish and Wildlife to obtain additional data on this species; see page 66.
- ♦ The **lottery for fall turkey hunting permits is eliminated**. Permits may now be purchased at license agents. See page 12.
- ♦ The **fall turkey season is expanded to turkey hunting areas (THA) 6, 7, 10, 12, 14, 15 and 16**. See page 64.
- ♦ **Spring and fall permit quotas are increased for THAs 14 and 22**. See page 12.
- ♦ Trappers may now use **enclosed foothold traps**; these traps have been extensively studied and found to be humane alternatives to the banned, steel-jaw leghold traps. They are species-specific and are designed to capture animals that possess a degree of manual dexterity, like opossums and raccoons, while excluding non-target species like domestic dogs and bobcat. See page 66.
- ♦ Weasel is added to cable restraint regulations. See page 66.
- ♦ All live-capture cable restraints are required to have relaxing-type locks. See page 66.
- ♦ **Air guns** are now allowed for the dispatch of legally trapped furbearers, excluding muskrat. See page 66.
- ♦ The use of 20-gauge shotguns is now allowed for **coyote and fox hunting** during the special permit season. See page 60.
- ♦ A **wanton waste regulation** is now in place for game mammals and birds, excluding furbearers. The species included are deer, bear, turkey, rabbit and hare, pheasant, quail, partridge, ruffed grouse and waterfowl. See page 27.
- ♦ Grain weight in center-fire rifles is changed from 100 to 80 grains, and grain weight is limited to a maximum of 50 grains for rim-fire rifles when hunting woodchuck. See page 62.
- ♦ Bear hunters are added to the requirement to display hunter orange on or near a ground blind when hunting during the deer firearm seasons. See page 25.
- ♦ Portions of the Rockport Wildlife Management Area are added to pheasant hunting; a pheasant and quail stamp is required. See page 61.
- ♦ A hunter orange hat is required for all firearm small game hunters on wildlife management areas stocked with pheasants or quail. See pages 25 and 61.

At the time of this printing, the Fishing Buddy License and Apprentice Hunting License legislation are both pending the Governor's signature. Watch our website for further information.



About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

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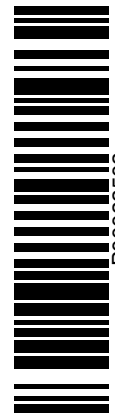
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Regulations in red are new this year.

DEER PERMITS ARE VALID for the 2015–16 hunting season. New Jersey sporting licenses are valid for the calendar year and expire on Dec. 31. Beaver and river otter trapping permits are valid for the 2015–16 trapping season. For permit and license fees, see page 1.

Licenses

All persons hunting or trapping must be properly licensed. It is unlawful for any person age 10 or older to hunt without a hunting license. (See *Farmer License Exemption*, this page.) It is unlawful for any person age 12 or older to trap without a trapping license. Hunting licenses are valid for the calendar year and expire on Dec. 31 regardless of the purchase date. See page 1 for license and permit fees. See page 10 for youth license information. To acquire your first New Jersey hunting license (firearm, bow and arrow), present to a license agent (see list, page 20) either an appropriate hunter education course completion card or a resident (firearm or bow and arrow) license from this or any other state. The automated

license system will allow subsequent hunting license purchases for that sporting arm to be purchased by phone or online or at any license agent. All hunters and trappers must openly display their license in the middle of the back on their outer clothing and must show their license to any law enforcement officer or any person requesting to see it. Farmers hunting their own land must also display any deer season permit.

Licenses, permits and stamps may be purchased using Fish and Wildlife's Internet sales site (www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com), via your smartphone or other mobile device, from approved license agents listed on page 20, or by calling (888) 773-8450. Permits with a designated zone or hunting season must be purchased at a license agent. See also *Non-resident* and *Resident Licenses*, page 10.

Do NOT heat laminate the durable license or permit. High temperature will destroy these waterproof, heat-sensitive documents.

Child Support Certifications

The "Child Support Program Improvement Act" requires Fish and Wildlife to collect and maintain Social Security numbers and a child support

obligation certification from license applicants and to make the collection of this information part of the license application. To comply, Fish and Wildlife, working with the Division of Law in the Office of the Attorney General, created the Supplemental License Application available on the Fish and Wildlife website at NJFishandWildlife.com/child_support_info.htm or at license agents.

The online child support application allows an individual to be certified from the privacy of their home. Once completed—either over the Internet or at a license agent—the certification remains valid for the calendar year in which the certification was completed.

Farmer License Exemption

A farmer and members of the immediate family (see definition under *Farmer Regulations*, page 28) who also reside on the farm may hunt, trap and fish on the farm without being licensed or possessing a valid rifle permit. For details, see *Farmer Hunting and Permit Information*, page 28.

All farmers must have a Conservation Identification number (CID#). Register online now for a free CID# at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. No purchase is required.

Hunter and Trapper Education Requirements

New Jersey requires that everyone, age 10 and above, applying to hunt with a firearm or bow must show a previous resident license of the appropriate type from this or any state, or a course completion card from the appropriate hunter education course. Anyone, age 12 and above, applying to trap furbearing animals must show a previous resident trapping license from this or any state, or a trapper education course completion card. See also *Youth Licenses*, page 10.

The New Jersey Hunter Education Program is offered as a home study, video-based course. Students may obtain course materials at most license agents and Fish and Wildlife field offices or download from our website. After completing an extensive homework assignment, the student will choose from a list of testing facilities and dates to complete their hunter education course. For more Hunter Education Program details, including course material availability, facility locations, dates and course registration, go to Fish and Wildlife's website at NJFishandWildlife.com/hunted.htm or call (877) 2HUNTJ (248-6865).

Trapper education courses are offered four times throughout the state in the months of September and October. To enroll in a trapper education course, go to the Fish and Wildlife website or call (877) 2HUNTJ to register.

Note: Devices accessing the mobile version of our website must click on "full site" to register for a Hunter Education course.

Lost Licenses

A license, permit or stamp can be replaced at any license agent, at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site, www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com, via your mobile device or by calling (888) 773-8450. Licenses and permits which contain Harvest Report stubs

(continued on page 10)

Disabled Veteran Licenses, Stamps & Permits

Free hunting and fishing licenses, stamps and permits are available for resident disabled veterans.

For the purposes of this program, legislation defines disabled veterans as "...any resident of New Jersey who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service from any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has been declared by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, or its successor, to have a service-connected disability of any degree..."

New applicant disabled veterans may obtain their hunting and fishing licenses and stamps by FIRST CALLING before going to one of the following Fish and Wildlife field offices to ensure that staff will be available to assist you:

- Pequest Trout Hatchery/Natural Resource Ed. Ctr, Oxford, Warren Co., (908) 637-4125;
- Central Region Office, Upper Freehold Twp., Monmouth Co., (609) 259-2132;
- Southern Region Office, Sicklerville, Camden Co., (856) 629-0090.

Call before going to one of these offices to ensure that staff will be available to assist you. Applications for disabled veteran certification and your first disabled veteran license may be made via the mail by sending the application and all required documentation to:

NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
Attn: Disabled Veteran Licensing
MC 501-03, PO Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

All licenses, stamps and permits for which the veteran is eligible will be free of charge. Disabled Vet status does not give preferential treatment in any lottery. For questions call (609) 984-6213.

Disabled Veteran Applicants:

1. Documentation of current benefits for a service-connected disability and proof of honorable discharge (such as a copy of your DD-214, VA card or monthly check stub) must be presented to obtain a free disabled veteran license.
2. Applicant must provide a hunter education (archery, shotgun or rifle) course certificate applicable to the license for which he or she is applying or a previously issued resident archery or firearm license or rifle permit. Resident licenses from other states issued to hunters prior to establishing residency in New Jersey will be accepted if the license indicates the sporting arm for which it was valid. Non-resident licenses from other states are not acceptable.
3. To obtain the free disabled veteran deer/turkey permits one must *first* have a **free** disabled veteran hunting license.

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Regulations in red are new this year.

(continued from page 8)

can be duplicated at license agents or on the Internet sales site only twice. All subsequent duplicates of these license and permit types must be handled in person at Fish and Wildlife regional offices or the Pequest Natural Resource Education Center. The Trenton office is no longer open to the public for license and permit sales. A \$2 fee is charged for each duplicate license/permit.

National Guard Licenses

Eligible National Guard personnel are entitled to free sporting licenses, permits and stamps. These privileges are not available using Fish and Wildlife's website. However, the NJ Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs can issue fishing licenses through their DMAVA website at www.nj.gov/military/fishing_application.html. For all other free sporting licenses, call (609) 530-6866, e-mail or write to: MSG (Ret.) Robert Greco, NJ DMAVA, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

Non-resident Licenses

Non-residents must show either a resident license from their state or proof of successfully completing an appropriate hunter education course in order to obtain a license to hunt or trap in New Jersey. (See *License Information and Fees*, page 1 for license types and also *Youth Licenses, Resident and Non-resident*, this page.) Non-immigrant aliens who temporarily import firearms to the United States must first obtain an application for the permit from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). For importation of firearms, use both forms ATF F 5330.3A and 3B. The approval may take up to 12 weeks. Contact ATF's New Jersey field office at (609) 989-2142 or download forms from their website at <http://www.atf.gov/content/firearms/firearms-industry/guides/conditional-importation>.

Non-resident hunters: see also *Non-resident Game Removal*, page 25. For more information on non-resident hunting, go to NJFishandWildlife.com/nonrshnt.htm.

Military Licenses, Active Duty

Any person on active duty in the armed services, regardless of their current residency, may buy a New Jersey resident hunting license. Present a previous resident license (from this or any other state) of the appropriate type or show proof to the license agent of successful completion of the appropriate hunter education course along with proof of your current active duty status in the armed services.

One-day License

A one-day license may be issued for hunting on a licensed commercial shooting preserve. This license may be obtained at the shooting preserve and is valid only on the day issued for the species covered by the preserve's license. Hunter education requirements still apply.

Resident Licenses

A resident license may be purchased if one currently resides in—and has resided in—the state for at least six months immediately prior to application.

Revocation of Licenses

Anyone convicted of a second fish and game violation within a period of five years will have their New Jersey hunting and fishing privileges revoked for two years. Certain violations carry greater periods of revocation, ranging from three years to lifetime revocation. Two convictions of any wildlife management area regulation will result in a five-year revocation of all sporting privileges. Two convictions of the following will result in lifetime revocation: safety zone violation, causing damage to real or personal property and negligent use of a firearm or bow. Fish and Wildlife may revoke any permit or other authorization issued for violation or due cause.

Youth Licenses, Resident and Non-Resident

A Youth Firearm or Youth Bow and Arrow License is valid from 10 years of age (or the time of issuance) until the end of the year when the youth turns 16. Note that properly licensed youth hunters age 10–13 may hunt only when under the direct supervision of

a properly licensed adult hunter age 21 or older. See also *Youth Hunting*, page 27. **Youth licenses are available free to youths who have completed the hunter (ages 10–16) or trapper (ages 12–16) education course; see page 8 for course information.** See also *Take a Kid Hunting* pages 22–23.

Permits for Hunters and Trappers

Lottery Permit Application Process

For permit and license fees, see page 1.

A lottery is conducted to allocate spring turkey, black bear, beaver and otter hunting or trapping permits. **There is no lottery for deer permits.** To receive certain permits you must first apply for the lottery. The application period is listed below with each permit type. Apply at license agents or via the Internet. Be sure to have your Conservation ID number (CID#) on hand. A non-refundable \$2 application fee is charged for each lottery application.

Hunters or trappers will have three choices in each lottery. If you will accept a permit only for one particular zone (and/or period), complete only a first choice selection. There is no obligation to select a second or third choice; these are optional. When an applicant's first choice cannot be filled, the computer will check for the second choice listed. If this selection is also sold out, the computer will check for your third choice. Each lottery is completely random and awards only ONE permit — not three. Your chance of winning a permit in the lottery depends on the number of applicants and the number of permits allocated (permit quota.)

Application via the Internet— Before You Start

- ♦ Know your Conservation ID number (CID#) or Social Security Number and date of birth (DOB).
- ♦ Know your desired permit zone and, if applicable, time period or season. **Note: After a period of inactivity, the Internet transaction will time out, requiring you to start over from the beginning.**
- ♦ Have your payment ready. Internet transactions may be paid either by electronic check (e-check) or major credit card. For e-check transactions, have your bank routing number and your check book ready before you begin.
- ♦ During every transaction, there are several opportunities to review your information for accuracy. A complete review at each step will allow you to make corrections, if necessary. **Once a purchase transaction is complete there will be NO refunds or exchanges.** Permit applicants will have the opportunity to edit their application at any time during the permit application period; see *Changing Your Lottery Application*, left. Applicants are responsible to make application carefully. When the process is complete, print the confirmation page or note the transaction number for your records.

Application at License Agent Locations— Know Before You Go

- ♦ Know your Conservation ID number (CID#) or Social Security Number and date of birth (DOB.)

Access Your Lottery Application Online

Changing Your Lottery Application

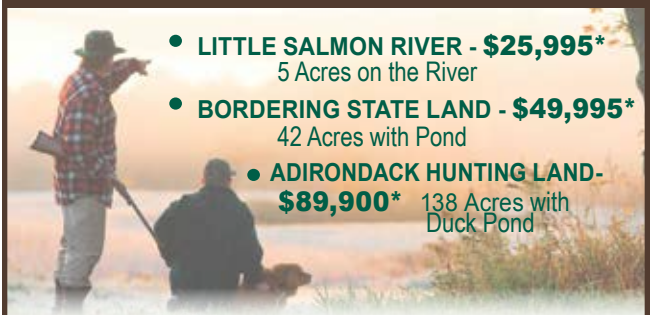
Regardless of where or how you applied for a lottery, applicants may review their information at any time from any computer, smartphone or tablet with Internet access. Check your application status or edit your application if you discover a correction is necessary. With your CID# and DOB, visit www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com to access your profile and follow the prompts. Applications may be edited only during the actual application period. Once the application period is closed, it is impossible to change your application. License agents and Fish and Wildlife offices DO NOT have the ability to change your application once submitted. Only you can make changes, so take care during the application process.

Application Status Check

Hunters and trappers may check their application status at any time from a computer, smartphone or tablet. Go to the licensing website (www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) to access your profile using your CID# and DOB, then follow the prompts. The license system indicates if the lottery has been run and if you won a permit. When the system shows 'pending,' the lottery has not been completed. During the application period the system displays your application as 'pending.'

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- ♦ Know your desired permit zone and, if applicable time period or season. The store proprietor or clerk is not responsible to know the zone/area of your hunting/trapping property. Be sure to review the map and zone descriptions at home before you arrive at the license agent. Not sure of your area? Use a county map, then follow the zone or area description shown either on Fish and Wildlife's website, NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm, in this hunting *Digest* or in the turkey permit supplement to drive around the zone boundary.
- ♦ To speed your transaction, write down your information (CID#, DOB, lottery type, first, second and third choices) and hand it to the license agent.
- ♦ NOTE for applying at license agents: Agents using a VeriFone® machine (a special keypad) can print a transaction receipt, but might do so only at your request. Therefore, you should ask for a receipt of the transaction. This receipt will list your choices and the transaction number. Agents using Web-based (computer) systems may or may not be able to print a receipt. **ASK FIRST!** When an agent cannot print a receipt, it's important to have the clerk orally verify your application choices and to provide your transaction number. Keep this transaction number; it can be helpful should a problem occur with your application.
- ♦ Each agent decides what types of payment to accept. Learn this in advance, then have the correct payment ready when you arrive.

Notification of Lottery Results (Did you win a permit?)

Once the lottery is complete, applicants will be notified of their results. When applying at a license agent, applicants may or may not be asked to choose a notification mode. Some license issuing machines must use the default method of mailing a postcard notification. Those who select email notification are reminded to set your junk/spam folder to accept this notification. **IMPORTANT:** the notification email may fail to arrive due to issues with account providers such as email filters or data storage capacity. **The applicant is responsible to know the notification dates and claim period deadlines.** Do not wait until the award claim period has ended to check your profile for your permit award status. (See Application Status Check, above.)

Claiming Your Permit

Lottery permit winners may claim their permit(s) by going to any license agent or via the Internet. See the corresponding lottery permit claim dates listed in this *Digest* for beaver/otter, black bear and spring turkey permits. Recall that at the time of application, you paid only the non-refundable \$2 application fee; the actual permit fee must still be paid. Be sure to bring your CID# to the license agent; tell the agent you're there to claim your Fish and Wildlife-awarded lottery permit. Permits claimed via the Internet are subject to an additional convenience fee and will arrive via mail in 7–10 business days.

Purchasing Non-lottery and Unclaimed Lottery Permits

Leftover (unclaimed) lottery permits and non-lottery permits are available at license agents and online. Internet permit purchases **CANNOT** be printed at home. Plan ahead, as it may take 7–10 business days for your permit(s) to arrive. During every transaction there are several opportunities to review your information for accuracy. A complete review at each step will allow you to make corrections, if necessary. Note: Once a purchase transaction is complete there will be **NO** refunds or exchanges. When purchasing permits at a license agent, speed your transaction by presenting to the agent a written note with your CID# and DOB, plus the season and zone of your permit choices.

Beaver and Otter Permits

- ♦ Beaver and otter trapping are allowed by special permit only.
- ♦ Additional information—including the zone map and descriptions—becomes available Sept. 14 on Fish and Wildlife's website, NJFishandWildlife.com.
- ♦ Application period: Oct. 1–31.
- ♦ Leftover permits, if available, will be sold at all license agents and at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Award notifications will go out during the week of Nov. 10. Successful applicants may begin to claim their awards on Nov. 10. Beaver and Otter Permits awarded in the lottery must be claimed prior to 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 30. Awarded permits that are not claimed prior to 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 30 will be returned to the quota and become available for sale over the counter. Leftover and unclaimed permits will become available for sale beginning at 10 a.m. on THURSDAY,



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LICENSES AND PERMITS

Regulations in red are new this year.

Dec. 3, 2015. However, trappers may possess only one Special River Otter Trapping Permit. Permits will be available at all license agents and via the Internet. For leftover and unclaimed permit availability, see our website late in the afternoon of TUESDAY, December 1, 2015.

♦ For trapping season information including regulations, season dates and bag limits see *Trapping Regulations*, page 66.

Black Bear Hunting Permits

A total of 11,000 black bear hunting permits, allocated by black bear hunting areas, will be available to properly licensed hunters and farmer hunters. **There will be two lotteries this year. Black bear hunters are limited to two permits, however only one bear may be taken, regardless of the number of permits one possesses.** Only two applications may be submitted per individual—one application for an initial permit lottery and one application for a secondary/leftover permit for a **different bear management zone**.

Permits can be purchased at any license agent or online on our Internet sales site. Hunters are limited to two black bear hunting permits, however they must be for **different zones**. Application fee: \$2 per lottery. Application period: Sept 15–Oct 15.

Award notifications and permit claim period begins on October 20. Permits awarded in the lottery must be claimed prior to 11:59 P.M. on TUESDAY, November 10.

Any leftover and unclaimed permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 10 a.m. on MONDAY, November 16, 2015. Permits will be available for sale at all license agents and on our Internet sales site. Leftover permit availability will be posted on our website by the end of the day on THURSDAY, November 12, 2015.

2015 Black Bear Hunting Permit Quota	
Black Bear Management Zone	# of Permits
1	2,000
2	3,000
3	3,000
4	2,000
5	1,000

Special Coyote, Red and Gray Fox Hunting Permits

♦ A \$2 permit is required to hunt coyote, red or gray fox during the special permit season from Jan. 1–March. 15.

♦ Permits will be available at any license agent or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site beginning Dec. 1, 2015. A 2016 hunting license must be purchased prior to, or in conjunction with, the purchase of a 2015 Coyote/Fox Permit.

♦ For season details, see coyote and fox hunting regulations, page 60.

Deer Hunting Permits

Permits are required to hunt during the Permit Bow, Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun deer seasons. **There is no lottery for deer permits.** See *Special Areas*, page 50, for specific deer

permit requirements on those properties.

Permits may be purchased either at a license agent or at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. For details, see *Deer Season Permits*, page 16. See page 1 for fees.

Farmer Permits

See *Farmer Hunting and Permit Information*, page 28.

Falconry Permits

Hunting with raptors (birds of prey) is allowed only with both a falconry permit and a hunting license. For hunting regulations see *Falconry*, page 24.

Rifle Permits

All persons in possession of a rifle (modern or muzzleloading rifle including a smoothbore muzzleloader firing a single projectile) while hunting or trapping must have a valid rifle permit. See the specific regulations for each game or furbearing animal for the permissible use of rifles. A rifle permit is not required for hunting with an air gun. Initial rifle permit applicants must be at least 10 years old and have successfully completed a rifle Hunter Education Course. New hunters taking the Firearms Hunter Education courses offered this year will automatically be certified for rifle education. See page 1 for rifle permit fees.

♦ Rifle permits may be purchased at license agents or at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Rifle permits are valid for all ages of permit holders.

♦ Rifle permits are valid from July 1–June 30.

Turkey Hunting Permits, General

♦ Turkey hunting is by permit only. For turkey season details, see page 64. See page 1 for fees.

♦ **Fall and spring turkey permit quotas increased in THAs 14 and 22. The popularity of these areas has increased due to turkey population increases. The new permit quota for THA 14 will be 450 permits for the fall season and 450 permits per each week of the spring 2016 season. The new permit quota for THA 22 will be 200 permits for the fall season and 200 permits per each week of the spring 2016 season.**

♦ Complete instructions for the 2016 spring gobbler season will be detailed in the 2016 *Wild Turkey Hunting Season Permit Supplement*, available in late January at license agents, Fish and Wildlife offices, and on our website at NJFishandWildlife.com.

Turkey Permits, 2015 Fall Season

The fall turkey permit lottery has been eliminated. A turkey hunting permit is still required and may be purchased at license agents or online at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com.

Fall Turkey Permits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. Permits will be available until the permit quota is reached or the season ends.

Permits for Hunters with Disabling Conditions

A permit to use alternative methods/equipment for taking game during the prescribed seasons for certain

physically challenged persons may be issued. The application period is Jan. 1 to Aug. 31 of each year.

Permits to Shoot from a Standing Vehicle

A permit to hunt or shoot from a standing vehicle that is parked off the road may be issued to licensed hunters who:

1. have a permanent or irreversible physical disability that limits their ambulatory ability,
2. suffer from cardiovascular disease and are classified as Class 3 or 4 heart patients according to American Heart Association standards, or
3. suffer from chronic lung disease. This permit will be issued if the need is certified by a licensed physician or chiropractor.

Individuals hunting with a permit to hunt or shoot from a motor vehicle must mark the vehicle being used for the purpose of hunting either with handicapped license plates issued by the Motor Vehicle Commission or by displaying a sign provided by Fish and Wildlife in the rear window of the vehicle being used.

Additional information about permits for hunters with disabling conditions is available by calling (609) 292-1473 or by writing: NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Handicapped Permits, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420 or downloaded directly from our website: NJFishandWildlife.com/disinfo.htm.

Permits, Other

Captive Wildlife Permits

The possession, ownership and release of wildlife is strictly regulated and allowed only for limited purposes. Information and permit applications may be obtained online or by calling:

- ♦ Nongame and exotics permits at (908) 735-5450, NJFishandWildlife.com/exotic_apps.htm;
- ♦ Game birds and mammals: (908) 735-7040, NJFishandWildlife.com/captpermits.htm.

(continued on page 14)


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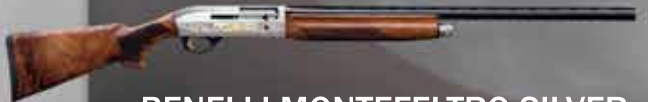
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Licenses, Permits & Stamps

LICENSES AND PERMITS



Wood duck drake.

Jeff Craven

Regulations in red are new this year.

(continued from page 12)

Deer Road-kill Permits

Deer accidentally killed by motor vehicles may be possessed only for private consumption by obtaining a free permit from the local police department or from a Fish and Wildlife regional law enforcement office. The permit authorizes only possession of the meat for consumption and is valid only for 90 days. The possession of all other parts such as antlers, under terms of this permit, are expressly prohibited. Wrapped venison packages must be labeled with the permit number.

Stamps

Stamps (such as federal migratory bird stamps) are not transferable to another person and are not valid unless signed across the face in ink. Stamps need not be affixed to the license. State waterfowl "stamps" and Pheasant and Quail stamps now print either directly on your hunting license or as a separate stub, replacing the former paper stamp for these privileges. Waterfowl stamps may be purchased ONLY for a specific individual; hunters can no longer purchase multiple stamps on behalf of a fellow hunter.

Pheasant and Quail Stamp

Anyone aged 16 and over (except 16 year olds whose youth license remains valid through the end of the

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year in which they turn 16 and which includes a free youth pheasant and quail stamp) hunting or possessing pheasant (or quail only on Greenwood Forest or Peaslee WMAs) on the following designated wildlife management areas must have in possession a current Pheasant and Quail Stamp:

- ♦ Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook, Glassboro, Greenwood Forest, Howardsville, Heislerville, Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Millville (Bevan), Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Rockport, Stafford Forge, Tuckahoe (MacNamara), Walpack, Whittingham and Winslow. The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is also a designated pheasant and quail stamp area. Pheasant and quail stamps are valid for the calendar year, January–December. **Quail may be hunted or possessed ONLY on Peaslee or Greenwood WMAs.**

New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp

Anyone 16 or older who hunts waterfowl must possess a New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp (now printed directly on your license at the time of purchase) in addition to the Federal Migratory Bird Stamp. Both stamps are valid for the fiscal year, July 1–June 30. A Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification is also required. For HIP details, see *Migratory Bird Regulations*, page 68. ♪

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Deer Season Permits

PERMIT INFORMATION

Regulations in red are new this year.

PERMIT HUNTING SEASONS play a major role in Fish and Wildlife's deer management program. The three permit seasons provide a means to control hunting pressure, and thereby the harvest, in each deer management zone to meet specific deer management objectives. With the additional harvest and recreational opportunity these seasons provide, an additional fee is charged for each permit.

Farmer deer permit information is detailed in the Farmer Hunting Information section beginning on page 28. Farmers purchasing non-farmer permits should also read this deer season permit section, below.

For application and purchasing procedures, see Permits for Hunters and Trappers, page 10.

• A permit is required to hunt during the Permit

Bow, Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun deer seasons.

- The zone-specific deer permit is valid **only** for hunting antlerless deer. **To take an antlered buck during any permit season, hunters must purchase one Antlered Buck Permit. An Antlered Buck Permit is not zone-specific but is valid only when used in conjunction with a zone-specific deer permit.**
- Hunters are still limited to purchasing one Antlered Buck Permit *per permit season* (i.e., one Antlered Buck Bow Permit, one Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit and one Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit). **Buck permits are valid in any zone for which the hunter has a valid antlerless zone-specific permit.**
- **Note: Only one deer at a time may be taken during any permit season even if you possess both an antlered and antlerless permit, except**

Antlered Buck Permit Deadline!

Antlered Buck Permits may be purchased only two ways:

1. Purchase by opening day of each permit season OR,
2. Purchase at the same time as your first zone-specific antlerless permit for each season

Antlered Buck Permit sales begin TUESDAY, Sept. 8, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. and must be purchased either by 11:59 p.m. on the first day of each permit season as follows:

- Antlered Buck Permits for the Permit Bow Season **must be purchased by Oct. 31** at 11:59 p.m.
- Antlered Buck Permits for the Permit Muzzleloader Season **must be purchased by Nov. 30** at 11:59 p.m.
- Antlered Buck Permits for the Permit Shotgun Season **must be purchased by Dec. 16** at 11:59 p.m.
- Or, for hunters who do not purchase a deer permit until after the season opens, an Antlered Buck Permit **may be purchased only with** the initial antlerless zone-specific permit. There will be no other chance to purchase an Antlered Buck Permit.
- There are **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Planning Ahead?

**The 2016 Six-day Firearm
Deer Season is Dec. 5–10, 2016.**

in those zones in Regulation Sets 6, 7 and 8 where two deer at a time may be harvested during the Permit Bow, Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader seasons.

- ♦ Antlerless deer permits are zone-specific and are valid for the duration of the specified zone's permit season, including when that season extends into the 2016 calendar year. Hunters are still limited to purchasing one zone-specific permit per zone per permit season. Example: If you hunt only Zone 19, you may purchase only one muzzleloader, one bow and one shotgun antlerless permit for Zone 19. If you hunt in more than one zone you may purchase one muzzleloader, one bow and one shotgun permit for each zone.
- ♦ Regardless of the number of zone-specific antlerless permits in possession, **hunters are limited to taking one buck during each of the permit seasons ONLY after first purchasing**

a Buck Permit for that season. (See *Deer Hunting Regulations, Licenses and Permits* for details, page 31.)

- ♦ A resident, non-resident or youth hunting license is a prerequisite to purchase a deer permit. See pages 1 and 10 for hunting license information.
- ♦ Muzzleloader season permits are not valid unless accompanied by both a valid rifle permit and a Firearm or All-around Sportsman License while hunting.
- ♦ Permits are valid only for the season and zone indicated, are **non-transferable** and **non-refundable**.
- ♦ It is illegal to use a permit for a zone, season or hunter other than those named on the permit. Deer permit violations are subject to a fine of \$100–\$1,000 for each offense.
- ♦ The cost per permit [both the Antlerless (zone-specific) Deer Permit or Antlered Buck Permit] is \$28 for each adult and \$12 for each youth permit.



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Deer Season Permits

PERMIT INFORMATION

Regulations in red are new this year.

Permits Available at Participating License Agents (Except Special Areas Zones)

- ♦ The following deer management zones have permit quotas that far exceed hunter demand: Zones 1-19, 21-31, 34-36, 41-43, 45-51, 55, 63, 65, 67 and 68. These permits are available on a first come, first served basis. In the unlikely event that sales reach the permit quota for a specific zone and season combination, those permit sales will end.
- ♦ Permits sales are available at license agents listed on page 20 and on Fish and Wildlife's Internet sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com.

Bow, Muzzleloader, Shotgun and Antlered Buck Permits

Bow, muzzleloader, shotgun and antlered buck permits will be available for sale beginning at 10:00 a.m. on TUESDAY, September 8, 2015 and continue until each season ends. Some seasons run through Feb. 13, 2016. See *Regulation Sets*, page 44.

- ♦ Hours of operation and types of payment accepted vary according to license agent. Be prepared.

- ♦ To purchase a permit at a license agent a hunter must present his or her valid, current year's hunting license.
- ♦ A person may purchase a permit for an absent hunter only when the following conditions are met:
 1. The absent hunter has already completed a Child Support Certification (see page 8) through the Integrated Electronic Licensing System via the Internet or at a license agent and
 2. The buyer shows the absent hunter's valid hunting license and identifying information (date of birth and Conservation ID Number or Social Security Number). License photocopies not accepted.
- ♦ The hunter is responsible to know in what zone and season he or she wants to hunt.
- ♦ Hunters are urged to review their permit before leaving the license agent.
- ♦ **Once a permit fee is paid and the buyer leaves the store, there will be no returns, exchanges or refunds. No exceptions.**
- ♦ Permits purchased online via the Internet will take 7-10 days for delivery. Hunters have the option to pay extra for express delivery.

Special Area Deer Management Zones

- ♦ Special Areas include federal military installations, certain state and county parks and national wildlife refuges. Special Area zones include: 37, 38, 39, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 64, 66, 67, 68 and 70. Some of these zones have specific qualifying

- criteria which hunters must meet before obtaining a permit. Certain zones are not open to the public. It is the hunters' responsibility to arrange for property access prior to purchasing a permit.
- ♦ **There is no lottery for Special Area Permits.** Permits will be available for a limited time on a first-come, first-served basis. **Note: Most of these Special Areas permits will be available for sale only for a limited time. It is the hunters responsibility to pay attention to all deadlines. Exceptions cannot be made.**
- ♦ Refer to a specific Special Area (see *Special Areas Hunting Seasons*, page 50) for complete details including when each permit sale will occur.

Military Zones

Military base deer management zones include the following: Picatinny Arsenal (Zone 54), Earle NWS (Zone 39), Lakehurst Section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, (Formerly Lakehurst NAES (Zone 53), FAA Tech Center (Zone 66) and Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, (Formerly Fort Dix) (Zone 37). All have lower quotas with a limited number of available permits. Due to heightened security, hunters must be sure to have proper security clearance and access prior to applying for or purchasing permits for military base zones.

Refer to a specific Special Area (see *Special Areas Hunting Seasons*, page 50) for complete details including when each permit sale will occur. 🏹



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The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife reminds sportsmen and sportswomen that the use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) is prohibited on state lands including wildlife management areas, state parks and state forests. Any person found to be operating an ATV on a wildlife management area will be issued a citation for violating state regulations. Be advised that two violations of wildlife management area regulations will result in the loss of all sporting licenses and privileges for a period of five years. The responsible use of ATVs must be restricted to private land with landowner permission. Riders should take measures to avoid damage to habitat and wildlife.

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*Subject to change. - ATVs shown are recommended for use only by riders age 16 years and older. Yamaha recommends that all ATV riders take an approved training course. For safety and training information, see your dealer or call the ATV Safety Institute at 1-800-887-2887. ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety: Always avoid paved surfaces. Never ride on public roads. Always wear a helmet, eye protection and protective clothing; never carry passengers; never engage in stunt riding; riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix; avoid excessive speed; and be particularly careful on difficult terrain. - For SxS: Always protect the environment and wear your seat belt, helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Read the owner's manual and product warning labels before operation. - Specifications subject to change without notice. Professional riders depicted on a closed course. Models shown with optional Genuine Yamaha Accessories. ©2015 Yamaha Motor Corporation. U.S.A. All rights reserved.

Permit and License Agents

ELECTRONIC PERMIT AND LICENSE SYSTEM

ATLANTIC

A. Ferrucci & Son Garden Ctr., 454 Piney Hollow Rd, Newfield (856) 697-1663
Bass Pro Outdoor World, 30 N. Christopher Columbus Blvd, Atlantic City (609) 449-4500
Buck Tails Outfitters, 6390 Harding Highway, Mays Landing (609) 829-2229
Butterhof's Farm & Home Supply, 5715 White Horse Pk, Egg Harbor City (609) 965-1198
Dick's Sporting Goods, 210 Consumer Square, Mays Landing (609) 407-1711
Galloway Ace / Smith Bros., 322 South Pitney Rd., Absecon (609) 567-7400
Lynkris Hometown Hardware, 208 Philadelphia Ave., Egg Harbor City (609) 965-0815
Penza Hardware, Central & Vine St., Hammonton (609) 561-1027
The Sports Authority, 4315 Blackhorse Pike, Mays Landing (609) 484-0916
Wal-Mart #2108, 4620 Blackhorse Pike, Mays Landing (609) 625-8200
Wal-Mart #2254, 55 S. White Horse Pike, Hammonton (609) 567-2700
Zeus Products Co. Inc, 6679 Black Horse Pike, Egg Harbor Twp (609) 646-1668

BERGEN

Dick's Sporting Goods, 240 Rt. 17 North, Paramus (201) 216-2926
Jigging World, 174 Rt. 17 North, Rochelle Park (201) 587-0011
Kmart #3414, 2 Memorial Dr., Lodi (973) 471-7900
Meltzers & Sons Inc., 118 Outwater Ln., Garfield (973) 478-7647
Ramsey Outdoor Store, 835 Rt. 17 South, Ramsey (201) 327-8141
Targeters Sporting Goods, LLC, 101 Rt. 46, Saddlebrook (201) 843-7788
Wal-Mart #3159, 1 Teterboro Landing Dr., Teterboro (201) 375-4002
Wal-Mart #3562, 189 Rt. 46 W., Saddlebrook (201) 226-0575
Wal-Mart #5752, 174 Passaic St., Garfield (973) 330-3550

BURLINGTON

Dick's Sporting Goods, 1300 Nixon Dr., Mt. Laurel (856) 802-1225
Dick's Sporting Goods, 2703 Rt. 541 Towne Crossing, Burlington Twp. (609) 747-0400
Fresh Farm Market, 201 E. Broad St., Palmyra (856) 786-0200
Mighty Joe's Grill & Deli, 1231 Rt. 206, Shamong (609) 268-0303
Mike's Sporting Goods, 1414 Rt. 38, Hainesport (609) 267-7978
Schneider's F&W License Ctr, 390 Lakehurst Rd, Browns Mills (609) 735-0040
Sportsmen's Center, Rt. 130, Bordentown (609) 298-5300
The Sports Authority #461, 70 Centerton Rd, Mount Laurel (856) 778-7220
Wal-Mart #2841, 1740 Rt. 38, Lumberton (609) 702-9200
Wal-Mart #1869, 150 Rt. 70 East, Marlton (856) 983-2100
Wal-Mart #2040, 2106 Burlington-Mt. Holly, Burlington (609) 386-8400
Wal-Mart #2871, 2501 Rt. 130 So., Cinnaminson (856) 303-2119

CAMDEN

Atco Sports, 2209 Atco Ave., Atco (856) 767-9446
Banger's Sport Shop, 840 Piney Hollow Rd, Winslow (609) 561-1717
Creek Keepers Fin & Fur, 1130 S. Blackhorse Pike, Blackwood (856) 227-1923
Dambley's Garden Center, 51 West Factory Rd., Berlin (856) 767-6883
Dick's Sporting Goods, 2130 Rt. 70 West, Cherry Hill (856) 317-8394
Kmart #3027, 1468 Clementon Rd., Clementon (856) 627-1800
Rayco Armory, 177 S. Center Unit F, Merchantville (856) 663-1300
The Sports Authority, 3239 Rt. 38, Cherry Hill (856) 910-7410
Towne News And Tobacco, 81 S. Whitehorse Pike, Berlin (856) 768-9132
Wal-Mart #1807, 265 Rt. 73 North, West Berlin (856) 753-8787
Wal-Mart #4456, 315 White Horse Pike So, Somerdale (856) 545-9052
Wal-Mart #5047, 130 Blackhorse Pike, Audubon (856) 310-1470
Wal-Mart #5340, 500 Rt. 38, Cherry Hill (856) 665-5430

CAPE MAY

Avalon Hodge Podge, 2389 Ocean Dr., Avalon (609) 967-3274
Budd's Bait & Tackle, 109 Fulling Mill Rd., Villas (609) 886-6935
Belleplain Supply Co. Inc., 346 Handmill Rd., Belleplain (609) 861-2345
City Of Ocean City, 861 Asbury Ave., Ocean City (609) 525-9324
Sea Isle Bait & Tackle, 4200 Park Rd., Sea Isle City (609) 263-6540
Smugglers Cove, 370 83rd St., Stone Harbor (609) 368-1700
Sterling Harbor B&T, 1020 W. Rio Grande Ave., Wildwood (609) 729-1425
Two Chums Bait & Tackle, 375 43rd St., Sea Isle City (609) 263-2486
Upper Township, 2100 Tuckahoe Rd., Tuckahoe (609) 628-2805
Wal-Mart #3337, 3159 Rt. 9 South, Rio Grande (609) 465-2204

CUMBERLAND

Beaver Dam Boat Rentals, 514 Old Beaver Dam Rd., Newport (856) 447-3633
Blackwater Sports Center, 2228 North Delsea Dr., Vineland (856) 691-1571
Butch's Gun World, 1025 W. Landis Ave., Vineland (856) 692-1010

Commercial Township, 1768 Main St., Port Norris (609) 785-3100
Dick's Sporting Goods, 2126 N. Second St., Millville (856) 293-8520
Franzwa Trailer Sales Inc., 2134 So. Second St., Millville (856) 825-0111
Kmart #3222, 3850 So. Delsea Dr., Vineland (856) 825-9411
Modern Bait & Tackle, 851 N. Pearl St., Bridgeton (856) 451-1811
Randy's Inc., 84 E. Commerce St., Bridgeton (856) 455-8309
Shire Products, Inc., 389 Lincoln Ave., Vineland (856) 692-3646
Tep's Power Equipment, 1007 N. High St., Millville (856) 825-8294
The Girls Place Bait & Tackle, 3574 S. Delsea Dr., Port Elizabeth (856) 825-4565
The Gun Rack, 1726 North West Blvd., Vineland (856) 692-4773
Wal-Mart #2109, 2291 N. Second St., Millville (856) 825-4200
Wal-Mart #3339, 1070 West Landis Ave, Vineland (856) 205-0040
Wal-Mart #5384, 1130 Hwy. 77, Bridgeton (856) 453-0418
Zeke's Bait, Tackle & Seafood, 138 South Pearl St., Bridgeton (856) 451-1800

ESSEX

Bullet Hole Inc, 78 Rutgers St., Belleville (973) 759-3968
City of Newark, 920 Broad St., Newark (973) 733-3706
Kmart #7177, 371-411 Main St., Belleville (973) 751-3331

GLOUCESTER

Bob's Little Sport Shop, 318 N. Delsea Dr., Glassboro (856) 881-7575
Borough of Swedesboro, 1500 Kings Hwy, Swedesboro (856) 881-7575
Dick's Sporting Goods, 399 Almonesson Rd., Deptford (856) 845-2257
Kmart #3060, 222 Bridgeton Pike, Mantua (856) 468-7575
Sportsman's Outpost, 2517 Fries Mill Road, Williamstown (856) 881-3244
The Sports Authority, 141 Tuckahoe Rd., Suite 100, Sewell (856) 262-6285
Twp. Of Greenwich, 420 Washington St., Gibbstown (856) 423-1038
Wal-Mart #1742, 3501 Rt. 42, Turnersville (856) 629-3888
Wal-Mart #3422, 2000 Clements Bridge Rd., Deptford (856) 384-3211
Wal-Mart #3774, 1840 S. Whitehorse Pk, Williamstown (856) 629-2054
Wal-Mart #5476, 1350 Delsea Dr., W. Deptford (856) 686-0133

HUDSON

Caso's Gun-A-Rama, 176 Danforth Ave., Jersey City (201) 435-5099
Kmart #3459, Rt. 440 Kellogg St., Jersey City (201) 435-2101
Wal-Mart #3520, 400 Park Pl., Secaucus (201) 325-9280
Wal-Mart #3795, 2100-88th St., No. Bergen (201) 758-2810
Wal-Mart #5447, 1215 Harrison Ave, Kearny (201) 955-0280
Wal-Mart #5867, 500 Bayonne Crossing Way, Bayonne (201) 620-6137

HUNTERDON

Boan's Marine, 1296 Rt. 179, Lambertville (609) 397-3311
Kathe's General Store, 4 Kingwood Ave., Frenchtown (908) 996-6886
Shannon's Fly & Tackle, 74 B Main St., Califon (908) 832-5736
Sportsman's Rendezvous, 174 Hwy. 31, Flemington (908) 788-5828
Wal-Mart #2294, 50 Rt. 31, Flemington (908) 788-6769
Wal-Mart #2582, Rt. 513 & I-78, Clinton (908) 730-8665
Wal-Mart #5069, 3576 Rt. 22 West, Branchburg (908) 534-7377

MERCER

Cheyenne Mountain Outfitters, 691 Rt. 130, Robbinsville (609) 570-8430
Dick's Sporting Goods, 530 Nassau Park Blvd., Princeton (609) 419-1661
NJ Dept Military/Vet Affairs, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville (609) 530-6866
Wal-Mart #2171, 101 Nassau Park Blvd., Princeton (609) 987-0202
Wal-Mart #2518, 100 Marketplace Blvd., Hamilton (609) 585-1463
Wal-Mart #3266, 839 Rt. 130 North, E. Windsor (609) 443-6159

MIDDLESEX

Auto Parts Of Woodbridge, 108 Main St., Woodbridge (732) 634-6264
Dick's Sporting Goods, 325 State Rt. 18, E. Brunswick (732) 651-3284
Dick's Sporting Goods, 366 Woodbridge Center Dr., Woodbridge (732) 621-8400
Dick's Sporting Goods, 4999 Stelton Rd., So. Plainfield (908) 226-4912
Sayreville Sportsman, 52 Washington Rd., Sayreville (732) 238-2060
Wal-Mart #2003, 979 Rt. 1 South, North Brunswick (732) 545-4499
Wal-Mart #2633, 1303 Centennial Ave, Piscataway (732) 300-1859
Wal-Mart #2825, 1126 Rt. 9, Old Bridge (732) 525-8030
Wal-Mart #3078, 290 State Route 18, East Brunswick (732) 955-0871
Wal-Mart #5201, 2220 Rt. 27, Edison (732) 650-1297

Wal-Mart #5281, 306 Hwy. 9 North, Woodbridge..... (732) 826-4652
 Wal-Mart #4153, 2825 Route 18, Old Bridge..... (732) 955-0139

MONMOUTH

Brielle Bait & Tackle, 800 Ashley Ave., Brielle..... (732) 528-5720
 Cabin Firearms, 188 Oakland Mills Rd., Manalapan..... (732) 577-8986
 Dick's Sporting Goods, 650 Trotters Way, Freehold..... (732) 358-1400
 Howell Gun Works, 2446 Route 9 South, Howell..... (848) 444-9400
 Kmart #4361, 3010 Hwy. 35, Hazlet..... (732) 739-2800
 L & H Woods & Water, 2045 Hwy. 35, Wall..... (732) 282-1812
 The Bait Shop, 57 Main St., Bradley Beach..... (732) 361-8500
 The Sports Authority #464, 310 E. Hwy. 36 - Suite 602, W. Long Branch..... (732) 389-8334
 Wal-Mart #2195, 4900 Rt. 9, Howell..... (732) 886-9100
 Wal-Mart #3236, 326 W. Main St., Freehold..... (732) 780-3048
 Wal-Mart #5142, 3575 Rt. 66 West, Neptune..... (732) 922-1413

MORRIS

Bridge Marina, 89 Brady Rd., Lake Hopatcong..... (973) 663-1976
 Dick's Sporting Goods, 240 Rt. 10 West, E. Hanover..... (973) 428-0889
 Dick's Sporting Goods, 387 Mount Hope Ave., Rockaway..... (973) 659-1950
 Dorsi's Deli & Pharmacy, 184 Central Ave, Stirling..... (908) 647-7878
 Dover Sport Center, 242 Rt. 46, Dover..... (973) 366-3133
 Dows Boat Rental, 145 Nolans Point Rd., Lake Hopatcong..... (973) 663-3826
 Lakes End Marina, 91 Mt. Arlington Blvd., Landing..... (973) 398-5707
 Ramsey Outdoor Store, 281 Rt. 10 E., Succasunna..... (973) 584-7798
 The Sports Authority #470, 401 Rt. 10 East, Ledgewood..... (973) 927-7737
 Wal-Mart #2569, 461 Rt. 10, Ledgewood..... (973) 252-7666
 Wal-Mart #3291, 40 International Dr. South, Flanders..... (973) 347-7400
 Wal-Mart #3443, 48 Rt. 23 North, Riverdale..... (973) 835-5812
 Wal-Mart #3598, 235 Ridgedale Ave., Cedar Knolls..... (973) 889-8646
 Wal-Mart #5077, 300 Wooton St., Boonton..... (973) 299-3943
 Wal-Mart #5178, 220 Enterprise Dr., Rockaway..... (973) 361-6089

OCEAN

American Sportsman, Llc, 857 Mill Creek Rd., Manahawkin..... (609) 597-4104
 Cream Ridge Sptg.Goods, 465 Rt. 539, Cream Ridge..... (609) 758-0699
 Creekside Outfitters, 403 Route 9, Waretown..... (609) 242-1812
 Dick's Sporting Goods, 223 Stafford Park Blvd., Manahawkin..... (609) 597-5396
 Dick's Sporting Goods, 487 Rt. 70, Brick..... (732) 477-4844
 Downe's Bait & Tackle, 287 Brennan Concourse, Bayville..... (732) 269-0137
 Grizz's Forked River B & T, 103 Lacey Rd., Forked River..... (609) 693-9298
 Kmart #3050, 1930 Rt. 88, Brick..... (732) 840-0800
 Lacey Marine, 308 Route 9 south, Forked River..... (609) 693-9052
 Pells Fish and Sport, 335 Mantoloking Rd., Brick..... (732) 477-2121
 Pineland Sporting Goods, 959 W. Veterans Hwy., Jackson..... (732) 598-6676
 Shenandoah Boating, B & T, 700 Rt. 88, Lakewood..... (732) 363-9678
 Shooters Sporting Center, 1535 Route 539, Little Egg Harbor..... (609) 296-4080
 Sportsman Shanty, 420 Chandler Rd., Jackson..... (732) 364-1122
 Surf City Bait & Tackle, 317 Long Beach Blvd., Surf City..... (609) 494-2333
 The Sports Authority #826, 1 Brick Plaza, Brick..... (732) 262-2847
 Tip's Hardware, 218 Main St., West Creek..... (609) 296-3192
 Wal-Mart #1844, 950 Rt. 37 West, Toms River..... (732) 349-6000
 Wal-Mart #1921, 525 Rt. 72 West, Manahawkin..... (609) 978-8300
 Wal-Mart #1977, 1872 Rt. 88, Brick..... (732) 840-7772
 Wal-Mart #5414, 580 Rt. 9 North, Lanoka Harbor..... (609) 242-8311
 West Creek Bait & Tackle, 387 Route 9, West Creek..... (609) 857-3516

PASSAIC

City of Newark (Watershed), 223 Echo Lake Rd., Newfoundland..... (973) 697-1724
 Dick's Sporting Goods, 76 Willowbrook Blvd., Wayne..... (973) 200-8077
 Fins & Furs Bait Shop, 2727 Route 23, Newfoundland..... (201) 321-0153
 Tackle and Field, 81 Ringwood Ave, Wanaque..... (973) 835-2966
 G&S Hunters, 438 Main St., Paterson..... (973) 345-4100
 Kmart #3056, 1020 Hamburg Tpke., Wayne..... (973) 696-8312
 No. Haledon General Store, 20 Manchester Ave, No. Haledon..... (973) 427-1653
 The Sports Authority #462, 81 Willowbrook Blvd., Wayne..... (973) 785-3993
 Totowa Bait & Tackle Shop, 10 Albion Ave., Paterson..... (973) 956-0825

SALEM

Discount Ammo & Guns, 439 Route 77, Monroeville..... (856) 358-0404
 SJ Gas and Shine, 290 Rt. 40, Elmer..... (856) 358-3488
 Shag's Bait & Tackle, 1045 South Broad Way, Pennsville..... (856) 935-2826
 Wal-Mart #2041, 709 S. Broadway, Pennsville..... (856) 935-8200

SOMERSET

Efinger Sporting Goods, 513 W. Union Ave., Bound Brook..... (732) 356-0604
 Griffin & Howe, 33 Claremont Rd., Bernardsville..... (908) 766-2287
 Wal-Mart #2651, 100 N. Main St., Manville..... (908) 575-8997
 Wal-Mart #5111, 1501 Rt. 22 West, Watchung..... (908) 756-1925

SUSSEX

Bait & Boat, 13 Rt. 183, Stanhope..... (973) 345-5797
 Garden State Bow & Reel, 2760A Rt. 23N., Stockholm..... (973) 697-3727
 Griffin & Howe, 270 Sparta-Stanhope Rd., Andover..... (973) 398-2670
 Johnny's Marina, 453 Riverstyx Rd., Hopatcong..... (973) 398-8500
 Mastodon Ammo & Camo, 195 Highland Lakes Rd., Highland Lakes..... (973) 764-9550
 Mountain Mike's Sport Shop, 7 Old Rudetown Rd., Mc Afee..... (973) 827-6527
 Simon Peter Sport Co., 660 Rt. 206 South, Newton..... (973) 786-5313
 Skylands Sport Shop, 105 Water St., Newton..... (973) 300-5883
 Stokes Forest Sport Shop, Rd. 2 Rt. 206, Branchville..... (973) 948-5448
 Wal-Mart #2090, 230 Rt. 23, Franklin..... (973) 209-4242
 Wal-Mart #2604, 26 Hampton House Rd., Newton..... (973) 300-1859
 YOJ Sports, 196 Main St, Andover..... (973) 786-7382

UNION

Dick's Sporting Goods, 2700 Route 22 E., Union..... (908) 964-2580
 Wal-Mart # 3292, 900 Springfield Road, Union..... (908) 624-0644
 Wal-Mart #3469, 1601 West Edgar Rd., Linden..... (908) 474-9055

WARREN

Chrusz's General Store, 235 Main St., Johnsonburg..... (908) 852-0181
 Hi-Way Sport Shop, 253 Rt. 31 North, Washington..... (908) 689-6208
 Knot Just Flies, 61 State Route 94, Blairstown..... (732) 362-3474
 Smitty's Liquors & Deli, 89 Rt. 46, Delaware..... (908) 475-5933
 The Owl's Nest, 97 Rt. 519, Phillipsburg..... (908) 995-7903
 Wal-Mart #2497, 1236 Rt. 22, Phillipsburg..... (908) 454-3622
 Wal-Mart #2503, 1885 Rt. 57 Suite 100, Hackettstown..... (908) 979-9342
 Pequest Trout Hatchery, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford..... (908) 637-4125

PENNSYLVANIA

Cabela's Retail, Inc., 100 Cabela Dr., Hamburg..... (610) 929-7000

For license sales by phone or Internet, call (888) 773-8450 or go to www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. See also License Information and Fees, page 1.

License agents may change frequently throughout the year. Consult our website at NJFishandWildlife.com for the most current list.

Hunt New Jersey Black Bear!

For a sporting adventure close to home, try black bear hunting in New Jersey. See page 58 for information and regulations.



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TAKE A KID HUNTING



deer

Take this great opportunity to introduce youth hunters to deer hunting!

YOUTH DEER HUNTING DAYS

- » **Youth Bow Hunt**
Saturday, September 26, 2015
- » **Youth Firearm Hunt**
Saturday, November 21, 2015

WHO CAN HUNT

Hunters with a valid youth hunting license. See *Youth Licenses*, page 10.

- ♦ The youth hunter **MUST** be under the direct supervision of a person who is at least 21 years old and who has a valid firearm or bow and arrow license corresponding to the season hunted. Direct supervision is defined as both the youth hunter and parent/guardian set up together at the same location, hunting as a unit, not hunting independently. The adult **CANNOT** hunt on this day. The adult may grunt, call or rattle for the youth. In addition to the youth, the adult accompanying the youth should wear the required hunter orange during the youth firearm deer hunt.

BAG LIMITS

Youth may hunt statewide for one deer of either sex on each of the above dates.

- ♦ During the Youth Firearm Deer Hunt, youths may hunt either with a shotgun or muzzleloader. No bows.
- ♦ If the youth is hunting with a muzzleloader, both the youth and the adult must possess a valid rifle permit.
- ♦ Antler Point Restrictions and Earn-A-Buck requirements do **NOT** apply on these days for the youth hunter.
- ♦ These hunts are extensions of the Fall Bow and Six-day Firearm seasons; no special season deer permit is required. Youth hunters may still use a bow to harvest one antlered deer during the Fall Bow Season, and use an appropriate firearm to harvest two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season.

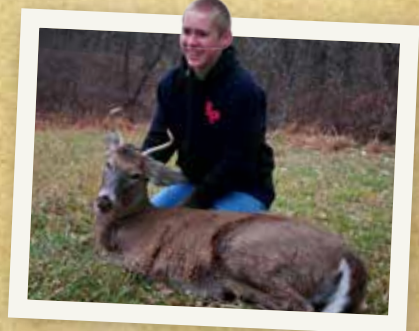
REPORT YOUR HARVEST

The youth hunter should complete all information requested on the Harvest Report Card provided on page 29.

- ♦ The card, or hand-made version, should include the youth hunting license number or Conservation ID number, sex of deer, number of antler points, date, zone, deer management unit, county and township from which the deer was taken, in order to have your information ready for when you report your harvest through the Automated

Harvest Report System. Youth hunters do not need a harvest number during youth hunts or non-permit deer seasons.

For additional harvest reporting requirements, see page 32.



▲ "During the last minutes of legal shooting light, this spike buck came in grunting and chasing a doe. He stopped in a small opening about 80 yards away. I steadied my muzzleloader on a stump and squeezed the trigger. I was rewarded with my first buck." Harvested on November 22, 2014 Youth day by Joey Burke, age 13. Taken on public land in Sussex County, Frankford Township, DMZ 1. Weight — 135 lbs.

waterfowl

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

Youth hunters 15 years and under with a valid youth hunting license (see *Youth Licenses*, page 10) and under the direct supervision of a non-shooting New Jersey-licensed adult hunter (age 21 or older) will be permitted to hunt for waterfowl from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset on the following dates by zone:

- » **North Zone**—Oct. 3 and 31
- » **South Zone**—Oct. 10; Nov. 7
- » **Coastal Zone**—Nov. 7; Feb. 13

See the New Jersey 2015–16 *Migratory Bird Regulations* for further details including written zone boundary descriptions and species bag limits. Non-toxic shot is required. An HIP number is required. See page 68 for all waterfowl hunting requirements. Federal and state waterfowl stamps are not required on these youth days. Daily bag limits for ducks, Canada geese, brant, snow geese, coots, moorhens and gallinules will be the same as those allowed during the regular season. Adults may not hunt on this day.



▲ Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day can be a unique and unforgettable opportunity for both mentors and youths. Luke and Logan Bukowski, and Riley LaFay could not agree more, seen here smiling with a nice bag of mallards.



turkey

YOUTH TURKEY HUNT DAY

» April 23, 2016

Youth hunters with a valid youth hunting license who have obtained a turkey permit may begin their spring turkey season on the special youth turkey hunting day, April 23, 2016. See *Youth Licenses*, page 10. Youth must be under the direct supervision of an adult 21 years or older who possesses a valid New Jersey hunting license. Adults may not hunt on this day.



Johnny Tomalavage

▲ Youth Upland Bird Hunt Day at the Clinton Wildlife Management Area in Hunterdon County was where 11-year-old Chris Tomalavage harvested his first pheasant.

Nathan Mangold (10, on left) of Mays Landing, took his first turkey with an Ithaca 20 gauge, single shot, break-action shotgun on his second day of turkey hunting. His more experienced cousin, Ricky Mangold, 14, of Egg Harbor City called in the 21-pound gobbler while hunting the Wharton tract. ▶



Nick Mangold

upland bird

YOUTH UPLAND BIRD HUNT DAY

» Saturday, October 31, 2015

Youth hunters with a valid youth hunting license (see *Youth Licenses*, page 10), under the direct supervision of a New Jersey-licensed, non-hunting adult 21 years or older, will be permitted to hunt on licensed semi-wild hunting preserves. Youths may hunt for pheasant, quail and/or partridge on Saturday, October 31, 2015 from 8 a.m. to sunset. Take advantage of this great opportunity for hunters belonging to semi-wild preserves to introduce youth hunters to upland bird hunting without competition from adult hunters who may not hunt on this day.

pheasant

YOUTH PHEASANT HUNT

» October 31, 2015

The 2015 Take a Kid Hunting Pheasant Hunt will allow properly licensed hunters with a valid youth license (see *Youth Licenses*, page 10) to hunt on one of 10 stocked Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) on Saturday, October 31, 2015. In a cooperative effort between the Division of Fish and Wildlife and the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, volunteer hunting mentors with trained bird dogs will guide youth hunters on a morning pheasant hunt. This experience will increase the young hunters' opportunity for harvesting a pheasant in a setting which encourages responsible and safe hunting practices.

All guided morning hunt participants must pre-register and be accompanied to the check-in by a parent or guardian. Parents or guardians are welcomed and encouraged to follow the hunters through the fields. All pre-registered hunters will receive an information packet. One session will be offered, starting at 7 a.m.

Only 50 youth hunters will be allowed on each WMA during the guided morning hunts. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of slots available, a random drawing will be held to select participants. To register, please send the application to:

Take a Kid Hunting
NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife
Northern Region Hunter Education
26 Rt. 173 W, Hampton, NJ 08827

All entries must be postmarked by Oct. 5, 2015. Information will be mailed around Oct. 20, 2015.

Selected Wildlife Management Areas for the Youth Pheasant Hunt

WMA	Guided Morning	Open After 1 p.m.	Open All Day
Whittingham	•	•	
Black River	•	•	
Flatbrook			•
Clinton	•	•	
Assunpink	•	•	
Colliers Mills	•	•	
Glassboro			•
Millville	•	•	
Peaslee	•	•	
Winslow	•	•	

Guided Morning—pre-registration required.

Open—afternoon: Any youth hunter with a valid youth hunting license under the direct supervision of a licensed, non-shooting adult (aged 21 or older), will be permitted to hunt on the listed wildlife management areas on October 31, 2015 from 1 p.m. until sunset. No registration required.

Open—all day: Any youth hunter with a valid youth hunting license under the direct supervision of a New Jersey-licensed, non-shooting adult (aged 21 or older), will be permitted to hunt on the listed wildlife management areas on October 31, 2015 from 8 a.m. until sunset. No registration required.

YOUTH PHEASANT HUNTER

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Youth Hunting License # _____

1. Select WMA (Check only one):

- Assunpink Black River Clinton Colliers Mills
 Millville Peaslee Whittingham Winslow

2. Have you attended the Take A Kid Hunting Pheasant Hunt before?

- NO YES—2014 Other (list year) _____

3. With what gauge shotgun will you be hunting?

- 12 16 20 28 .410 caliber

4. If you have a trained hunting dog and would like to participate as a mentor, enter your name and daytime phone number: _____

5. Breed of dog: _____

Regulations in red are new this year.

THIS IS NOT THE FULL LAW. The information in this *Digest* is based on N.J.S.A. Title 23, Title 13:1B-34 and N.J.A.C. 7:25-5. The amended regulations are known as the Game Code and implement the statute laws. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Bureau of Law Enforcement for further details. See the *Telephone Directory*, page 92, for regional Law Enforcement offices. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal documents.

No person shall hunt except as prescribed by law. See section *Permits for Hunters with Disabling Conditions*, page 12, for special rules.

Persons required by law to wear corrective lenses to operate a motor vehicle (as noted on a valid driver's license) must wear corrective lenses when hunting with any kind of bow or firearm.

Bow and Arrow

"Bow" means any long bow, recurve bow, compound bow or crossbow. Hand held release devices are permitted.

See additional regulations under *Specifically Prohibited*, page 27.

All bows must have a minimum draw weight of 35 pounds at the archer's draw length, except compounds, which must have a minimum peak draw weight of 35 pounds and crossbows which must have a minimum draw weight of 75 pounds. Crossbows must have a minimum stock length of 25 inches.

See **crossbow safety tips**, page 28. **Crossbows are not legal for bowfishing. Crossbows are permitted for hunting migratory birds. See below for restrictions when taking game birds in flight.**

All arrows used for hunting deer, turkey, coyote, fox or woodchuck must be fitted with an edged head of well-sharpened metal and a minimum width of 3/4 inches.

Arrows fitted with heads other than specified for deer, turkey, coyote, fox or woodchuck may be carried in the woods and fields during the small game season or other seasons which overlap with the bow and arrow deer season **except that for taking game birds in flight, arrows equipped with an edged head are prohibited. Also, flu flu arrows are required for taking game birds in flight because the arrow is designed to fly only a short distance. For the purpose of discharging a crossbow, hunters may carry judo points, target points or blunts. Canada geese and turkeys which are not in flight may be taken with standard fletched arrows and an edged head as described above.**

Sunday bowhunting for deer is legal only on private land and state wildlife management areas. See *Safety Zones*, page 26.

It is unlawful to:

- ♦ use or possess a poison arrow or one with an explosive tip
- ♦ **use an edged head for taking game birds in flight**
- ♦ use a bow one-half hour after sunset until one-half hour before sunrise during any hunting season
- ♦ use a bow and arrow from any vehicle, moving or stationary

- ♦ have both a firearm and bow in possession or under control while hunting
- ♦ **transport in a vehicle a crossbow in the cocked position**

Closed Seasons

There is no hunting or trapping season for bobcat, fisher, mourning dove, sandhill crane and king rail in New Jersey. See *Protected Wildlife*, page 26.

Dogs, Hunting and Training

Allowing dogs to run at large is prohibited.

Persons may train dogs without firearms in daylight at any time except during any open firearm deer season.

No person shall train a raccoon or opossum hunting dog on WMAs other than during the periods of Sept. 1 to Oct. 1 and from Mar. 1 to May 1 each year. Training hours shall be one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

It is illegal to use dogs to pursue or run deer or black bear or to track wounded deer or bear.

Note: Regulations for dog training on wildlife management areas are on page 70.

Delaware River, Hunting

Hunting on the Delaware River is restricted by state boundaries. A valid hunting license and any appropriate permit/stamp is required for your location.

Falconry

No person shall use a raptor for hunting without a falconry permit and a valid hunting license. No person under 14 years of age may hunt by means of a raptor. Hunting migratory birds with raptors on Sunday is prohibited.

Falconry permits will be issued only to persons who pass a comprehensive examination and who can provide proper facilities for housing a raptor.

Beginning falconers must be sponsored by an experienced falconer.

No person shall possess a firearm while hunting with raptors.

For additional information, write to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, MC 501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420 or call (908) 735-8793.

Farmer Regulations

See *Farmer Hunting and Permit Information*, page 28.

Firearms and Missiles

For the purpose of hunting in New Jersey, *firearms* refer to shotguns, muzzleloaders (rifled or smooth-bore), air guns and modern rifles.

- ♦ Possession and use of silencers are illegal on any firearm. Title 2C:39-1 g. classifies a firearm silencer as "any instrument, attachment, weapon or appliance for causing the firing of any gun, revolver, pistol, or other firearm to be silent, or intended to lessen or muffle the noise of the firing of any gun, revolver, pistol or other firearm."

Pursuant to Title 2C:39-3 c. "Any person who knowingly has in his possession any firearm silencer is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree."

- ♦ A person may not go into the woods or fields with a firearm except during prescribed seasons.

- ♦ It is unlawful to possess in the woods and fields shot larger than #4 fine shot except for hunting deer, bear, waterfowl, woodchuck (farmers only) and coyote/fox during the Special Permit Coyote and Fox Season. This shall not apply lawful use of ammunition for air guns; see *Air Guns*, page 28.

- ♦ Rimfire and centerfire rifles are not legal to hunt deer.
- ♦ **See sections on specific game animals for permitted firearms and ammunition.**

- ♦ No person shall use a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells at one time or that may be fired more than three times without reloading except for the September Canada goose season (see page 68) and during a light goose conservation order season, if any.

- ♦ See *Safety Zones*, page 26.

- ♦ Pursuant to Title 2C:39-1 f., air guns are classified by definition as firearms. Title 2C:39-1 g. classifies a **firearm silencer** as "any instrument, attachment, weapon or appliance for causing the firing of any gun, revolver, pistol, or other firearm to be silent, or intended to lessen or muffle the noise of the firing of any gun, revolver, pistol or other firearm". Pursuant to Title 2C:39-3 c. "Any person who knowingly has in his possession any firearm silencer is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree."
- ♦ See additional regulations under *Specifically Prohibited* on page 27.

Air Guns

"Air gun" means any shoulder-mounted firearm which by the force of a spring, air or other non-ignited compressed gas expels a missile or projectile and has a rifled or smooth barrel, using ammunition no smaller than .177 caliber and no larger than .22 caliber producing projectile velocities of not less than 600 feet per second measured at the muzzle. Pursuant to Title 2C:39-1 f., air guns are classified as a firearm. Air gun BBs are not legal for hunting. Air guns are now legal for taking cottontail rabbit, hare and gray squirrel. A rifle permit is not required. Modern air guns have sufficient power to take small game plus are quieter and lighter than some shotguns, making them an ideal tool for smaller-framed hunters. Air guns hunting information is now part of the basic shotgun hunter education course.

IMPORTANT: See *Firearms and Missiles*, page 24, for the law regarding silencing mechanisms that also apply to air guns.

Muzzleloaders

It is unlawful to use smokeless powder in a muzzleloader while hunting in New Jersey. Only black powder or black powder equivalents, such as Pyrodex and Triple Se7en, may be used with a muzzleloading firearm when engaged in hunting.

Properly licensed and permitted hunters 10 years and older may hunt with a muzzleloading rifle. A valid rifle permit must be possessed while hunting with a muzzleloading rifle. Permitted action types include percussion, flintlock and inline. Electronic ignitions are not legal. For muzzleloader barrel

types and legal hunting ammunition, see regulations for each game species.

It is unlawful to hunt with a muzzleloading rifle on WMAs, except for deer, bear and during the special seasons for coyote/fox and squirrel hunting. For muzzleloader rifle squirrel hunting, see page 62. For muzzleloader deer hunting, see page 30. For rifle permit information, see page 12. For muzzleloader coyote/fox hunting, see page 60.

Rifles, Modern

A valid rifle permit must be in possession while hunting with a modern rifle.

Rifles for small game hunting are allowed using limited types of .22 caliber rimfire ammo and are legal only for taking woodchuck (ammo restrictions, page 62), raccoon and opossum with hounds (.22 shorts only) plus coyote and fox (ammo restrictions, page 60). NO rifle woodchuck hunting on wildlife management areas or state parks, forests and recreation areas. Small game hunting with centerfire rifles is limited to not larger than .25 caliber for coyote and fox (see page 60) and .25 caliber or larger for woodchuck (see page 62). See also *Firearms and Missiles*, page 24.

A modern rifle magazine need not be pinned (plugged), but may be loaded with no more than three cartridges. Rifle permit holders of all ages may hunt with all rifle types as allowed by New Jersey laws.

See chart on page 62 for details on small caliber rifle ammunition legal for hunting woodchucks and page 60 for the special permit coyote/fox season.

Shotguns

Shotguns larger than 10-gauge are prohibited for hunting. Shotguns may not be capable of holding more than three shells except for September Canada goose hunting; see page 68. For information on legal shot sizes, see regulations for each game species to be hunted.

Hunter Harassment

It is illegal to obstruct or attempt to obstruct or annoy a person lawfully taking wildlife. This includes making loud noises or gestures designed to disturb, alarm, drive, attract or affect the behavior of wildlife.

Hunter Orange

Firearm hunters must wear a cap made of solid daylight fluorescent orange or an outer garment containing at least 200 square inches of fluorescent orange material visible from all sides at all times while engaged in hunting. A camo-orange hat alone is not adequate. This applies to all persons while hunting with a firearm for deer, bear, rabbit, hare, squirrel, coyote, fox, railbirds, and game birds including while in a tree stand. See exceptions below along with ground blind hunting fluorescent orange requirements.

It is now mandatory to wear a hunter orange hat when firearm hunting for small game on wildlife management areas stocked with pheasant or quail. See list of WMAs at *Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas*, page 14.

All firearm and bow and arrow deer and black bear hunters utilizing a ground blind when a firearm deer season is open concurrently must display 200 square inches of hunter orange atop the blind and visible from all sides or within five feet outside the blind and higher than the blind or at least three feet off the ground, whichever is higher. During these concurrent seasons, bowhunters in treestands also should consider wearing hunter orange.

Exceptions: the hunter orange law does not apply to waterfowl, crow, wild turkey, coyote/fox (during the special permit season, page 60), woodchuck nor bowhunters except that a bowhunter using a deer decoy must wear hunter orange, as described above, while transporting the decoy into and out of the woods and fields. During the Six-day Firearm Season, it is recommended that bowhunters wear hunter orange.

Injured or Orphaned Wildlife

If you encounter injured or orphaned wildlife, contact a wildlife rehabilitator. For more information visit our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/bornwild.htm.

Landowner Liability Act

(Excerpted from N.J.S.A. 2A:42A-2 et seq.) a. An owner...of a premises, whether or not posted and whether or not improved or maintained in a natural condition, or used as part of a commercial enterprise, owes no duty to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for sport and recreational activities, or to give warning of any hazardous condition of the land or in connection with the use of any structure or by reason of any activity on such premises to persons entering for such purposes; b. An owner of a premises who gives permission to another to enter upon such premises for a sport or recreational activity or purpose does not thereby (1) extend any assurance that the premises are safe for such purpose, or (2) constitute the person to whom permission is granted an invitee to whom a duty of care is owed, or (3) assume responsibility for or incur liability for any injury to person or property caused by any act of persons to whom the permission is granted. **Note: A landowner's liability changes if a fee is charged (or other consideration) or if there is a "willful or malicious failure" to warn of a dangerous condition on the property.**

Non-Resident Game Removal

A non-resident licensee (see *Non-resident Licenses*, page 10) may remove from the state each day a daily bag limit of game. However, a non-resident may not take more than two day's bag limit from the state after one week's stay (Sunday to Saturday inclusive.) This restriction does not apply to game raised or killed at a licensed commercial preserve and legally tagged. In addition, nonresident possession of migratory birds is the same as those described in the annual New Jersey migratory bird regulation publication.



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Regulations in red are new this year.

Possession of Certain Wildlife by Persons, Taxidermists & Butchers

No person shall have in possession a deer, bear, migratory game birds or turkey that they did not kill unless it has a label bearing the name, address, telephone number, license and permit numbers of the person who killed the deer, bear, migratory game bird or turkey. Those in the business of processing deer, bear or turkey (that is butchers, taxidermists, etc.) shall keep a ledger of all of their customers. Each customer's name, current address, day and evening telephone numbers, Conservation ID Number and possession seal number of any black bear or turkey, or Confirmation Numbers, gender and age (fawn or adult) for deer being processed shall be included in the ledger. The ledger shall be made available for inspection upon request during the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. by any law enforcement officer or employee of the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Possession of naturally shed deer antlers is legal. Parts of deer possessed, other than shed antlers, must be from lawfully harvested deer. Proof of lawful harvest (Confirmation Number or seal) should be retained for verification. Road killed deer with a permit are intended only for consumption; antler possession from these deer is not legal.

Protected Wildlife

It is illegal to capture, kill, injure or have in possession any wild bird other than a game bird. The sale of wild birds or game animals or parts thereof is prohibited except as described in N.J.S.A. 23:4-27. For more specific information, refer to our website, NJFishandWildlife.com. See also *Sale of Wildlife*, page 26.

No one may rob a bird's nest.

All nongame mammals, reptiles, birds and amphibians are protected. Penalties for taking these species range from \$250–\$5,000.

There is no open season on bobcat or fisher. It is illegal to kill or attempt to kill a bobcat or fisher in New Jersey. For more information about bobcat (including incidentally trapped) and fisher, see page 66. **Bobcat pelts from animals legally harvested in other states may be possessed or sold provided a CITES tag from the state of harvest is attached. Fishers legally harvested in other states may be possessed or sold.**

See also *Possession of Certain Wildlife*, above.

Property Damage

Hunters must not hunt in unharvested crops unless first obtaining permission from the owner. Anyone causing damage to cultivated crops, orchards, fences, buildings or livestock may be arrested without warrant by the owner, occupant, lessee, or any

officer of the law. Violators are liable for a fine of up to \$2,000 and restitution to the property owner in addition to the loss of hunting privileges for a period of five years.

Public Land Hunting

For public land hunting, refer to pages 70, 84 and 85.

Sale of Wildlife

The sale of wild birds and game animals, or parts thereof, is prohibited in New Jersey with the following exceptions: legally trapped furbearers may be sold plus the sale of white-tailed deer hides, tails and the lower portion of the legs is legal. See also *Closed Seasons, Bobcat*, page 24. Questions should be directed to a regional Fish and Wildlife law enforcement office; see page 47.

Safety Zones

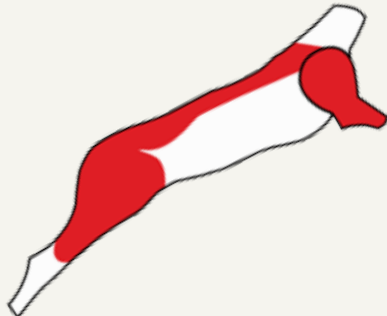
No firearm hunter may carry a loaded firearm or hunt within 450 feet of a building or any school playground, even if unoccupied, except the owner or lessee of a building, and persons specifically authorized by him in writing. No bowhunter may carry a nocked arrow or hunt within 150 feet of a building or within 450 feet of any school playground, even if unoccupied, except the owner or lessee of a building,

Edible Portions

Edible portions do not include meat from the head or neck; meat that has been damaged by the method of taking; bones, sinew, and meat reasonably lost as a result of butchering, boning, or close trimming of bones, or viscera. Edible portions do not include meat from diseased or scavenged carcasses.

For white-tailed deer and black bear:

- Front quarters as far as the distal joint of the radius-ulna (knee)
- Hind quarters as far as the distal joint of the tibia-fibula (hock)
- Backstrap/tenderloin — the meat along the backbone, between the front and hind quarters



For rabbit and squirrel:

- Front shoulders
- Thighs
- Backstrap



For game birds such as turkey:

- breast, legs and thighs



For game birds other than turkey:

- breast



and persons specifically authorized by him in writing. Persons authorized to bowhunt *within* 150 feet of a building must hunt from an elevated position to shoot down toward the ground. Note: persons authorized to hunt with a firearm within 450 feet, or with bow and arrow within 150 feet of a building must be in possession of that written permission while hunting. Shooting into a safety zone is prohibited. (See *Safety Zone Awareness*, page 85, for diagram and safety zone explanation.)

Stealing Traps or Trapped Animals

(Excerpted from N.J.S.A. 23:4-40) **No person shall take or unlawfully appropriate, with intent to steal, a trap or the property of another, set along, by or in any of the public or private ditches, streams, ponds or waters in this state for the purpose of catching furbearing animals, or remove an animal from the trap of another person.**

Sunday Hunting

No person may hunt with firearms or any other weapon or carry a gun in the woods or fields or on the waters on Sunday except on semi-wild and commercial shooting preserve lands for the purpose of shooting stocked game; and when using a .22 rifle for dispatching trapped animals.

NOTE: Sunday bowhunting for deer is legal only on state wildlife management areas and private property.

Persons are allowed to hunt raccoon or opossum between midnight on Saturday (the day's beginning) and one hour before sunrise on Sunday during the prescribed season.

Trespass Law

Hunters and trappers must have permission (oral or written) from the landowner or lessee prior to entering either posted lands or agricultural lands (which are not required to be posted.) Hunters also must obtain permission to enter posted land and agricultural land to recover deer. Hunters and trappers may not enter unposted land after having been forbidden to trespass by the owner, lessee or occupant.

If a hunter or trapper is charged with trespass, they must provide documentation of written permission in court for their defense. See page 71 for the Hunt SMART Courtesy Card.

Wanton Waste of Game

It is unlawful for any person who kills or wounds any white-tailed deer, black bear, wild turkey, rabbit, squirrel, pheasant, quail, partridge, ruffed grouse or waterfowl while engaged in any hunting to refuse or neglect to make a reasonable effort to retrieve, retain or lawfully take into possession such game animal or bird.

It is unlawful for any person to take, kill, or capture any game mammal or game bird and remove from the carcass the head, hide or antlers and leave the edible portions of the carcass and meat to waste except for a furbearer, crow, woodchuck or squirrel. See *Edible Portions* guide on page 26.

It is unlawful for any person to place, leave, dump or abandon a game mammal, game bird or wildlife carcass or parts of it along or upon a public right-of-way or highway, or on public or private property, including a waterway or stream, without the permission of the owner or tenant, or on any wildlife management area or state park. Make every effort to retrieve your game, remove the animal from the field—except entrails may be left discretely in the field—consume the edible portions and properly dispose of the remains such as bagged in your household trash.

Wildlife Damage Control

Property owners and occupants of dwellings, or their agents designated in writing, suffering damage from squirrel, raccoon, opossum, skunk, weasel, woodchuck, gray fox, red fox and coyote may control these animals by lawful procedures at any time subject to state law and local ordinances. Farmers or their agents may also control the above species by lawful procedures when found destroying livestock, crops or poultry at any time subject to state and local ordinances.

Note: Persons who kill a coyote must notify a Fish and Wildlife Regional Law Enforcement Office within 24 hours.

Youth Hunting

A youth hunter means the possessor of a youth hunting license—or the immediate family member of a qualified occupant farmer—who is at least 10 years of age. Youth hunter status continues until Dec. 31 of the year in which the youth turns 16. For youth hunters from 10 through 13 years of age, they **MUST** hunt under the direct supervision of a person who is at least 21 years old and who has a valid firearm or bow and arrow license corresponding to the season hunted. Direct supervision is defined as both the youth hunter and parent/guardian set up together at the same location, hunting as a unit, not hunting independently. See also *Youth Licenses*, page 10. Youth licenses are issued free to youths ages 10–15 upon completion of a hunter or trapper education course. Youth hunters who pre-registered for and successfully complete a hunter education course will receive their youth hunting license at the course. See *Hunter and Trapper Education Requirements*, page 8 and *Youth Licenses*, page 10. Be sure to visit the *Take a Kid Hunting* section and special youth hunt days, pages 22–23. ♫

Specifically Prohibited

- Carrying a loaded firearm within 450 feet, or a nocked arrow within 150 feet of a building or within 450 feet of any school playground (whether or not occupied) is prohibited, except the owner or lessee of a building and persons specifically authorized by him in writing may hunt with a firearm within 450 feet or a bow within 150 feet of the building. **Note:** persons authorized to hunt with a firearm within 450 feet or with a bow and arrow within 150 feet of a building must be in possession of that written permission while hunting. (See page 85 for diagram with complete safety zone explanation. See also *Safety Zone*, page 26.)
 - Discharging a firearm or a bow and arrow on or across highways or roads.
 - Discharging a firearm or a bow and arrow from a motor vehicle, including ATVs.
 - Sights which project a spot or light onto the game animal.
 - Hunting for or shooting any wildlife by aid of a light, except when hunting raccoon, opossum while on foot or when hunting coyote/fox during the special coyote/fox season.
 - Hunting or shooting with the aid of a light attached to or carried in a vehicle.
 - On national wildlife refuges, the distribution of bait and/or hunting over bait. Also, no Sunday hunting on these lands.
 - Hunting with arrows, darts or any other device propelled by any means that is used for the purpose of injecting or delivering any type of drug into an animal.
 - Possessing a loaded firearm in or on a motor vehicle, including all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). Possession of a loaded firearm in or upon a vehicle is considered proof of pursuing or taking of wildlife.
 - Transporting an uncased firearm in or on a motor vehicle or ATV or transporting a cocked crossbow in or on a motor vehicle or ATV.
 - Shooting into a squirrel's nest.
 - The removal of the skin or feathers or mutilation of any wild bird or mammal in the woods or fields for the purpose of concealing sex or identity is illegal.
- In the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, the following apply:**
- Baiting is prohibited.
 - No permanent tree stands or screw-in steps are permitted.
 - You cannot possess a loaded firearm while on any publicly traveled roadway within the area.
 - Trapping is prohibited.
 - No Sunday bowhunting.

Regulations in red are new this year.

Farmer License Exemption

All farmers hunting deer must have a Conservation Identification number (CID#). Farmers who already receive free farmer deer or turkey permits, and farmers who have purchased a hunting license/permit and/or freshwater fishing license since 2006 already have an assigned, permanent CID#. A CID# is required to utilize Fish and Wildlife's Automated Harvest Report System. Farmers who are exempt from the license requirement and hunt only during non-permit seasons still must obtain a CID# in order to report their harvested deer. Register for a free CID# online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. No purchase is required but you must create a profile in the online license sales site. From our homepage at NJFishandWildlife.com, click 'Buy your licenses and permits' and follow the instructions to create a profile. There will be options to purchase a license, apply for permits or print an identification card. Choose 'Print an Identification Card.' A card will print with your 9-digit CID#.

All Farmer Deer Hunters: Before going hunting, be sure to go to Fish and Wildlife's website (NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm) and write down the DMZ, county, township and Deer Management Unit of your hunt location prior to harvesting a deer! Record this info on your license, permit or the Deer Harvest Report Card (page 29) to have accessible for when you report your deer and to record your assigned Confirmation Number. When reporting a deer harvest on your farm property, farmers do not need a Harvest Number during the non-permit deer seasons. To report a deer call (855) IHUNT NJ or (855) 448-6865 or online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. See page 32 for additional information.

A farmer and members of the immediate family (see definition below) who also reside on the farm may hunt, trap and fish on the farm without being licensed or possessing a valid rifle permit. (See

page 29 for a cut-out Harvest Report Card.) All hunting, fishing and trapping must be conducted in the manner provided by law during the prescribed seasons. A farm is defined as an area of at least five acres and having gross income of at least \$500, and tax assessed as farmland. This exemption does not apply to a tenant or employee who is not an immediate family member.

Immediate Family: For the purpose of farmers hunting and trapping, "immediate family" includes the spouse, mother, father, child, grandchild, stepchild, stepparent, legal guardian, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, great grandparent, brother, sister, stepsister, stepbrother, brother-in-law and sister-in-law of the farm owner or lessee who resides thereon.

Farmer Regulations

The occupant of a farm may allow his or her dog to run at large on land he or she occupies, except during the firearm deer seasons.

Farmers and their lessees occupying or farming their land, members of their immediate family (see definition above), or their farming employees may kill crows, woodchuck and fox on farm property at any time when found destroying livestock or crops. However, they must use legal firearms, ammunition and other lawful procedures. See also *Wildlife Damage Control*, page 27. See also *General Regulations*, page 24.

Farmers must possess the appropriate permit to legally hunt the farm during any hunting or trapping season which requires a permit. Permits are provided free to all qualified farmers for the following seasons: Permit Bow, Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun deer seasons plus the spring and fall Turkey Permit seasons and the Black Bear Season.

Sunday bowhunting for deer is legal only on state wildlife management areas and private property.

Farmers may trap fox destroying poultry, crops or property at any time, subject to state law and local ordinances. Farmers or their agents may shoot or

trap coyotes by lawful procedures at any time when found destroying livestock or crops. **A regional Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement office must be notified within 24 hours of killing a coyote.** See *Telephone Directory* page 92.

Permits for Farmers

Fish and Wildlife reviews the Farmer Permit database periodically to ensure compliance. Our Bureau of Law Enforcement will contact you if additional information is required during the re-evaluation process. Farmer status will be inactivated and farmers notified if the information on file is no longer accurate.

New farmers must submit an application to obtain free turkey, deer and/or bear permits. Applications are available on our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/farmer.htm under *Farmer Certification Application for Deer and Turkey Permits*. Print out both pages and use the instruction sheet to fill out the application.

Applications are also available at your local county agricultural extension office.

The preferred application period for farmers is June 1–August 1.

Once approved, farmers may claim their farmer permits by going to any license agent. The dates when permits will become available are listed below.

Farmer Deer Permits

- ♦ Farmers may claim deer permits beginning **TUESDAY, September 8, 2015 at 10 a.m.** at any license agent.
- ♦ Approved farmers are eligible for one free bow, shotgun and muzzleloader permit and one free Antlered Buck Permit for each of the three permit seasons. See *Farmer License Exemption*, above. See also *Farmer Regulations*, above.
- ♦ Two types of farmer permits—occupant and non-occupant farmer—allow the applicant to decide for which permit it is easiest to qualify; see below. Farmers who must change the occupancy status for their deer permit should call (609) 292-1473.
- ♦ Only a qualified farmer and members of the immediate family (see definition on this page) who reside on the farm, are eligible to apply for occupant and non-occupant farmer deer permits.
- ♦ Farmers may also apply for (or purchase at any license agent) regular deer permits in addition to the free farmer permits. See *Deer Season Permits*, page 16.
- ♦ Farmers are eligible for a Farmer Buck Permit which are limited to only one per person per season. If a farmer claims their FARMER Buck Permit they cannot purchase an Antlered Buck Permit. Likewise, if a farmer first purchases an Antlered Buck Permit, the farmer cannot claim a Farmer Buck Permit. The Antlered Buck Permit is valid for any zone in which the farmer has an antlerless permit for the season.

Occupant Farmer Deer Permits

- ♦ Applicants must be the owner, lessee or members of the immediate family (see definition on this page) who actually reside on the farm property.

10 Safety Tips for Crossbow Shooting Success

1. Always read the manufacturers directions and use the recommended arrow (bolt) weight and length.
2. Always visually inspect crossbow and accessories before shooting to ensure all are in good condition.
3. Keep fingers and thumb low on the crossbow forearm, below the rail; the flight path of string and cable can cause serious personal injury.
4. Never walk with a crossbow cocked and arrow loaded.
5. Never cock a crossbow while in a treestand, except for crank-type models.
6. Always raise and lower unloaded crossbows from a treestand using a haul line.
7. Before shooting, check that bow limbs will hit nothing when they flex forward during the release. Crossbow limbs store enough energy to knock a hunter to the ground should the bow contact the tree or your stand.
8. Carry in your quiver an arrow with either a field point, judo or blunt. Uncock the crossbow at day's end by shooting that arrow into a target or soft ground.
9. Never dry-fire a crossbow; releasing the trigger without an arrow in place can damage to the bow limbs or cause serious personal injury.
10. Never store or transport a crossbow in the cocked position.

- ♦ Land must be at least five acres, tax-assessed as farmland.
- ♦ Occupant permits are valid only on the farm property where the applicant resides.

Non-Occupant Farmer Deer Permits

- ♦ Applicants are not required to live on the farm property.
- ♦ Farmer(s) and members of their immediate family (see definition on this page) may qualify, up to a total of five people.
- ♦ Must actively till at least 30 acres of land which is tax-assessed as farmland.
- ♦ Woodlots do not qualify.
- ♦ To apply for hunting leased farmland, a copy of all leases authorizing the agricultural and hunting uses of the land must be attached to the application.
- ♦ Non-occupant permits are valid only on private land within the deer management zone designated on the permit and are not valid on public lands within that zone.
- ♦ An applicant who lives on a farm and actively tills at least 30 acres may apply either as an occupant or a non-occupant.

Farmer Turkey Permits

Farmers may claim fall season turkey permits beginning TUESDAY, September 8, 2015 at 10 a.m. at any license agent. Farmer Turkey Permits are only for Occupant Farmers. Fall Turkey Season is now open in all Turkey Hunting Areas. If you experience a problem obtaining the fall permit at a license agent, call (609) 292-1473.

Farmer turkey permits are available only to the farmer and immediate family who reside on the farm. See definition of "immediate family" on page 28.

Farmers may also apply for (or purchase at any license agent) regular turkey permits in addition to the free farmer permits. See the turkey permit supplement, distributed each January or on our website for details.

Farmer Bear Permits

Only the owner or lessee of a farm, who resides thereon, or members of his immediate family 10 years of age or older who also reside thereon, may apply on forms provided for a special farmer black bear permit. See definition of "immediate family" on page 28. Under this section a farm is an area of five acres or more, producing a gross income in excess of \$500 and is tax assessed as farmland. Special farmer black bear permits will be issued only in those Black Bear Management Zones where a season is prescribed.

Farmers who applied for a farmer black bear permit in the past, do not need to re-apply this year provided that their information and farm situation has not changed. New farmers and those who did not apply in the past must submit an application. These will be reviewed and approved by Law Enforcement.

Application forms may be obtained from Fish and Wildlife's website or at county agricultural extension offices.

Deer Harvest Report Card

(Attach to deer after reporting the harvest.)

Record your deer harvest information here prior to using the Automated Harvest Report System via phone or the Internet for deer taken during the Fall Bow, Six-day Firearm, Winter Bow or Youth Hunt Day seasons when there is no permit on which to record youth or farmer harvest data. To report your deer, call (855) 1 HUNT NJ or (855) 448-6865 or NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm.

Name _____ CID# _____
 Date Deer Killed _____ Hunting Season _____
 Deer Mgt Zone _____ County _____
 Deer Mgt Unit* _____ Township _____

* Find this number through DFW's website link shown above *prior* to hunting.

Check only one box:

Antlerless		Antlered		Antler Points	
Female		Male > 3 in		Left	
Male <3 in		Shed		Right	
Button Buck		Broken			

Confirmation Number: _____

Deer Harvest Report Card

(Attach to deer after reporting the harvest.)

Record your deer harvest information here prior to using the Automated Harvest Report System via phone or the Internet for deer taken during the Fall Bow, Six-day Firearm, Winter Bow or Youth Hunt Day seasons when there is no permit on which to record youth or farmer harvest data. To report your deer, call (855) 1 HUNT NJ or (855) 448-6865 or NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm.

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* Find this number through DFW's website link shown above *prior* to hunting.

Check only one box:

Antlerless		Antlered		Antler Points	
Female		Male > 3 in		Left	
Male <3 in		Shed		Right	
Button Buck		Broken			

Confirmation Number: _____

Include on the application your Conservation ID Number; fill in the entire form. Properly completed applications will be accepted in the Trenton office **no later than October 15**. There is no fee; all qualified applicants will receive a Special Farmer Black Bear Permit via mail.

Submit only one farmer application per individual during the initial application period. Application for a farmer black bear permit shall not preclude a farmer (as a holder of a valid hunting license) from applying for—and Fish and Wildlife issuing—one regular black bear season permit. However, the season bag limit remains one black bear regardless of the numbers of permits held.

Special Farmer Black Bear Permits will NOT be issued via the electronic license system for the

2015 Black Bear Season. Permits will be mailed to qualified farmers only after receiving valid applications approved by Fish and Wildlife's Bureau of Law Enforcement. 🐾

Warning to Violators

Be advised: two violations of wildlife management area regulations will result in loss of all sporting licenses and privileges for a period of five years.





Six-day Firearm Deer Season

Dec. 7–12, 2015 and Dec. 5–10, 2016
(Season always opens the second Monday after Thanksgiving.)

Regulations in red are new this year.

Legal Deer Hunting Hours: half hour before sunrise to half hour after sunset

ONLY ONE ANTLERED DEER may be taken per season statewide, except two deer may be taken at a time during the Six-Day Firearm Season regardless of the number of antlered buck permits in possession. To be legal, all deer harvested must be reported using Fish and Wildlife's Automated Harvest

Report System (see page 32), either online or by telephone. Hunters will be assigned a Confirmation Number (CID) in place of the metal possession seal formerly provided at check stations. This Confirmation Number, like the metal seal, must be kept with the deer and its parts.

Note: Only one deer at a time may be taken during any permit season even if you possess both an antlered and antlerless permit, **except** in those zones in Regulation Sets 6, 7 and 8 where two deer at a time may be harvested during the **Fall Bow, Permit Bow, Permit Shotgun, Permit Muzzleloader and Winter Bow** seasons.

NOTE: Sunday bowhunting for deer is legal only on state wildlife management areas and private property.

pedicel or portion of skull between the skull plate and base of the antler point.

- ♦ **Antler point** is defined as any point at least one inch long from its tip to its base line, and the length must exceed the width at some location at least one inch down from the tip.
- ♦ **Antlerless deer** is defined as any deer that does not have an antler length measuring at least three inches. For the purposes of this definition, adult male deer that have shed their antlers, button bucks and adult males with antlers less than three inches are considered antlerless deer.
- ♦ **Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit, Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit or Antlered Buck Bow Permit** refers to the antlered buck permits available for purchase which are valid *only* when used in conjunction with the antlerless, zone-specific deer season permit. The antlered buck permits contain an antlered deer Harvest Report Stub (formerly called a transportation tag) and allows for the pursuit and harvest of an antlered deer only.
- ♦ **Antler Point Restriction** zones include Zones 3, 9, 13, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 47, 63 and 67. The harvest of antlered deer from these zones during any open season is restricted to deer with at least one antler having a minimum of three antler points as defined above. The goal of the antler point restriction strategy, as part of Quality Deer Management, is to reduce harvest pressure on the 1½ year-old antlered deer in the expectation that they will survive to produce larger antlers as older animals.
- ♦ **Special Areas Deer Management** zones include Zones 37, 38, 39, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 64, 66, 67, 68 and 70. They are generally small, publicly-owned properties administered by county, federal or state agencies (other than Fish and Wildlife) where deer season dates, bag limits or regulations differ from those of the surrounding deer management zone. See page 50 for details.

Feral Hogs



Report sightings, rooting evidence or other damage caused by feral hogs!

USDA APHIS Wildlife Services at (908) 735-5654 x 2

Deer hunters must report the harvest of feral hogs to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife at (609) 748-2044.

For more information on Feral Hogs in New Jersey, visit our website by scanning this code or go to NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/hogs.htm.



Feral Hogs

With the ongoing presence of feral hogs in the Gloucester County area, New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife will allow deer hunters in Deer Management Zones 25 and 65 to hunt feral hogs during the regular deer seasons. Feral hogs must be checked. Hunters who harvest a feral hog must call (609) 748-2044 to schedule a time to check in the hog.

Key Concepts and Definitions

- ♦ **Antlered deer** is defined as any deer with at least one antler measuring at least three inches in length as defined below.
- ♦ **Antler length** is defined as the maximum length of a deer antler measured from the lowest outside edge of the antler burr along the outer curve to the most distant point of what is or appears to be the main antler beam. For the purposes of this definition, the antler length does not include the

♦ **Youth Hunter** status applies to the possessor of a valid Youth Hunting License (or the immediate member of a qualified occupant farmer who is at least 10 years of age) and continues until Dec. 31 of the year in which he or she turns 16 years of age. **The Youth Bow Deer Hunt Day is Saturday, Sept. 26, 2015. The Youth Firearm Deer Hunt Day is Saturday, Nov. 21, 2015.** The bag limit for youth hunters on this day is one deer of either sex. Antler Point Restrictions and Earn-A-Buck requirements do not apply for deer taken on this day by youth hunters. See page 22 for details. See page 29 for a cut-out Harvest Report Card.

Licenses and Permits

- ♦ See *License, Permits and Stamps*, page 8, for details and for Hunter Education requirements.
- ♦ Additional hunting licenses may not be purchased

in order to harvest additional deer.

- ♦ Although hunters may purchase multiple deer permits, **they are limited to only one zone-specific ANTLERLESS permit per zone during each of the permit seasons.** For example, a hunter may buy an ANTLERLESS muzzleloader permit for each of Zones 18, 21 and 24. A hunter may purchase a bow permit, a muzzleloader permit and a shotgun permit for Zone 24; however, they may not purchase two ANTLERLESS bow permits (nor two shotgun permits nor two muzzleloader permits) for Zone 24.
- ♦ It is unlawful to use a bow and arrow for hunting deer while using a firearm license (except during the Six-day Firearm Season) and unlawful while using a shotgun or muzzleloader deer permit. A bow and arrow license and permit (when required) must be in possession using this hunting equipment.
- ♦ **The zone-specific Bow, Muzzleloader and**

Shotgun Permits are valid ONLY for the pursuit and harvest of ANTLERLESS deer. Hunters who want to pursue and take an antlered deer during any of these seasons must purchase an Antlered Buck Bow, Antlered Buck Muzzleloader or Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit. Hunters may purchase only one Antlered Buck Permit per season. An Antlered Buck Permit must be used in conjunction with zone-specific antlerless permit. The Antlered Buck Permit is not zone-specific; it is valid for use in any zone for which the hunter already holds a zone-specific antlerless season permit, but only one buck may be harvested per season. Adult deer permits are \$28; youth deer permits are \$12.

Antlered Buck Permit Deadline!

Antlered Buck Permits must be purchased by 11:59 p.m. on the following dates: Oct. 31 for Permit Bow; Nov. 30 for Permit Muzzleloader and Dec. 16 for Permit Shotgun seasons, UNLESS you are buying your first zone-specific antlerless permit AND an Antlered Buck Permit at the same time after these dates. See *Antlered Buck Permit Deadline!* page 18.

Firearms, Bows and Ammunition Legal for Deer Hunting

Season(s)	Weapon Type	Gauge, Caliber or Draw Weight	Projectile(s)	Firearm sights; Bow releases
Fall Bow Permit Bow Winter Bow	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow.	35 pounds pull at archer's draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow) or 75 pounds minimum draw weight (crossbow)	Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of 3/4"	Handheld release devices are permitted
Permit Muzzleloader	Muzzleloader: rifle or smoothbore, single-barrel, single-shot. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted. Electronic ignitions are not legal. Double-barrel firearms prohibited.	Rifle: not less than .44 caliber Smoothbore: not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge	Must be loaded with a single projectile only	Telescopic sights permitted
Six-day Firearm	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow.	35 pounds pull at archer's draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow) or 75 pounds minimum draw weight (crossbow)	Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of 3/4"	NOTE: bowhunters must possess both a firearm and a bow and arrow license during this season.
	Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than three shells	Slugs: lead, lead alloy or copper rifled slug or sabot slug Buck shot: sizes not smaller than #4 (0.24") nor larger than #000 (0.36")	Shotgun must have an adjustable open iron or peep sight or a scope affixed if hunter is hunting with or in possession of slugs
	Muzzleloader: single-shot, single barrel rifle OR single or double-barrel smoothbore shotgun. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted. Electronic ignitions are not legal.	Muzzleloading rifle: single shot not less than .44 caliber Smoothbore: single or double-barrel not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge	Muzzleloading rifle: single projectile Smoothbore: buck shot not smaller than #4 (0.24") nor larger than #000 (0.36") or a single projectile	Telescopic sights permitted
Permit Shotgun	Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than three shells	Slugs: lead, lead alloy or copper rifled slug or sabot slug Buck shot: sizes not smaller than #4 (0.24") nor larger than #000 (0.36")	Shotgun must have an adjustable open iron or peep sight or a scope affixed if hunter is hunting with or in possession of slugs
	Muzzleloader: single or double-barrel smoothbores only (no rifles.) Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted	Not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge	Buck shot: sizes not smaller than #4 (0.24") nor larger than #000 (0.36") or a single projectile	—

Firearms, Ammunition and Sights

- ♦ See page 24 for general hunting regulations which also apply to deer hunting.
- ♦ **All firearms must be cased and unloaded while being transported in vehicles, including on all-terrain vehicles.** A muzzleloader is considered unloaded when, in the case of a percussion cap rifle or shotgun, the percussion cap has been removed from the nipple; in the case of a flintlock, when the powder is removed from the pan and a boot or cover made of nonmetallic material is placed over the frizzen.
- ♦ Hunters using or possessing **any shotgun slug** in the field during the deer seasons must have a shotgun with adjustable open iron or peep sights or a scope affixed to the shotgun.
- ♦ **Telescopic sights** of any magnification (scope power) are permitted for deer hunting on **all** firearms, including muzzleloader rifles and smoothbore muzzleloader shotguns. No permits are required for telescopic sights.
- ♦ Any sight or device that casts a beam of light upon the deer is prohibited.
- ♦ Shotgun shells containing single spherical projectiles referred to as **pumpkin balls are prohibited.**
- ♦ While deer hunting with a shotgun, it is illegal to have in possession any ammunition not authorized for deer hunting.
- ♦ When hunting during the overlapping firearms seasons for deer and when in possession of the proper permits for the current seasons, hunters may carry the firearms legal for the current seasons. For example, when Six-day Firearm and Permit Muzzleloader seasons run concurrently, a

Regulations in red are new this year.

hunter may be in possession of a shotgun and either a muzzleloading rifle or smoothbore muzzleloader.

- ♦ Double-barreled muzzleloading rifles are not permitted during the Six-day Firearm or Permit Muzzleloader seasons.
- ♦ Only one muzzleloading rifle or smoothbore muzzleloader may be in possession while deer hunting, but not both simultaneously.
- ♦ Only black powder or black powder equivalents, such as Pyrodex and Triple Se7en, may be used with a muzzleloading firearm when engaged in hunting. Modern smokeless powder is strictly prohibited while hunting game with a muzzleloading firearm.
- ♦ Special Areas Deer Management Zones may have regulations that differ from the statewide regulations. See page 50 for details.

Ground Blinds

All firearm and bow and arrow deer hunters utilizing a ground blind when a firearm deer season is concurrently open must display 200 square inches of hunter orange atop the blind and visible from all sides or within five feet outside the blind and higher than the blind or at least three feet off the ground, whichever is higher. During these concurrent seasons, bowhunters in treestands also should consider wearing hunter orange.

A "ground blind" is defined as a temporary, man-made structure used for the purpose of concealing from sight a person who is hunting. A ground blind is not a naturally occurring feature that a hunter merely uses for concealment.

Baiting

Baiting is allowed for deer hunting. Hunters may hunt for deer while in a tree, on the ground or in a structure and from any height and any distance from the bait pile. Hunters should check with the landowner or administrative agency before placing bait on their hunting area as baiting is not allowed on properties such as national wildlife refuges.

Decoys and Electronic Devices

- ♦ Persons may hunt with the aid of deer decoys statewide in those zones open for deer hunting only during the Fall Bow, Permit Bow and Winter Bow seasons. When carrying or moving deer decoys for the purpose of hunting, persons must wear a fluorescent orange hat or outer garment consisting of at least 200 square inches of fluorescent orange material, which shall be visible from all sides as currently required for firearm deer hunting.
- ♦ It is unlawful to hunt for deer with the aid of an electronic calling device or any device that casts a beam of light upon the deer.

Bag Limits

- ♦ For all seasons except Six-day Firearm, properly licensed and permitted hunters are limited to taking one antlered buck per season, regardless

of the number of antlerless, zone-specific permits purchased, when applicable.

- ♦ Bag limits for the fall bow and winter bow seasons are as prescribed for each zone (see Regulation Sets, page 44) except that once a hunter has met the bag limit in a given regulation set, he or she may not harvest additional deer from any zone in that regulation set or in one of identical or more restrictive bag limits. However, the hunter may subsequently hunt in a zone with a more liberal (greater) antlerless bag limit as described in the regulation sets.
- ♦ Bowhunters may take two antlered deer legally on a Bow or All-around Sportsman License, one antlered deer each during the Fall Bow and Winter Bow seasons. Hunters who want to pursue and harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Bow Season must purchase a buck permit valid only when used in conjunction with the zone-specific antlerless Bow Permit. For permit purchasing deadline, see *Deer Season Permits*, page 16.
- ♦ Bowhunters may take antlered deer with their bow during the Six-day Firearm season, provided that they have a current and valid firearm license in addition to an archery license, or have an All-around Sportsman License. Bow hunters who bag an antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season with their bow must use the Harvest Report Stub for the Six-day season from their firearm or All-around Sportsman License only.
- ♦ Firearm hunters legally may take two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season on a firearm or All-around Sportsman License. Hunters will be assigned a Confirmation Number upon reporting their first Six-day Firearm Season buck using the new Automated Harvest Report System, allowing the immediate pursuit and harvest of a second buck. Hunters who want to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun or Permit Muzzleloader seasons must purchase a buck permit for the corresponding season, valid only when used in conjunction with the zone-specific antlerless Shotgun or Muzzleloader permit. If hunters take a second antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, their Shotgun Permit Season bag limit is then restricted to antlerless deer only. For purchasing deadlines, see *Deer Season Permits*, page 16.
- ♦ Remember, although two antlered bucks may be taken during the Six-day Firearm Season, when that occurs, the antlered buck bag limit for the Permit Shotgun Season is then zero. Hunters may choose: take either two antlered bucks during Six-day Firearm Season, or one antlered buck during Six-day Firearm Season and one antlered buck during Permit Shotgun Season (while possessing an Antlered Buck Permit.) The antlerless bag limit for these permit seasons will be one, two or unlimited depending on the zone and season. See *Regulation Sets*, page 44.
- ♦ Note: Only one deer at a time may be taken during any permit season even if you possess both an antlered and antlerless permit, except in those zones in Regulation Sets 6, 7 and 8 where two deer at a time may be harvested during the Permit Bow, Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader seasons.

- ♦ Two deer may be taken at a time in Zones 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 25, 36, 39, 41, 42, 48, 49, 50, 51, 54, 56, 57, 58, 64, and 66 and 68 during the Permit Bow, Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader seasons plus Fall and Winter Bow Seasons (in those zones open for each of those seasons) until the season concludes. See *Regulation Sets*, page 44.

Mandatory Harvest Report and Tag Requirements

All hunters are required to report harvested deer on the day killed using the Automated Harvest Report System and now **must immediately tag your deer.**

Before you go hunting:

1. Before your hunt, verify that you have the correct year's license and proper, valid zone permit. This is essential—both to report your harvest and to comply with the law!
2. Use the Deer Hunting Location Viewer at NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm with easy instructions above the viewer's map. Use this app to determine the deer management zone (zone), county, township, and deer management unit (unit) where you hunt. Write down all this information and keep it accessible while in the field for when you need to report a deer.

In the field:

Upon retrieval, the deer is considered to be in your possession. The hunter must:

1. Immediately fill out the Harvest Report Stub that is part of your license or permit (or a Harvest Report card found on page 29) with the exception of the Confirmation Number (a number automatically assigned by the system which replaces the metal possession seal). Leave the harvest report stub attached to the license. The stub is not used as a tag. See item 2 below for tagging details.
2. Restored in 2015, each deer must have a tag affixed to the carcass bearing the hunter's CID, both the date and zone of harvest, antler points and confirmation number, if applicable. Make your own tag or use the Deer Harvest Report Card on page 29.
3. Report your harvest via the Automated Harvest Reporting System (by phone or Internet as printed on every hunting license and permit) by 8 p.m. during the Fall Bow Season or by 7 p.m. for all other seasons. If unable to access the Automated Harvest Reporting System by the designated time, the deer shall be reported immediately by telephone to the nearest Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement office (see page 47 for Law Enforcement listings). The hunter must continue to attempt accessing the Automated Harvest Report System until they receive a Confirmation Number for that deer.
4. Record your assigned Confirmation Number on your Harvest Report Stub or card. Keep this stub in your license holder – Do not attach to the deer. Retain your Confirmation Number as long as the deer or its parts are in possession. To report the harvest of additional antlerless

deer during the *same* season (and zone, if applicable) **reuse** the *same* Harvest Number from that season's antlerless stub for all other antlerless deer taken in this season. Since the license or permit stub only has space for two Confirmation Numbers, use the Harvest Report Card in this Digest (page 29) and on our website, or make your own card on which to record your harvest data and Confirmation Number for each deer.

NOTE: A hunter may be required to produce the head of the deer—or produce records relating to the location of the head such as the butcher or taxidermist who has possession of the deer's head—upon request by a conservation officer within 48 hours after a deer harvest is reported.

Harvest Report Stubs from 2015 permits are valid for the entire length of the Permit Bow, Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun seasons, including January and February 2016, if the zone specified on the original permit is open for hunting during these dates.

When regulations allow taking multiple deer, hunting may resume after each deer is reported and a Confirmation Number assigned.

The online license system, including the Harvest Reporting section, is optimized for smartphones and other mobile devices. Mobile device users *must* provide a valid email address and phone number.

After Harvesting a Deer

Even when in possession of deer that have been reported already, **each deer must be tagged with their assigned Confirmation Number, when applicable, and other information.** See *Mandatory Harvest Report and Tag Requirements* page 32 for

tagging details. See page 29 for a Harvest Report Card for use when each of your license or permit stubs have been filled or for use as a tag. Be discreet when transporting your deer to the butcher, taxidermist or home; rinse away excess blood, turn the field-dressed side to face in toward your vehicle and push the tongue back into the deer's mouth.

After Reporting Your Deer—Possession or Sale

- The Confirmation Number assigned by the Automated Harvest Report System must be retained until all venison is consumed and as long as you keep any deer parts, including antlers. Persons with deer mounts should write their name, assigned Confirmation Number, date of kill and season of harvest on back of the mount for future reference.
- It is illegal to sell deer meat, deer antlers or any part of a deer except deer hides, tails and the lower portion of the legs. However, nonprofit organizations conducting wild game dinners for social and fundraising events may offer game or furbearer meat (the sale of which is otherwise prohibited) provided that the meat has been harvested, stored and processed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Spotlighting

Spotlighting deer during hours of darkness from a vehicle is illegal while in possession of a weapon capable of killing deer, whether the weapon is cased, uncased or in a locked compartment. This does not apply to the regular use of headlights when traveling in a normal manner on public or private roads. 🐾

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Deer Hunting—General Seasons vs. Permit Seasons

New Jersey has six distinct deer hunting seasons, all of which require a hunting license and three that also require a deer permit.

General Deer Seasons

Three *general seasons* include the Fall Bow, Winter Bow and Six-day Firearm (buck) statewide seasons open to any hunter bearing a valid license corresponding to the season. During these statewide seasons, hunters are not restricted to hunting particular deer management zones but still must abide by the specific season dates and bag limits regulated on a zone-basis. Consult the *Regulation Sets* beginning on page 44.

For these general seasons, a deer Harvest Report Stub is an integral part of every hunting license valid for taking deer.

Permit Deer Seasons

Three *permit seasons* include the Permit Bow, Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader *zone-specific seasons* open to any hunter bearing a

valid license corresponding to the season plus an appropriate deer permit (bow, shotgun or muzzleloader) for the deer management zone in which you are hunting. These deer permits are valid only for taking antlerless deer. To harvest an antlered buck during any permit season, the hunter must purchase a buck permit (one per person per season) which is not zone-specific but must be used only in a zone for which the hunter possesses the antlerless zone permit. (See page 31.)

During the Permit Bow Season hunters must possess a valid Bow and Arrow or All-around Sportsmen license **plus** a Bow Permit for the specific zone being hunted.

During the Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader seasons

hunters must possess a valid Firearm or All-around Sportsmen license **plus** either a Shotgun or Muzzleloader Permit for the specific zone being hunted. For the Permit Muzzleloader season, the hunter must also possess a valid Rifle Permit. (See *Muzzleloaders* page 26.)

Expiration Dates

All licenses (Firearm, Bow and Arrow and All-around Sportsmen licenses) are valid for the *calendar year* from January 1 through December 31.

All deer permits (Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Bow permits and their respective Buck permits) are valid for the duration of the season—even when the season crosses into the new year. Numerous deer management zones have seasons that begin in November/December and end in January/February.

All Rifle Permits (not the deer *season* permit) are valid for the fiscal year from July 1–June 30.

Find Regulations by Season

Know the deer management zone where you will hunt. Go to the *Regulation Sets* table on page 44. Zones numbers are listed below each regulation set column heading. Confirm season dates and bag limits according to the chosen sporting arm and the corresponding dates. Several deer seasons may be open concurrently.

Deer Management Zone

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

See page 84 for public land open to deer hunting listed by management zone.

Zone 1: That portion of Sussex County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 521 (River Rd.) and Mashipacong Rd.; then west along the northern boundary of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to the east bank of the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York State line; then east along the state line to Rt. 519; then south along Rt. 519 to its intersection with Rt. 206 at Branchville; then northwest along Rt. 206 to the intersection with Rt. 633; then south along Rt. 633 to its intersection with Rt. 521; then northwest along Rt. 521 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then northwest on Rt. 521/Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 560; then west along Rt. 560 to the intersection with Ridge Rd.; then north on Ridge Rd. to the intersection with Rt. 646; then east on Rt. 646 to the intersection with Rt. 645 in Hainesville; then north on Rt. 645 to the intersection with Rts. 206 and 521; then north on Rts. 206 and 521 to Montague; then north on Rt. 521 (River Rd.) to the intersection with Mashipacong Rd., the point of beginning. The island of Mashipacong lying in the Delaware River is included in this zone. High Point State Park (Zone 67) is excluded from Zone 1.

Zone 2: That portion of Sussex County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection

of Rt. 94 and the New York State line; then south along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 23 at Hamburg; then southeast along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 517 at Franklin; then south along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 206 at Andover; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 519 at Newton; then north along Rt. 519 to the New York State line; then east along the New York State line to Rt. 94 to the point of beginning.

Zone 3: That portion of Sussex, Morris, Passaic, and Bergen counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 94 and the New York State line; then east along the New York State line to its intersection with Rt. 202 near Suffern; then south along Rt. 202 to its intersection with Rt. 287 in Oakland; then south on Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 23 in Riverdale; then west along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 94 at Hamburg; then north along Rt. 94 to the point of beginning on the New York State line.

Zone 4: That portion of Sussex and Warren counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 521 (River Rd.) and New Mashipacong Rd.; then running along Rt. 521 to the intersection with Rt. 206 in Montague; then south on Rt. 206 to the intersection with Rt. 645 (Layton-Hainesville Rd.); then south on Rt. 645 to the intersection with Rt. 646 in Hainesville (Jagger Rd.); then west on Rt. 646 to the intersection with

Ridge Rd.; then south on Ridge Rd. to the intersection with Rt. 560 (Dingman's Bridge Rd.); then southeast along Rt. 560 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then south on Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 521; then south along Rt. 521 to its intersection with Beavans Rd. at the Hampton Twp. – Frankford Twp. border; then northwest along Beavans Rd. to its intersection with the base of the Kittatinny Ridge then southwest along the east base of the Kittatinny Ridge to the Delaware River at the Delaware Water Gap north and west of Quarry Rd.; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the northern park boundary of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area; then east along the northern park boundary of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to Rt. 521 (River Rd.), the point of beginning. Namanock, Minisink, Depew, Tocks, Poxono and Labar Islands in the Delaware River are included in this zone.

Zone 5: That portion of Warren and Sussex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 521 and Beavans Rd. at the Hampton Township–Frankford Township border; then southeast on Rt. 521 to its intersection with Rt. 633; then north on Rt. 633 to its intersection with Rt. 206 in Branchville; then southeast along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 519 at Branchville; then south along Rt. 519 to its intersection with Rt. 206 at Newton; then south along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 517 at Andover; then south along Rt. 517 to its



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Violation	First Offense	Repeat Offenses
Deer Permit Violations Hunting without permit, wrong season, wrong zone, permit transfer	\$100 to \$500 fine	\$300 to \$1,000 fine Two convictions within five years and two-year loss of license
Firearm hunting within 450 ft. of a school playground or building; bowhunting within 450 ft. of a school playground or within 150 ft. of a building	\$100 to \$300 fine	\$300 to \$1,500 fine and permanent loss of license
Negligent use of a weapon Did cause injury or death of another person	\$500 to \$2,000 fine and five year loss of license	\$1000 to \$4,000 fine and permanent loss of license
Damage or injury to real or personal property of another	Up to \$2,000 fine and five-year loss of license plus restitution for damages	Up to \$2,000 fine and permanent loss of license plus restitution for damages
Careless use of a weapon Shooting into safety zone, handling weapon in unsafe manner	\$100 to \$500 fine and two-year loss of license	\$100 to \$500 fine and two-year loss of license
Trespass	\$100 to \$200 fine	\$200 to \$500 fine and five-year loss of license

intersection with Rt. 46 at Hackettstown; then west along Rt. 46 to its intersection with the Delaware River at Manunkachunk; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to its intersection with the Zone 4 boundary at the Delaware Water Gap north and west of Quarry Rd.; then northeast along the base of the Kittatinny Ridge to its intersection with Beavans Rd. at the Hampton Twp.—Frankford Twp. border; then southeast along Beavans Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 521 at the point of beginning.

Zone 6: That portion of Morris, Sussex, Passaic, Warren and Essex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 80 and Rt. 517 at Allamuchy; then northeast along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 23 at Franklin; then southeast along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 618; then south along Rt. 618 to its intersection with Rockaway Valley Rd.; then southwest along Rockaway Valley Rd. to its intersection with Diamond Spring Rd.; then south along Diamond Spring Rd. with West Main St. in Denville; then south along West Main St. to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to the point of beginning at Allamuchy. Picatinny Arsenal (Zone 54) is excluded from Zone 6.

Zone 7: That portion of Hunterdon and Warren counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 31 and 78 at Clinton; then north along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 46 at Buttzville; then west on Rt. 46 to the Delaware

River at Manunkachunk; then south along the east bank of the Delaware to its intersection with Rt. 78 at Phillipsburg; then east along Rt. 78 to the point of beginning at Clinton.

Zone 8: That portion of Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset and Warren counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 22 and 206 near Somerville; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 80 near Netcong; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 517 at Allamuchy; then south along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 46 at Hackettstown; then west along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 31 at Buttzville; then southeast along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 22 at Clinton; then east along Rt. 22 to the point of beginning at Somerville.

Zone 9: Those portions of Morris and Somerset counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 206 and Rt. 80 near Netcong; then east along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 46; then east on Rt. 46 to the intersection with Rt. 10 in Ledgewood; then east on Rt. 10 to the intersection with Morris Tpk.; then east and south on Morris Tpk. to Calais Rd.; then west on Calais Rd. to Combs Hollow Rd.; then south on Combs Hollow Rd. to Calais Rd.; then south on Calais Rd. to Mountain Ave. in Mendham; then south and east on Mountain Ave. to Hilltop Rd. (Rt. 525); then south on Rt. 525 to the intersection with Rt. 78; then

west on Rt. 78 to the intersection with Rt. 206 near Pluckemin; then north on Rt. 206 to the intersection with Rt. 80 in Netcong, the point of beginning.

Zone 10: That portion of Hunterdon and Warren counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 31 and 12 in Flemington; then north along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 78 at Clinton; then west along Rt. 78 to the Delaware River at Phillipsburg; then south along the east bank of the Delaware River to Rt. 12 at Frenchtown; then east along Rt. 12 to the point of beginning at Flemington.

Zone 11: That portion of Hunterdon County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 12 and 31 and 202 at Flemington; then southwest along Rt. 202 to the Delaware River; then northwest along the east bank of the Delaware River to its intersection with Rt. 12 at Frenchtown; then east along Rt. 12 to the point of beginning at Flemington. Shyhawks, Treasure, Rush, Bull and Eagle Islands lying in the Delaware River are in this zone.

Zone 12: That portion of Somerset, Hunterdon and Mercer counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 31 and 22 at Clinton; then east on Rt. 22 to its intersection with Rt. 206 at Somerville; then south along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 546 at Lawrenceville; then west on Rt. 546 to its intersection with Rt. 31 at the Pennington traffic circle; then north along Rt. 31 to

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Deer Management Zone

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

the point of beginning at Clinton. That portion of Round Valley Recreation Area designated as open to deer hunting is included in Zone 12.

Zone 13: That portion of Morris, Somerset and Union counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 22 and 206 at Somerville; then north on Rt. 206 to the intersection with Rt. 78 near Pluckemin; then east on Rt. 78 to the intersection with Rt. 525; then north on Rt. 525 to Mountain Ave. in Mendham; then north and west on Mountain Ave. to Calais Rd.; then north on Calais Rd. to Combs Hollow Rd.; then north on Combs Hollow Rd. to Calais Rd.; then east on Calais Rd. to Morris Tpk.; then north and west on Morris Tpk. to Rt. 10; then west on Rt. 10 to Rt. 46 in Ledgewood; then west on Rt. 46 to the intersection with Rt. 80 near Netcong; then east on Rt. 80 to the intersection with Rt. 511; then south on Rt. 511 to the intersection with Rt. 124 in Morristown; then southeast along Rt. 124 to the intersection with Rt. 82; then southwest along Rt. 82 to the intersection with Rt. 22; then southwest along Rt. 22 to the point of beginning at Somerville. The Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (Zone 38) is excluded from Zone 13.

Zone 14: That portion of Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset and Burlington counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 22 and 206 at Somerville, then east along Rt. 22 to its intersection with Interstate 287; then south on Interstate

287 to its intersection with Rt. 18; then south on Rt. 18 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then southwest along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 545; then northwest on Rt. 545 which becomes Farnsworth Ave.; then continuing northwest on Farnsworth Ave. to its intersection with W. Burlington St.; then southwest on W. Burlington St. to its intersection with Interstate 295; then north on Interstate 295 to its intersection with the Delaware River at Bordentown; then northwest along the east bank of the Delaware River to Rt. 546 at Washington's Crossing; then east on Rt. 546 to its intersection with Rt. 206 at Lawrenceville; then north along Rt. 206 to the point beginning at Somerville. Rotary and Blauguard Islands lying in the Delaware River are in this zone.

Zone 15: That portion of Monmouth, Mercer and Middlesex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the New Jersey Turnpike and Rt. 522 near Jamesburg; then south on the Turnpike to its intersection with Interstate 195, then east on Rt. I-195 to its intersection with Rt. 537 near Holmeson; then northeast on Rt. 537 to its intersection with Rt. 522 in Freehold; then northwest on Rt. 522 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike, the point of beginning. Monmouth Battlefield State Park is excluded from this zone.

Zone 16: That portion of Monmouth and Ocean counties lying within a continuous line beginning at

the intersection of Rt. 537 and Rt. 571 near Holmeson; then southeast on Rt. 571 to the intersection with Rt. 547; then northeast on Rt. 547 through Farmingdale to the intersection with Tinton Falls Rd.; then north on Tinton Falls Rd. to the intersection with Rt. 33 and Rt. 34; then north on Rt. 34 to the intersection with the fenced boundary of the Earle Naval Weapons Depot property; then westward along the fenced border of the Earle Depot to the intersection with Rt. 33; then west along Rt. 33 to the intersection with Rt. 537 in Freehold; then southwest on Rt. 537 to the intersection with Rt. 571 near Holmeson, the point of beginning.

Zone 17: That portion of Mercer, Monmouth, Burlington and Ocean counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the New Jersey Turnpike and Interstate 195; then east along Interstate 195 to the intersection with Rt. 537 near Holmeson; then southwest along Rt. 537 to the intersection with Hawkin Rd. (Prosperstown-Colliers Mills Rd.; Rt. 640) then southeast along Hawkin Rd. (Prosperstown-Colliers Mills Rd.; Rt. 640; to the intersection with Colliers Mills Rd.; then west along Colliers Mills Rd. to its intersection with Woodruff Rd.; then southwest along Woodruff Rd. to the intersection with Rt. 539; then southeast along Rt. 539 to the border of the Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst; then westward along the Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst boundary to Rt. 545

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near Wrightstown; then northwest along Rt. 545 to the intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then northeast along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection Interstate 195 the point of beginning.

Zone 18: That portion of Ocean County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 530 and the Garden State Parkway at South Toms River; then west along Rt. 530 to the intersection with Rt. 70; then west along Rt. 70 to the border of the Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst; then northward along the Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst boundary to the northernmost intersection of the Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst border and Rt. 539; then northwest along Rt. 539 to the intersection with Woodruff Rd.; then northeast along Woodruff Rd. to the intersection with Colliers Mills Rd.; then east along Colliers Mills Rd. to the intersection with Hawkin Rd. (Prosperstown-Colliers Mills Rd.: Rt. 640); then northwest along Hawkin Rd. (Prosperstown-Colliers Mills Rd.: Rt. 640) to the intersection with Rt. 537 near Prosperstown; then northeast along Rt. 537 to the intersection with Rt. 571 near Holmeson; then southeast along Rt. 571 to the Garden State Parkway; then south along the Garden State Parkway to the point of beginning near South Toms River.

Zone 19: That portion of Burlington and Camden counties lying within a continuous line beginning

at the intersection of Rt. 530 and Rt. 646 (New Lisbon-Four Mile Rd.); then southeast on Rt. 646 to its intersection with Turkey Buzzard Bridge Rd.; then west on Turkey Buzzard Bridge Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 644 (Buddtown-Ong's Hat Rd.); then southeast on Rt. 644 to its intersection with Rt. 70 at Four Mile Circle; then west on Rt. 70 to its intersection with Burr's Mill Rd.; then southwest on Burr's Mill Rd. to its intersection with Avenue Rd.; then south on Avenue Rd. to its intersection with Sooy Place Rd.; then south on Sooy Place Rd. to its intersection with Irick's Causeway; then southwest on Irick's Causeway to its intersection with Rt. 532 (Chatsworth Rd.); then west along Rt. 532 to its intersection with Butterworth's Bogs Rd.; then south and west along Butterworth's Bogs Rd. to its intersection with Brace Lane; then west along Brace Lane to its intersection with Bozarthtown Rd.; then southwest along Bozarthtown Rd. to its intersection with Dingtletown Rd.; then southwest along Dingtletown Rd. which becomes Forked Neck Rd. and curves to the west; then west along Forked Neck Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 206; then south along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 541, Stokes Rd.; then northwest along Rt. 541 to its intersection with Willow Grove Rd.; then southwest on Willow Grove Rd. to its intersection with Atsion Rd.; then northwest on Atsion Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 534, Jackson Rd.; then west along Rt. 534 to its intersection with Rt. 73; then north along Rt. 73 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then northeast along

the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 38; then east along Rt. 38 to its intersection with Rt. 530; then east along Rt. 530 to its intersection with Rt. 616 (Vincentown-Pemberton Rd.); then northeast on Rt. 616, Hanover St., into the town of Pemberton to its intersection with Elizabeth St., then east on Elizabeth St., which becomes Pemberton-Browns Mills Rd. (Rt. 687) to its intersection with Rt. 530 (Pemberton-By-Pass Rd.); then east on Rt. 530 to its intersection with Rt. 646 (New Lisbon-Four Mile Rd.), the point of beginning. Fort Dix Military Reservation (Zone 37) is excluded from Zone 19. Franklin Parker Preserve and Four Mile Spring Preserve (Zone 68) is excluded from Zone 19.

Zone 20: Not designated.

Zone 21: That portion of Ocean and Burlington counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 530 and the Garden State Parkway near South Toms River; then south along the Parkway to its intersection with Rt. 72; then northwest along Rt. 72 to its intersection with Rt. 644 (Buddtown-Ong's Hat Rd.) at Four Mile Circle; then northwest on Rt. 644 to its intersection with Turkey Buzzard Bridge Rd.; then northeast on Turkey Buzzard Bridge Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 646 (New Lisbon-Four Mile Rd.); then northwest on Rt. 646 to its intersection with Rt. 530 (Pemberton-Browns Mills Rd.); then east along the southern border of Fort Dix Military Reservation

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Deer Management Zone

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

to its intersection with Rt. 70; then east on Rt. 70 to its intersection with Rt. 539 and Rt. 530 near Whiting; then east along Rt. 530 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway near South Toms River, the point of beginning. Fort Dix Military Reservation (Zone 37) is excluded from Zone 21.

Zone 22: That portion of Ocean and Burlington counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the Garden State Parkway and Rt. 72 near Manahawkin; then south along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with Stage Rd.; then west along Stage Rd. to its intersection with Leektown Rd.; then west along Leektown Rd. (which turns into Rt. 653 to its intersection with the Wading River; then south along the east bank of the Wading River to its intersection with the Mullica River and the Atlantic-Burlington County line; then east along the Atlantic-Burlington County line to the Atlantic Ocean, then east to the Atlantic Ocean; then north along the Atlantic Ocean to Rt. 72 at Ship Bottom; then west along Rt. 72 to the Garden State Parkway, the point of beginning. The Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (Zone 58) is excluded from Zone 22.

Zone 23: That portion of Burlington, Atlantic and Camden counties lying with a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 563 and the Mullica River at the Atlantic-Burlington County line near Green Bank; then north and west along the north bank of the Mullica River to its intersection with Rt. 542 at Pleasant Mills; then west along Rt. 542 to its intersection with Nescochague Creek; then northwest along Nescochague Creek to Great Swamp Branch; then westward along Great Swamp Branch to its intersection with Rt. 206 (just south of the intersection of Rt. 206 and Middle Rd.); then south along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 30; then northwest along Rt. 30 to its intersection with Rt. 73; then north on Rt. 73 to its intersection with Rt. 534, Jackson Rd.; then east along Rt. 534 to its intersection with Atsion Rd.; then southeast on Atsion Rd. to its intersection with Willow Grove Rd.; then northeast on Willow Grove Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 541, Stokes Rd.; then southeast along Rt. 541 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Forked Neck Rd. then east along Forked Neck Rd. which becomes Dingtletown Rd. curving to the northeast; then northeast along Dingtletown Rd. to its intersection with Bozarthtown Rd.; then northeast on Bozarthtown Rd. to its intersection with Brace Lane; then east on Brace Lane to its intersection with Butterworth's Bogs Rd.; then north on Butterworth's Bogs Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 532 (Chatsworth Rd.); then east on Rt. 532 to its intersection with Irick's Causeway; then northeast on Irick's Causeway to its intersection with Sooy Place Rd. (Vincentown-South Park Rd.); then northwest on Sooy Place Rd. to its intersection with Avenue Rd.; then northeast on Avenue Rd. to its intersection with Burr's Mill Rd.; then northeast on Burr's Mill Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 70; then east on Rt. 70 to its intersection with Rt. 72 at Four Mile Circle; then southeast on Rt. 72 to its intersection with Rt. 563; then southwest along Rt. 563 to its intersection with the Mullica River at the Atlantic-Burlington County

line, the point of beginning near Green Bank. Franklin Parker Preserve and Four Mile Spring Preserve (Zone 68) is excluded from Zone 23.

Zone 24: That portion of Burlington and Ocean counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 563 and Rt. 72; then southeast along Rt. 72 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then south along the Parkway to its intersection with Stage Rd.; then west along Stage Rd. to its intersection with Leektown Rd.; then west along Leektown Rd. (which turns into Rt. 653) to its intersection with the Wading River; then south along the east bank of the Wading River to its intersection with the Mullica River and the Atlantic-Burlington County line; then west along the north bank of the Mullica River to its intersection with Rt. 563 near Green Bank; then north along Rt. 563 to its intersection with Rt. 72, the point of beginning.

Zone 25: That portion of Salem, Gloucester, Atlantic and Camden counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 54 and Rt. 40 near Buena; then west on Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 553; then north on Rt. 553 to its intersection with Rt. 610 (Aura Rd.); then southeast on Rt. 610 to its intersection with Rt. 655 (Fries Mills Rd.); then north on Rt. 655 to its intersection with Rt. 322; then west on Rt. 322 to its intersection with Rt. 47 at Glassboro; then north on Rt. 47 to its intersection with County Rt. 635 (Hurville-Grenloch Rd.); then eastward on County Rt. 635 to its intersection with County Rt. 705 (County House Rd.); then southeast along Rt. 705 to its intersection with County Rt. 688 (Turnerville-Hickstown Rd.); then eastward along County Rt. 688 to its intersection with County Rt. 689 (Berlin-Crosskeys Rd.); then northeast along County Rt. 689 to its intersection with Rt. 73 at Berlin; then south on Rt. 73 to its intersection with Rt. 30; then southeast along Rt. 30 to its intersection with Weymouth Rd. (Rts. 640-559); then southward on Weymouth Rd. to its intersection with the Atlantic City Expressway; then west along the Atlantic City Expressway to its intersection with Eighth St.; then south along Eighth St. to its intersection with Rt. 322; then westward on Rt. 322 to its intersection with Rt. 54; then southward on Rt. 54 to its intersection with Rt. 40 near Buena, the point of beginning. Zone 65 is excluded from Zone 25.

Zone 26: That portion of Atlantic County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 40 and 54 near Buena; then southeast on Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 50; then north on Rt. 50 to its intersection with Rt. 322; then east on Rt. 322 to its intersection with Cologne Ave.; then north on Cologne Ave. to its intersection with Duerer St.; then east on Duerer St. to its intersection with Rt. 575; then northeast on Rt. 575 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then north along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with the Mullica River and the Atlantic-Burlington County line; then northwest along the south bank of the Mullica River to its intersection with Rt. 542 at Pleasant Mills; then west on Rt. 542 to its intersection with Nescochague Creek at

Pleasant Mills; then north along the west bank of Nescochague Creek to its intersection with Great Swamp Branch; then westward along Great Swamp Branch to its intersection with Rt. 206; (just past the intersection of Rt. 206 and Middle Rd.); then south on Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 30 (White Horse Pike), near Hammonton; then south on Rt. 30 to its intersection with Weymouth Rd. (Rts. 640-559); then south on Weymouth Road to its intersection with the Atlantic City Expressway; then northwest along the Atlantic City Expressway to its intersection with Eighth St.; then southwest along Eighth St. to its intersection with Rt. 322 (Black Horse Pike); then northwest along Rt. 322 to its intersection with Rt. 54; then southwest along Rt. 54 to its intersection with Rt. 40 at Buena, the point of beginning. The Atlantic County Park System (Zone 61) is excluded from Zone 26.

Zone 27: That portion of Cumberland and Salem counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 77 and 40 at Pole Tavern; then northwest on Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 48; then west on Rt. 48 through Penns Grove to the Delaware River; then south along the east bank of the Delaware River to its intersection with the Salem Canal at Deepwater; then eastward along the south bank of the Salem Canal to its intersection with the Salem River; then southward along the west bank of the Salem River to its intersection with Rt. 49 at Salem; then southeast on Rt. 49 to its intersection with Salem County Rt. 667 (Pecks Corner-Cohansey Rd.) at Pecks Corner; then eastward along Rt. 667 to its intersection with Rt. 540; then east along Rt. 540 to its intersection with Rt. 77; then north on Rt. 77 to its intersection with Rt. 40 at Pole Tavern, the point of beginning.

Zone 28: That portion of Gloucester, Cumberland and Salem counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 77 and 40 at Pole Tavern; then east on Rt. 40 to its intersection of Rt. 47 at Malaga; then south on Rt. 47 to its intersection of Rt. 49 in Millville; then west on Rt. 49 to its intersection with Salem County Rt. 667 (Pecks Corner-Cohansey Rd.) at Pecks Corner; then eastward along Rt. 667 to its intersection with Rt. 540; then east on Rt. 540 to its intersection with Rt. 77; then north on Rt. 77 to Pole Tavern, the point of beginning.

Zone 29: That portion of Salem and Cumberland counties lying within a continuous line beginning with the intersection of Rts. 77 and 49 at Bridgeton; then northwest on Rt. 49 to its intersection with Alloway Creek at Quinton; then southwest along the northern bank of the Alloway Creek to its intersection with the Delaware River; then south along the east bank of the Delaware River to the Cohansey River; then along the northwest bank of the Cohansey River to Bridgeton, the point of beginning.

Zone 30: That portion of Cumberland County lying within a continuous line beginning at Fairton on the Cohansey River; then west along the south bank of the Cohansey River to the Delaware River; then southeast along the east bank of the Delaware River to the Maurice River; then north along

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Deer Management Zone

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

the west bank of the Maurice River to Haleyville-Mauricetown Rd. (County Rd. 676); then west on Haleyville-Mauricetown Rd. to its intersection with the Central Railroad of New Jersey (C.R.R.N.J.); then west along the C.R.R.N.J. line to its intersection with Newport-Centre Grove Rd. (County Rd. 629); then southwest on Newport-Centre Grove Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 553, then northwest on Rt. 553 to Fairton, the point of beginning.

Zone 31: That portion of Cumberland County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersections of Rts. 77 and 49 at Bridgeton; then east on Rt. 49 to the Maurice River near Millville; then south along the west bank of the Maurice River near Millville; then south along the west bank of the Maurice River to Buckshutem Creek; then west on the north bank of Buckshutem Creek to its intersection with Buckshutem Rd. (County Rd. 670); then northwest on Buckshutem Rd. to its intersection with Cedarville Rd. (County Rd. 610); then southwest on Cedarville Rd. to its intersection with Newport Centre Grove Rd. (County Rd. 629); then southwest on Newport Centre Grove Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 553; then northwest along Rt. 553 to the Cohansy River at Fairton; then north on the east bank of the Cohansy River to Bridgeton, the point of beginning.

Zone 32: Not designated.

Zone 33: Not designated.

Zone 34: That portion of Cumberland and Cape May counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 47 and Rt. 548 in Port Elizabeth; then east on Rt. 548 to its intersection with Rt. 49; then northwest on Rt. 49 to its intersection with the Tuckahoe River at Head of River; then eastward along the south bank of the Tuckahoe River and Atlantic-Cape May County line to Great Egg Harbor Bay; then continuing eastward along the Atlantic-Cape May County line to the Atlantic Ocean at the Great Egg Harbor Inlet; then southwest along the Atlantic Ocean to Delaware Bay; then north and west along the east bank of Delaware Bay to the Maurice River; then north along the east bank of the Maurice River to Port Elizabeth and Rt. 548, the point of beginning.

Zone 35: That portion of Salem and Gloucester counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the east bank of the Delaware River at Penns Grove; then southeast on Rt. 48 to its intersection with Rt. 40; then southeast on Rt. 40 to its intersection with

Rt. 553; then north on Rt. 553 to the intersection with Rt. 610 (Aura Rd.); then southeast on Rt. 610 to its intersection with Rt. 47 at Clayton; then north on Rt. 47 to its intersection with County Rt. 635 (Lamb's Rd.) at Glassboro; then west on Rt. 635 to its intersection with Mantua Creek at Glassboro; then northwest along the Mantua Creek to the Delaware River; then southwest along the east bank of the Delaware River, to Penns Grove, the point of beginning. Chester and Mond's Islands lying in the Delaware River are in this zone.

Zone 36: That portion of Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Passaic, Morris, Union, Somerset and Middlesex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 202 and the New York State line near Suffern; then south on Rt. 202 to its intersection with Rt. 287 in Oakland; then south along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 23; then Rt. 23 northwest to its intersection with Rt. 618; then south along Rt. 618 to its intersection with Rockaway Valley Rd.; then southwest along Rockaway Valley Rd. to its intersection with Diamond Spring Rd.; then south along Diamond Spring Rd. with West Main St. in Denville; then south along West Main St. to its intersection with Rt. 80; then east on Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 511; then south on Rt. 511 to its intersection with Rt. 510; then west on Rt. 510 to its intersection with Rt. 124 at Morristown; then southeast on Rt. 124 to its intersection with Rt. 82; then southeast along Rt. 82 to its intersection with Rt. 22; then southwest on Rt. 22 to its intersection with Rt. 287 near Somerville; then southeast on Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 18 near South Bound Brook; then southeast on Rt. 18 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then north on the Turnpike to its intersection with the Raritan River; then east along the north bank of the Raritan River to Raritan Bay and the New York State line; then north along the state line to Arthur Kill and west bank of the Hudson River; then west along the New Jersey-New York border to the point of beginning near Suffern.

Zone 37: That portion of the **Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, that formerly consisted of Fort Dix Military Reservation, U.S. Dept. of the Army, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Burlington and Ocean counties.**

Zone 38: That portion of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Morris County.

Zone 39: That portion of Naval Weapons Station Earle, U.S. Department of the Navy designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Monmouth County. The Waterfront Section (formerly Zone 40) is now included in Zone 39.

Zone 40: Not designated. Former Zone 40 is now incorporated into Zone 39.

Zone 41: That portion of Hunterdon and Mercer counties lying within a continuous line beginning at

the intersection of Rt. 31 and Rt. 202 at Ringoes; then south along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 546 at the Pennington traffic circle; then west along Rt. 546 to the Delaware River; then north along east bank of Delaware River to its intersection with Rt. 202; then north along Rt. 202 to the point beginning at Ringoes.

Zone 42: That portion of Atlantic County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the south bank of the Mullica River and the Garden State Parkway; then south along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with Rt. 575; then southwest along Rt. 575 to its intersection with Duerer St.; then west on Duerer St. to its intersection with Cologne Ave.; then south on Cologne Ave. to its intersection with Rt. 322; then west on Rt. 322 to its intersection with Rt. 50; then south on Rt. 50 to its intersection with the Great Egg Harbor River at Mays Landing; then south along the east bank of the Great Egg Harbor River to the Atlantic-Cape May County line in Great Egg Harbor Bay; then eastward along the Atlantic-Cape May County line to its intersection with the Atlantic Ocean at the Great Egg Harbor Inlet; then northeast along the Atlantic Ocean to Great Bay; then west along the south shore of Great Bay to the confluence of the Mullica River; then west along the south bank of the Mullica River to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway, the point of beginning. The Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (Zones 56 and 57), the Atlantic County Park System (Zone 61) and the lands (excluding Laurel Memorial Park Cemetery), roads, right of ways and easements within the contiguous boundary of the Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center (Zone 66) are excluded from Zone 42.

Zone 43: That portion of Cumberland County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Buckshutem Rd. (County Rd. 670) and Cedarville Rd. (County Rd. 610); then southwest on Cedarville Rd. to its intersection with Newport Centre Grove Rd. (County Rd. 629); then southwest on Newport Centre Grove Rd. to its intersection with the Central Railroad of New Jersey (C.R.R.N.J.); then east on the C.R.R.N.J. line to its intersection with Haleyville Rd. (County Rd. 676) at Mauricetown Station; then east on Haleyville Rd. to its intersection with the Maurice River at Mauricetown; then north along the west bank of the Maurice River to the north bank of Buckshutem Creek at Laurel Lake; then west along the north bank of Buckshutem Creek to Buckshutem Rd.; then northwest on Buckshutem Rd. to its intersection with Cedarville Rd., the point of beginning.

Zone 44: Not designated.

Zone 45: That portion of Cumberland, Atlantic and Cape May counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Broad St. (Rt. 552 spur) and Delsea Drive (Rt. 47); then northeast along Rt. 552 spur to Rt. 552; then continuing northeast along Rt. 552 to its intersection with the Tuckahoe River at Milmay; then south along the west bank of the Tuckahoe River to its intersection

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with Rt. 49 at Hunter's Mill; then southeast on Rt. 49 to its intersection with Rt. 548; then west on Rt. 548 to its intersection with Delsea Drive (Rt. 47) and the Manumuskin River in Port Elizabeth; then west along the south bank of Manumuskin River to its intersection with the Maurice River; then north along the east bank of the Maurice River to its intersection with Rt. 49 in Millville; then east on Rt. 49 to its intersection with Delsea Drive (Rt. 47); then north on Rt. 47 to its intersection with Broad St. (Rt. 552 spur), the point of beginning.

Zone 46: That portion of Atlantic County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 49 and the Tuckahoe River at Hunter's Mill; then southeast along Rt. 49 to its intersection with the Tuckahoe River and the Atlantic-Cape May County line at Head of River; then eastward along the north bank of the Tuckahoe River to Great Egg Harbor Bay and the Egg Harbor Township line on the Egg Harbor River; then northwest along the west bank of the Egg Harbor River to its intersection with Rt. 40 at Mays Landing; then west on Rt. 40 to its intersection with Estell Ave; then south on Estell Ave. to its intersection with Rt. 552 then southwest on Rt. 552 to its intersection with the Tuckahoe River at Milmay; then south along the east bank of the Tuckahoe River to its intersection with Rt. 49 at Hunter's Mill the point of beginning. The Atlantic County Park System (Zone 61) is excluded from Zone 46.

Zone 47: That portion of Gloucester, Atlantic and Cumberland counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 47 and 40 at Malaga; then southeast on Rt. 40 to its intersection with Estell Ave.; then south on Estell Ave to its intersection with Rt. 552; then southwest on Rt. 552 to spur 552; then west on spur 552 to its intersection with Rt. 47 at Millville; then north on Rt. 47 to Malaga, the point of beginning.

Zone 48: That portion of Burlington County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the New Jersey Turnpike and Rt. 38 near Moorestown; then east along Rt. 38 to its intersection with Rt. 530; then east along Rt. 530 along the Pemberton by-pass to its intersection with the southern boundary of the Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst; then northward along the western Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst boundary to its intersection with County Rd. 670; then east on County Rd. 670 to its intersection with Rt. 545 at Wrightstown; then northwest on Rt. 545 which becomes Farnsworth Ave.; then continuing northwest on Farnsworth Ave. to its intersection with W. Burlington St.; then southwest on W. Burlington St. to its intersection with Interstate 295; then north on Interstate 295 to its intersection with Crosswicks Creek at Bordentown; then west along the south bank of Crosswicks Creek to its intersection with the Delaware River at Bordentown; then southwest along the east bank of the Delaware River to Rt. 541 at the City of Burlington; then southeast along Rt. 541 to its intersection with Interstate 295; then southwest along Interstate 295 to its intersection with Rancocas Creek; then east along Rancocas Creek to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then southwest along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 38, the point of beginning. New Bold and Burlington Islands lying in the Delaware River are in this zone.

Zone 49: That portion of Gloucester, Camden and Burlington counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the mouth of Mantua Creek on the Delaware River; then northeast along the east bank of the Delaware River to Rt. 541 at the City of Burlington; then southeast along Rt. 541 to its intersection with Interstate 295; then southwest along Interstate-295 to its intersection with Rancocas Creek; then east along the Rancocas Creek to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then southwest along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 73; then south along Rt. 73 to its intersection with County Rd. 689 (Cross Keys Rd.) at Berlin; then southwest along County Rd. 689 to its intersection with County Rd. 688 Turnersville-Hickstown Rd.); then west along County Rd. 688 to its intersection with County Rd. 705; then northwest along County Rd. 705 (County House Rd.) to its intersection with County Rd. 635 (Grenlode-Hurffville Rd.); then southwest on County Rd. 635 to its intersection with Mantua Creek; then northwest along Mantua Creek to its mouth at the Delaware River, the point of beginning. Petty Island lying in the Delaware River is in this zone.



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Deer Management Zone

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

Zone 50: That portion of Monmouth and Middlesex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the New Jersey Turnpike and Rt. 522 near Jamesburg; then southeast on Rt. 522 to the intersection with Rt. 537 at Freehold; then southwest on Rt. 537 to the intersection with business Rt. 33; then east on Rt. 33 to the intersection with the western edge of the fenced boundary of the Earle Naval Weapons Depot; then north and east along the fenced boundary of the Earle Depot to the intersection of County Rt. 38 (Wayside Rd.) and Rt. 547 at the most eastern point of the fenced boundary of Naval Weapons Station-Earle; then northeast on Rt. 547 to the intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then north on the Garden State parkway to the intersection with Rt. 36 near Eatontown; then east on Rt. 36 to the Atlantic Ocean; then north along the Atlantic coastline to the Raritan Bay; then south and west along the southern shore of Raritan Bay to the Raritan River; then continuing west along the south bank of the Raritan River to the intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then southwest along the New Jersey Turnpike to the intersection with Rt. 522, the point of beginning, Monmouth Battlefield State Park (Zone 64), and Naval Weapons Station Earle (Zones 39 and 40), are excluded from this zone.

Zone 51: That portion of Monmouth and Ocean counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 547 and Rt. 571 near Lakehurst; then southeast along Rt. 571 to the intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then south on the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with Rt. 72 near Manahawkin; then east along Rt. 72 to the Atlantic Ocean at Ship Bottom; then north along the Atlantic coastline to the intersection with Rt. 36 in Long Branch; then west on Rt. 36 to the intersection with the Garden State Parkway near Eatontown; then south on the parkway to the intersection with Rt. 547; then south on Rt. 547 to the intersection with county Rt. 38 (Wayside Rd.) at the eastern fenced boundary of Naval Weapons Station-Earle; then south along the eastern fenced boundary of Naval Weapons Station-Earle to the intersection with Rt. 34; then south on Rt. 34 to the intersection with Tinton Falls Rd. and Rt. 33; then south on Tinton Falls Rd. to the intersection with Rt. 547 (Asbury Rd.); then south on Rt. 547 through Farmingdale to the intersection with Rt. 571, the point of beginning.

Zone 52: Not designated.

Zone 53: That portion of the Lakehurst section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, that formerly consisted of Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Center, U.S. Department of the Navy, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Ocean county.

Zone 54: Those portions of Picatinny Arsenal, U.S. Department of the Army, Installation Management Agency (IMA), designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Morris County.

Zone 55: That portion of Gloucester County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 47 and 322 at Glassboro; then east along Rt. 322 (County Rt. 536) to its intersection with Rt. 655 (Fries Mill Rd.); then south on Rt. 655 to its intersection with Rt. 610 (Academy Ave.); then west on Rt. 610 to its intersection with Rt. 47 (Delsea Drive) at Clayton; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Rt. 322 at Glassboro, the point of beginning.

Zone 56: That portion of Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Department of the Interior, located south of Stoney Hill Rd., designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Atlantic County.

Zone 57: That portion of Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Department of the Interior, located north of Stoney Hill Rd. and south of the Mullica River, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Atlantic County.

Zone 70: Those portions of Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, including the Barnegat Division, U.S. Department of the Interior, located north of the Mullica River and south of Rt. 72, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Burlington and Ocean counties.

Zone 58: Those portions of Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, including the Barnegat Division, U.S. Department of the Interior, located north of Rt. 72, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Ocean county.

Zone 59: Not designated.

Zone 60: Not designated.

Zone 61: Those portions of the Atlantic County Park System, County of Atlantic, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Atlantic County.

Zone 62: Not designated.

Zone 63: That portion of Salem County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the Salem Canal and the Delaware River at Deepwater; then eastward along the south bank of the Salem Canal to its intersection with the Salem River; then southward along the west bank of the Salem River to its intersection with Rt. 49 at Salem; then southeastward on Rt. 49 to its intersection with

Alloway Creek at Quinton; then southwest along the northern bank of the Alloway Creek to its intersection with the Delaware River; then northward along the east bank of the Delaware River and New Jersey State line to Finns Point and Fort Mott State Park; then northward along the New Jersey State line to the Delaware River; then northwest along the east bank of the Delaware River; then northwestward along the east bank of the Delaware River and New Jersey State line to its intersection with the Salem Canal at Deepwater, the point of beginning.

Zone 64: That portion of Monmouth Battlefield State Park, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Monmouth County.

Zone 65: That portion of Camden and Gloucester counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 322 and County Rd. Rt. 659 (Malaga-New Brooklyn Rd.) in Monroe Township, Gloucester County; then northeast along Rt. 659 to its intersection with County Rd. Rt. 536 at New Brooklyn; then northward along Rt. 536 to its intersection with County Rd. Rt. 720 (Brooklyn-Blue Anchor Rd.); then southeast on Rt. 720 to its intersection with Rt. 73 near Blue Anchor; then southward along Rt. 73 to its intersection with Piney Hollow Rd.; then southwest along Piney Hollow Rd. to its intersection with Dutch Mill Rd. then west along Dutch Mill Rd. to its intersection with County Rt. 557 (Tuckahoe Rd.); then northwest on Rt. 557 to its intersection with County Rt. 659 (Malaga Rd.); then north on Rt. 659 to its intersection with County Rt. 633 (Blue Bell Rd.) then south on Rt. 633 to its intersection with County Rt. 538 (Coles Mill Rd.); then east along Rt. 538 to its intersection with Rt. 322; then west along Rt. 322 to its intersection with County Rt. 659, the point of beginning.

Zone 66: That portion of Atlantic County including lands, roads, right of ways and easements within the contiguous boundary of the Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center, excluding Laurel Memorial Park Cemetery. Lands open for deer hunting only and persons authorized to hunt deer on the facility shall be determined by the Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center, the administrative agency.

Zone 67: That portion of High Point State Park, located north and east of Deckertown Turnpike (Rt. 650), designated as open to hunting, lying within Sussex County.

Zone 68: That portion of the Franklin Parker Preserve and Four Mile Spring Preserve, designated as open to deer hunting, lying within Woodland Township, Burlington County.

Zone 70: Those portions of Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, including the Barnegat Division, U.S. Department of the Interior, located north of the Mullica River and south of Rt. 72, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Burlington and Ocean counties. 🍖

Delicious Venison Recipes



Cook up a new venison recipe. Scan this code or go to NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/venison.htm.

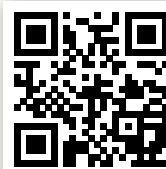
2014–15 Total Deer Harvest by Season and Zone

DMZ	Fall Bow	Permit Bow	Six-day Firearm	Permit Muzzleloader	Permit Shotgun	Winter Bow	Youth Days	Total
1	140	96	124	147	13	30	14	564
2	674	351	252	365	249	92	30	2013
3	137	76	58	114	5	38	13	441
4	121	99	154	234	14	22	11	655
5	1137	562	466	377	674	79	39	3334
6	424	175	109	118	38	67	15	946
7	616	315	206	221	477	65	14	1914
8	1389	660	381	383	792	268	29	3902
9	455	192	44	44	92	93	11	931
10	920	475	295	300	681	171	10	2852
11	658	331	150	216	477	92	17	1941
12	1230	644	286	352	1060	373	26	3971
13	675	321	31	54	321	166	4	1572
14	861	461	194	108	615	229	14	2482
15	374	234	109	86	496	101	9	1409
16	456	221	122	90	177	96	12	1174
17	350	196	145	92	521	35	27	1366
18	109	91	54	44	9	43	9	359
19	552	337	206	149	590	100	12	1946
21	52	66	159	24	6	27	15	349
22	61	56	33	21	3	16	11	201
23	50	63	205	46	9	29	20	422
24	17	36	116	19	1	9	8	206
25	429	231	139	137	515	70	27	1548
26	158	212	283	209	36	107	22	1027
27	271	193	66	153	177	36	20	916
28	376	210	85	151	202	56	14	1094
29	254	157	85	177	185	31	19	908
30	80	68	41	68	56	23	16	352
31	171	94	27	54	68	37	8	459
34	83	116	67	115	36	76	23	516
35	393	325	87	224	173	76	29	1307
36	371	196	36	37	138	121	3	902
37	52	52	9	27	2	40	0	182
38	0	0	0	7	16	0	0	23
39	23	32	15	34	38	2	1	145
41	308	162	82	90	378	43	5	1068
42	126	83	69	58	107	28	0	471
43	25	20	89	16	5	25	4	184
45	40	29	134	32	10	28	8	281
46	51	52	96	43	8	47	7	304
47	115	52	25	36	87	57	9	381
48	314	156	120	144	418	25	9	1186
49	282	180	20	25	100	88	3	698
50	820	453	103	92	448	240	5	2161
51	245	163	54	20	145	85	2	714
53	15	10	2	6	9	6	0	48
54	14	15	2	5	4	1	0	41
55	26	15	6	10	10	10	1	78
56	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8
57	0	6	0	1	20	0	0	27
58	0	3	0	1	9	0	0	13
61	0	3	2	5	3	4	0	17
63	58	44	14	27	37	10	6	196
64	0	0	14	0	31	4	0	49
65	57	42	30	45	8	17	4	203
66	0	1	0	1	17	0	0	19
67	0	0	0	118	0	14	0	132
68	13	12	13	17	33	5	1	94
70	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Totals	16,628	9,447	5,714	5,789	10,857	3,653	616	52,704


NEW JERSEY DEER HUNTERS harvested 52,704 deer during the 2014–2015 seasons between September 13, 2014 and February 21, 2015. The harvest for this year's deer season is 5.5 percent higher than the 51,595 deer taken in 2013–14. Harvest numbers were up in the northern region of the state, but down slightly in the central and southern regions. The antlerless portion of the 2014–15 harvest was 35,292 deer, up 6.7 percent from 2013–14. The antlered portion of the 2014 harvest was 17,412 deer, down 5.9 percent from 2013–14.

Deer Harvest Trends in New Jersey

Scan this code for additional deer harvest information from the 2014–15 hunting seasons or go to NJFishandWildlife.com/gr/trends.htm.



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- Are you getting the same deer back?*

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Note: A deer tag is absolutely required for our processing service.

**Discounts Available
for all Active & Reserve
Military Personnel**

*Does not include smoked products **150 lbs. and down

Color-coded to Regulation Set Reference Chart and Zone Map (page 48)

Regulation Set	Regulation Set #0	Regulation Set #1	Regulation Set #2
Zones	21, 23, 24, 43, 45	34*, 46	1, 3*, 4, 18
Info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sunday. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Any antlered deer taken in Zone 34 must have at least three antler points on one side of the rack. Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sunday. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Any antlered deer taken in Zone 3 must have at least three antler points on one side of the rack. Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sunday. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased.
Fall Bow	Oct. 3–30, 2015 Season bag limit is one deer of either sex.	Oct. 3–30, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer—only ONE may be antlered.	Oct. 3–30, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer—only ONE may be antlered.
Youth Deer Hunt Days	Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only Season bag limit for either youth day is one deer of either sex for qualified youth hunters only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm Season.	Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only Season bag limit for either youth day is one deer of either sex for qualified youth hunters only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm Season.	Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only Season bag limit for either youth day is one deer of either sex for qualified youth hunters only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm Season.
Permit Bow	Oct. 31–Nov. 21, 2015 Season bag limit is one deer of either sex if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Bow Permit then the bag limit is one antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)	Oct. 31–Nov. 29, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Bow Permit then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)	Oct. 31–Nov. 29, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Bow Permit then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)
Permit Muzzleloader	Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 19–24, 26–30, 2015 Season bag limit is one deer of either sex if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit then the bag limit is one antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)	Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–29, 2015 and Jan. 1–9, 2016 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)	Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit, then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)
Six-day Firearm	Dec. 7–12, 2015 Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.	Dec. 7–12, 2015 Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.	Dec. 7–12, 2015 Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.
Permit Shotgun Season	Dec. 16, 2015 Season bag limit is one deer. This deer may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit, or harvested two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, then the bag limit is one antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)	Dec. 16–18, 2015 Season bag limit is one deer. This deer may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit, or harvested two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, then the bag limit is one antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)	Dec. 16–18, 2015 Season bag limit is one deer. This deer may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit or harvested two antlered deer during the Six-day firearm season, then the bag limit is one antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)
Winter Bow	Jan. 1–31, 2016 Season bag limit is one deer of either sex.	Jan. 1–31, 2016 Season bag limit is two deer—only ONE may be antlered.	Jan. 1–31, 2016 Season bag limit is two deer—only ONE may be antlered.

Color-coded to Regulation Set Reference Chart and Zone Map (page 48)

Regulation Set	Regulation Set #3	Regulation Set #4	Regulation Set #5
Zones	22, 26, 30 ³ , 55, 65	6	2, 16, 27*, 28*, 29*, 31*, 35*, 47*, 63*
Info	<p>* Any antlered deer taken in Zone 30 must have at least three antler points on one side of the rack.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sunday. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sunday. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased. 	<p>* Any antlered deer taken in Zone 27, 28, 29, 31, 35, 47 or 63 must have at least three antler points on one side of the rack.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sunday. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased.
Fall Bow	<p>Oct. 3–30, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer—only ONE may be antlered.</p>	<p>First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015 Antlered or antlerless: Oct. 3–30, 2015 Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer.</p>	<p>First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015 Antlered or antlerless: Oct. 3–30, 2015 Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer.</p>
Youth Deer Hunt Days	<p>Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only Season bag limit for either youth day is one deer of either sex for qualified youth hunters only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm Season.</p>	<p>Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only Season bag limit is one deer of either sex for qualified youth hunters only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm Season.</p>	<p>Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only Season bag limit for either youth day is one deer of either sex for any qualified youth hunter only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm seasons.</p>
Permit Bow	<p>Oct. 31–Nov. 29, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Bow Permit then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015 Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Bow Permit then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015 Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. (See Note above.)</p>
Permit Muzzleloader	<p>Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–9, 2016 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit, then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–9, 2016 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit, then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–9, 2016 Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit, then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)</p>
Six-day Firearm	<p>Dec. 7–12, 2015 Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.</p>	<p>Dec. 7–12, 2015 Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.</p>	<p>Dec. 7–12, 2015 Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.</p>
Permit Shotgun Season	<p>Dec. 16–18, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit or harvested two antlered deer during the Six-day firearm season, then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Dec. 16–18, 2015 Season bag limit is two deer. ONE may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit or harvested two antlered deer during the Six-day firearm season, then the bag limit is two antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Dec. 16–18, 2015; and Jan. 9–16, 2016 Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter harvests two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. (See Note above.)</p>
Winter Bow	<p>Jan. 1–31, 2016 Season bag limit is two deer—only ONE may be antlered.</p>	<p>Jan. 1–31, 2016 Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer—only ONE may be antlered.</p>	<p>Jan. 1–31, 2016 Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer.</p>

Color-coded to Regulation Set Reference Chart and Zone Map (page 48)

Regulation Set	Regulation Set #6	Regulation Set #7	Regulation Set #8
Zones	5, 19, 25, 42, 48	7, 8, 9*, 12, 17, 41	10, 11, 13*, 14, 15, 36, 49, 50, 51
Info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sundays. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Any antlered deer taken in Zone 9 must have at least three antler points on one side of the rack. Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sundays. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Any antlered deer taken in Zone 13 must have at least three antler points on one side of the rack. Legal hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No firearm deer hunting on Sundays. Limited Sunday bowhunting allowed. Note: Only one antlerless permit, per zone, may be purchased in each permit season. If a hunter purchases an antlerless permit for more than one zone in a season, the Antlered Buck Permit is valid for a ONE TIME USE in only ONE of the zones for which the hunter holds a permit. Properly licensed hunters are still limited to ONE antlered buck per season, regardless of the number of antlerless permits purchased.
Fall Bow	<p>First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015</p> <p>Antlered or antlerless: Oct. 3–30, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.</p>	<p>First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015</p> <p>Antlered or antlerless: Oct. 3–30, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.</p>	<p>First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015</p> <p>Antlered or antlerless: Oct. 3–30, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.</p>
Youth Deer Hunt Days	<p>Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only</p> <p>Season bag limit for either youth day is one deer of either sex for any qualified youth hunter only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm Season.</p>	<p>Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only</p> <p>Season bag limit for either youth day is one deer of either sex for any qualified youth hunter only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm Season.</p>	<p>Sept. 26, 2015—Bow Only Nov. 21, 2015—Firearm Only</p> <p>Season bag limit for either youth day is one deer of either sex for any qualified youth hunter only. Any deer harvested by a qualified youth hunter accompanied by a similarly licensed, non-shooting adult mentor is NOT included as part of the bag limit for the Fall Bow or Six-day Firearm Season.</p>
Permit Bow	<p>Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>
Permit Muzzleloader	<p>Antlered or Antlerless: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–30, 2016</p> <p>Antlerless deer only: Dec. 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit, then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Antlered or Antlerless: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–Feb. 13, 2016</p> <p>Antlerless deer only: Dec. 2–4, 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit, then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Antlered or Antlerless: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–Feb. 13, 2016</p> <p>Antlerless deer only: Nov. 23–25, 27 and Dec. 2–4, 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter chooses not to purchase the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit, then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>
Six-day Firearm	<p>Dec. 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.</p>	<p>Dec. 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.</p>	<p>Dec. 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Season bag limit is two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, he/she forfeits the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.</p>
Permit Shotgun Season	<p>Antlerless deer only: Dec. 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Antlered or Antlerless: Dec. 16–18, 2015; Jan. 2–30, 2016</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter harvests two antlered deer during the Six-day firearm Season, then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Antlerless deer only: Dec. 2–4, 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Antlered or Antlerless: Dec. 16–18, 2015; and Jan. 2–Feb. 13, 2016</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter harvests two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>	<p>Antlerless deer only: Nov. 23–25; and Dec. 2–4, 7–12, 2015</p> <p>Antlered or Antlerless: Dec. 16–18, 2015; and Jan. 2–Feb. 13, 2016</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may be harvested if the Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit is purchased. However, if the hunter harvests two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, then the bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See Note above.)</p>
Winter Bow	<p>Jan. 1–31, 2016</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.</p>	<p>Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2016</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.</p>	<p>Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2016</p> <p>Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.</p>

Thank You!

AMB Deer Processing

"A Professional Meatcutting Service"



Operation Game Thief

Report Abuse of our Outdoor Heritage!

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24 Hours a Day, Seven Days a Week

The person who poaches, pollutes habitat and abuses public land tarnishes the image of sportsmen and robs us of our fish and wildlife as well as tax and license dollars. You can make a difference.

Call OGT to report:

- Negligent use of firearms
- Over the limits for game and fish
- Commercial exploitation of fish and wildlife
- Pollution of habitat, dumping on state land
- Destruction of signs and state property
- Illegal killing, taking or possession of any wildlife



It's Free. It's Confidential.

You May Be Eligible for a Reward.

Funded by the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.

Designed to encourage sportsmen to report poaching and wildlife crimes.

Law Enforcement and Regulation Information



Contact a New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife Law Enforcement office that serves the county where you hunt or fish.

- **Northern Region — (908) 735-8240**
(Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties)
- **Central Region — (609) 259-2120**
(Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties)
- **Southern Region — (856) 629-0555**
(Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem counties)
- **Marine Region — (609) 748-2050**
(coastal and bay areas)
- **To report violations anonymously call Operation Game Thief — (855) OGT-TIPS**

Emergency Contact Information Card

Fill in and carry with your hunting/trapping license in case of an emergency.

Name _____ Age _____

Phone _____ Religion _____

Emergency contact _____

Relation _____ Phone _____

Personal Doctor _____ Phone _____

Medical History _____

Allergies _____

Insurance Policy Number _____

Medications _____

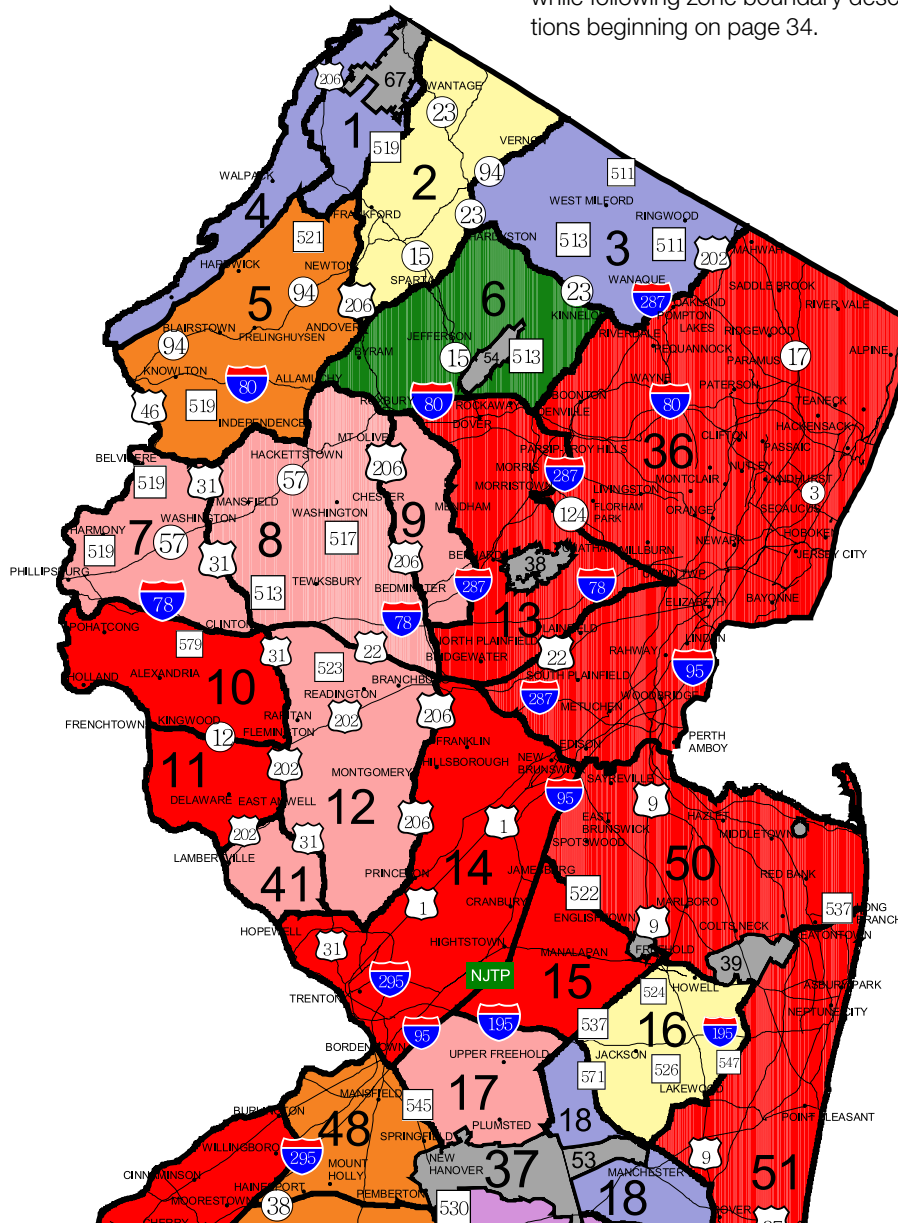
Blood Type _____ Signature _____

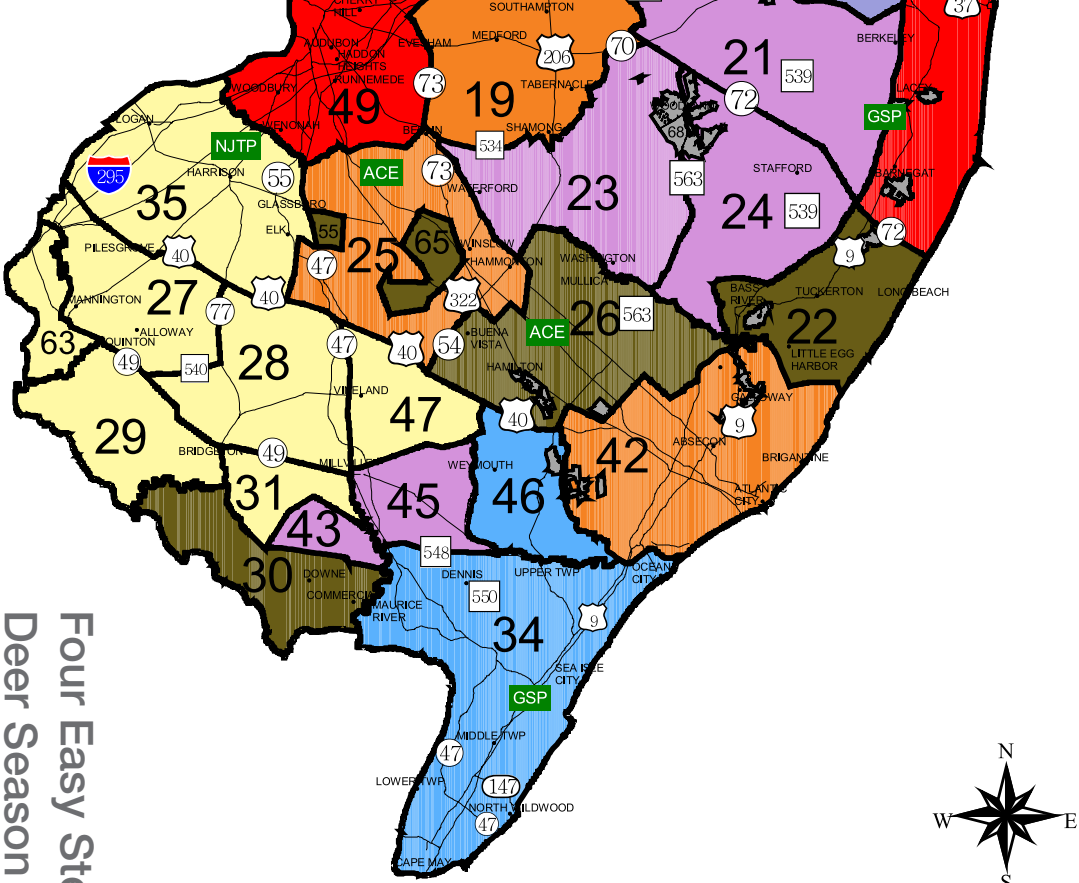
2015-16 NJ Deer Season Regulation Sets Reference Chart

Zone	For seasons and bag limits, see details in <i>Regulation Sets</i> beginning on page 44.	Zone	For seasons and bag limits, see details in <i>Regulation Sets</i> beginning on page 44.
1	Regulation Set # 2	36	Regulation Set # 8
2	Regulation Set # 5	37	Special Area Hunting Season
3	Regulation Set # 2	38	Special Area Hunting Season
4	Regulation Set # 2	39	Special Area Hunting Season
5	Regulation Set # 6	40	Zone is not designated
6	Regulation Set # 4	41	Regulation Set # 7
7	Regulation Set # 7	42	Regulation Set # 6
8	Regulation Set # 7	43	Regulation Set # 0
9	Regulation Set # 7	44	Zone is not designated
10	Regulation Set # 8	45	Regulation Set # 0
11	Regulation Set # 8	46	Regulation Set # 1
12	Regulation Set # 7	47	Regulation Set # 5
13	Regulation Set # 8	48	Regulation Set # 6
14	Regulation Set # 8	49	Regulation Set # 8
15	Regulation Set # 8	50	Regulation Set # 8
16	Regulation Set # 5	51	Regulation Set # 8
17	Regulation Set # 7	52	Zone is not designated
18	Regulation Set # 2	53	Special Area Hunting Season
19	Regulation Set # 6	54	Special Area Hunting Season
20	Zone is not designated	55	Regulation Set # 3
21	Regulation Set # 0	56	Special Area Hunting Season
22	Regulation Set # 3	57	Special Area Hunting Season
23	Regulation Set # 0	58	Special Area Hunting Season
24	Regulation Set # 0	59	Zone is not designated
25	Regulation Set # 6	60	Zone is not designated
26	Regulation Set # 3	61	Special Area Hunting Season
27	Regulation Set # 5	62	Zone is not designated
28	Regulation Set # 5	63	Regulation Set # 5
29	Regulation Set # 5	64	Special Area Hunting Season
30	Regulation Set # 3	65	Regulation Set # 3
31	Regulation Set # 5	66	Special Area Hunting Season
32	Zone is not designated	67	Special Area Hunting Season
33	Zone is not designated	68	Special Area Hunting Season
34	Regulation Set # 1	70	Special Area Hunting Season
35	Regulation Set # 5		

New Jersey Deer Management Zones*

* Map is for reference only. Use a county map or see NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs while following zone boundary descriptions beginning on page 34.





ZONE	SPECIAL AREA
37	Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, that formerly consisted of Fort Dix Reservation
38	Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge
39	Earle Naval Weapons Station
53	Lakehurst section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, that formerly consisted of Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station
54	Picatinny Arsenal (Dept of the Army)
56 [†]	Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (Southern portion)
57 [†]	Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (Central portion)
58 [†]	Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (Northern portion)
61 [†]	Atlantic County Parks System
64 [†]	Monmouth Battlefield State Park
66 [†]	Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center
67	High Point State Park
68	Franklin Parker Preserve and Four Mile Spring Preserve
70 [†]	Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (northern portion, southern section)

[†] Not shown on map

Four Easy Steps to Find Your Deer Season Regs by Zone

1 Start with the map on this page, then go to the *Deer Management Zone (DMZ) Descriptions*, page 34, to confirm your exact zone boundary. Follow the zone boundary description with a county map to determine your exact location. Be sure to check for new boundary changes each year!

2 Use the *Regulation Sets Reference Chart* on page 48 to learn in which regulation set your DMZ is located.

3 Find your actual regulation set (see page 44), then confirm that your DMZ is listed at the top of that regulation set.

4 Locate your desired hunting season (e.g., fall bow, permit muzzleloader) for dates, bag limits and special information for your DMZ in the color-coded Deer Regulation Sets chart.

Deer Hunting Location Viewer

Before heading to your hunting location, use the online **Deer Hunting Location Viewer** to make use of the **Automated Deer Harvest Report System**.

It's easy, fast and accurate! See page 32 for details.

Deer Hunting Location Viewer

Scan this code or visit NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs_deer_viewer.htm.



Regulations in red are new this year.

All Special Areas

All Special Area Permits go on sale on a first-come, first-served basis at 10 am on TUESDAY, September 8, 2015. Refer to specific areas for the closing deadline since permit sales for certain special areas are available only for a limited time.

- Special areas include federal military installations, certain state and county parks and national wildlife refuges where hunter access is controlled.
- All state game laws and regulations apply to Special Areas.
- Only ONE antlered deer may be taken per permit season, statewide, regardless of the number of permits possessed.
- Due to homeland security measures and military actions, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife cannot guarantee all military installations will be available or open to hunting throughout each deer season. Hunters are reminded that Fish and Wildlife has a “no refund – no exchange” policy for deer permits.

Special Areas— County and State Parks

Atlantic County Park System (Zone 61)

Permits for Zone 61 will be available for sale until 11:59 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, Sept. 30. Permits will be available for sale at all license agents and online over the Internet. The permit quotas for Zone 61 are as follows: 60 permits will be available for the Permit Bow Season, 60 permits will be available for the Permit Muzzleloader Season and 100 permits will be available for the Permit Shotgun Season.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 60 permits are available.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 60 permits are available.

Six-day Firearm Season: Dec. 7–12, 2015; **Bag limit:** two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Shotgun Season: Dec. 7–12 and 16–18, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered

deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. A total of 100 permits are available.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 1–31, 2016; **Bag limit:** Unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. **Please note:** Hunting during the Winter Bow Season at Atlantic County Park property (Zone 61) is NOT open to all hunters. ONLY hunters with a valid 2015 Zone 61 Permit Bow Season permit are allowed to hunt the property during Winter Bow Season.

Deer hunting is prohibited here all other times. The Atlantic County Park office is located at 6303 Old Harding Highway, Mays Landing, NJ 08330. All applicants must call (609) 625-8219 prior to the lottery for specific rules, restrictions and hunter orientation dates. Hunter orientation attendance is required for Zone 61. The use of bait is prohibited in Zone 61.

Cheesequake State Park (Zone 50)

Designated areas of the park are open to deer hunting. Deer Management Zone 50 regulations apply. A free park access permit is required. A limited supply of permits will be available. Contact the park office at (732) 566-2161 or check the park website for details. Hunters must supply both their current hunting and driver's licenses.

Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park (Zone 11)

A portion of the Division of Parks and Forestry's My Ben tract and Trap Rock-Knipe tract of the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park in Delaware Township in Hunterdon County are open for deer hunting. Zone 11 regulations apply. Call (609) 397-2949 for more information.

High Point State Park (Zone 67)

To hunt High Point State Park, hunters must purchase a Zone 67 permit from a license agent or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Permits will be available until the quota is met or the season ends, whichever occurs first. See *Deer Season Permits*, page 16.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 2–5 and 9–12, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. The hunter's first deer must be antlerless. Successful hunters may then harvest an antlered deer if in possession of an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit. Any antlered deer taken in Zone 67 must have at least one antler with three antler points. A total of 350 permits are available.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 1–31, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Any antlered deer taken in Zone 67 must have at least one antler with three antler points. Two deer may be taken at one time. **Only those portions of Zone 67 that are south and west of Rt. 23 will be open for the winter bow season.**

Deer hunting is prohibited in High Point at all other times. Hunters are not permitted in the park before 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Hunters must visit the park's website for details on the hunt, hunting maps and regulations at nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/

parks/highpoint.html. The High Point State Park office is located at 1480 Rt. 23 South in Sussex. Call (973) 875-4800 for more information on park regulations before applying for a Zone 67 permit.

Hunterdon County Park System

Parks within the Hunterdon County Park System that are open to deer hunting require a park access permit. Applications are available at the Hunterdon County Arboretum, Rt. 31, Lebanon, NJ. Before hunting, call (908) 782-1158 for more information, or log onto co.hunterdon.nj.us and click on Parks and Recreation.

Mercer County Parks

The Mercer County Park Commission operates a deer management program at Baldpate Mountain (DMZ 41) in Hopewell Township. Hunters must apply for a county-issued permit. Hunting at Baldpate Mountain is allowed only on select days during the Permit Shotgun, Six-day Firearm and Permit Muzzleloader seasons.

The Pole Farm section of Mercer Meadows (DMZ 12) is open for the bow seasons.

To hunt Baldpate or the Pole Farm, call (609) 303-0706, email jrogers@mercercountyparks.org or check the website at www.mercercountyparks.org for season dates and permit requirements.

Howell Living History Farm in Hopewell Township (DMZ 41) allows limited permit muzzleloader and winter bow hunting. A non-refundable \$5 fee is required. Deer hunting here is prohibited at all other times. Call (609) 737-3299 for more information, season dates, maps and access permits before purchasing a Zone 41 permit.

Middlesex County Park System

Portions of specified parks within the Middlesex County Park System are open to deer hunting. A park system permit is required. Call (732) 745-8278 for maps and more information.

Monmouth Battlefield State Park (Zone 64)

To hunt Monmouth Battlefield State Park, hunters must apply for a Zone 64 Permit. **Permits will be available for sale until 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1.** Permits will be available for sale at all license agents and online over the Internet. A total of 100 permits will be available for the Permit Shotgun Season. All hunters are required to complete and return a registration packet to Monmouth Battlefield State Park office prior to Dec. 1, 2015.

Permit Shotgun Season: Dec. 7–12, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 100 permits are available.

Six-day Firearm Season: Dec. 7–12, 2015; **Bag limit:** two antlered deer. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Deer hunting is prohibited at all other times. Hunters must comply with all state park regulations. Call (732) 462-9616 for more information on additional park regulations before applying for a Zone 64 permit.

Monmouth County Park System

Portions of specified parks within the Monmouth County Park System are open to deer hunting. A park system permit is required. Call (732) 842-4000 or visit monmouthcountyparks.com for maps and more information.

Morris County Park System

In accordance with the Park Commission's deer management program, designated areas of select parks are open for deer hunting on select dates during the Fall Bow, Permit Bow, Winter Bow, Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader seasons. A Park Commission access permit is required. Hunting is prohibited at all other times. All applicable zone regulations apply.

The Morris County Park Commission will supply additional information about hunting regulations and procedures to those hunters that are issued an access permit. Call (973) 326-7622 or visit www.morrisparks.net/deer/index.asp for information about permit applications.

Rancocas State Park (Zone 48)

Designated areas of the park are open to deer hunting during the Fall Bow, Permit Bow and Winter Bow seasons. Deer Management Zone 48 regulations apply. The park is closed to deer hunting at all other times. Before hunting in Rancocas State Park, call (609) 726-1190 for more information.

Round Valley Recreation Area (Zone 12)

Designated portions of the area are open to deer hunting during all or portions of the Fall Bow, Permit Bow, Six-day Firearm and Winter Bow seasons. Deer Management Zone 12 regulations apply. The area is closed to deer hunting at all other times. Any area administered by Round Valley, not located within Round Valley Recreation Area, is also available for hunting. Contact the Round Valley office for hunting information at (908) 236-6355.

Six-Mile Run Reservoir site, administered by D & R Canal State Park (Zone 14)

Designated areas of the park are open to deer hunting during the Fall Bow, Permit Bow and Winter Bow seasons. Deer Management Zone 14 regulations apply. The park is closed to deer hunting at all other times. Call the Delaware-Raritan Canal State Park (609) 924-5705 for more information and a detailed map before hunting in Six-Mile Run Reservoir site.

Spruce Run Recreation Area (Zone 7)

Designated portions of the area are open to bow-hunting for deer hunting during the Fall Bow, Permit Bow and Winter Bow Seasons. Hunting is not permitted on Sundays. Deer Management Zone 7 regulations apply. The area is closed to deer hunting at all other times. Hunters must use the boat launch parking lot. Call (908) 638-8572 for more information.

Washington Crossing State Park (Zone 41)

Designated areas of the park are open to deer hunting during the Fall Bow, Permit Bow and Winter Bow seasons. Deer Management Zone 41 regulations

apply. The park is closed to deer hunting at all other times. Call (609) 737-0623 for more information.

Special Areas— Federal Installations (other than National Wildlife Refuges)

Earle Naval Weapons Station Depot (Zone 39)

(Zone 40 has been incorporated into Zone 39.) Not open to the general public. The following information is provided for civilian employees or military personnel assigned to the base. Hunters must purchase a Zone 39 permit from license agents or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Permits will be available until the quota is met or the season ends, whichever comes first. See *Deer Season Permits*, page 16. The hunter is responsible to confirm they have current authorization for access to Earle prior to purchasing a permit. Purchasing a deer permit for Zone 39 does NOT guarantee access to Earle Naval Weapons Station. Only those individuals who have authorization for hunting privileges and corresponding gate access on the installation are allowed to hunt. There are no refunds or exchanges for permits that cannot be used. Please contact Eric Helms at (732) 866-2337 for more information. Deer hunting is allowed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day in Zone 39.

Fall Bow Season (Zone 39): Sept. 12–Oct. 30, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. First deer must be antlerless from Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season (Zone 39): Oct. 31–Dec. 31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 190 permits are available. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Six-day Firearm Season (Zone 39): Dec. 7–12, 2015; **Bag limit:** two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader (Zone 39): Nov. 30, Dec. 1–5 and 14–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–Feb. 13, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 100 permits are available.

Permit Shotgun Season (Zone 39): Dec. 5, 7–12, 19 and 26, 2015 and Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Feb. 6 and 13, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 160 permits are available.

Winter Bow Season (Zone 39): Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center (Zone 66)

The Technical Center is open to deer hunting through a cooperative agreement between the FAATC, New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs (NJSFSC) and the United Bowhunters of New Jersey (UBNJ). Membership in either the NJSFSC or UBNJ is required to obtain access to the Technical Center for deer hunting. Hunters wishing to hunt Zone 66 must have approval from the administrative authority of FAA Technical Center (Zone 66) before purchasing a Zone 66 Permit. Call (609) 485-6938 for more information.

Not open to the general public. **Hunters must purchase their Zone 66 permits from license agents or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Permits will be available for sale until the season ends or the permit quota is reached, whichever comes first. The hunter is responsible to confirm they have current authorization for access to FAATC prior to purchasing a permit.** Purchasing a deer permit for Zone 66 does NOT guarantee access to the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center. **Only those individuals who have authorization for hunting privileges**

57 West Deer Processing

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Regular Cuts	\$75
Little Deer	\$60

*Vacuum Packed
Frozen*

Custom Meats

Hot Sticks
Bologna
Kielbasa
Smoked Sausage
Pork Roll
Hot Dogs

Regulations in red are new this year.

and corresponding gate access on the installation are allowed to hunt. There are no refunds or exchanges for permits that cannot be used.

The use of bait is prohibited in Zone 66.

Fall Bow Season: Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015; First deer must be antlerless. Oct. 3–Oct. 30, 2015; antlered or antlerless deer. **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 31–Dec. 24 and Dec. 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 80 permits are available.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 28–Dec. 5 and Dec. 11, 12, 2015 and Jan. 2, 9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 15 permits are available.

Permit Shotgun Season: Nov. 28–Dec. 5 and Dec. 11, 12, 2015 and Jan. 2, 9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the **Bag limit** in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 65 permits are available.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 1–31, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer.

Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, that formerly consisted of Fort Dix Military Reservation (Zone 37)

Hunters must purchase a Zone 37 permit. Permits will be available for sale until the season ends or the permit quota is reached, whichever comes first. Permits may be purchased at license agents or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. The hunter is responsible to confirm they have current authorization for access to Dix-McGuire prior to purchasing a permit. Purchasing a deer permit for Zone 37 does NOT guarantee access. Only those individuals who have authorization for hunting privileges and corresponding gate access on the installation are allowed to hunt. There are no refunds or exchanges for permits that cannot be used.

Hunters must comply with all Dix-McGuire regulations. Persons hunting on this post must sign in and out at Range 14 each day when hunting. Military training will take precedence over hunting. Call Range 14 at (609) 562-4676 on Wednesday/Friday 2 p.m.–8 p.m. or Saturday/Sunday 9 a.m.–4 p.m. for more information and fee schedules. Deer hunting is not permitted on Christmas Day or New Year's Day in Zone 37.

Fall Bow Season: Oct. 3–30, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 31–Dec. 24 and 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of

330 permits are available for Zone 37. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Six-day Firearm Season: Dec. 7–12, 2015; **Bag limit:** two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 30, Dec. 1–5, 14–24 and 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 4–9, 2016; **Bag limit:** two deer; one may be antlered only for hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit. A total of 480 permits are available for Zone 37.

Permit Shotgun Season: Dec. 26, 28 and 29, 2015; **Bag limit:** two deer, one may be antlered only for hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to two antlerless deer only. A total of 100 permits are available for Zone 37.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 2–Feb. 20, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Lakehurst section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, that formerly consisted of Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station (Zone 53)

Hunters must purchase Zone 53 permits from license agents or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Permits will be available until the quota is met or the season ends, whichever comes first. See *Deer Season Permits*, page 16. The hunter is responsible to confirm they have current authorization for access to the Lakehurst section prior to purchasing a permit. Purchasing a deer permit for Zone 53 does NOT guarantee access to the Lakehurst section. Only those individuals who have authorization for hunting privileges and corresponding gate access on the installation are allowed to hunt. There are no refunds or exchanges for permits that cannot be used.

There is limited public hunting for hunters who are sponsored by current members of the Navy Lakehurst Rod and Gun Club. Military training will take precedence over hunting. Call (732) 323-2911 for more information. Deer hunting is not permitted on Christmas Day in Zone 53.

Fall Bow Season: Sept. 12–Oct. 30, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. First deer must be antlerless from Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 31–Dec. 24 and 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 100 permits are available. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Six-day Firearm Season: Dec. 7–12, 2015; **Bag limit:** two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 28 and 30 and Dec. 1–5, 14–24 and 26–31, 2015 and

Jan. 1–9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 100 permits are available.

Permit Shotgun Season: Dec. 7–12 and 16–18, 2015 and 2–9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. A total of 100 permits are available.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 1–31, 2016; **Bag limit:** two deer—only one may be antlered.

Picatinny Arsenal (Zone 54)

Not open to the general public. The following information is provided for active duty or retired military personnel and Picatinny Arsenal federal civilian employees or retirees only. Contact Hans Karlsen at (973) 724-4484 for more information. Deer hunting is permitted on Christmas Day and New Year's Day in Zone 54, except on Sunday. There is no Sunday bow hunting allowed in Deer Management Zone 54.

Hunters must purchase a Zone 54 permit from license agents or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Permits will be for sale until the season ends or the permit quota is reached. See *Deer Season Permits*, page 16. The hunter is responsible to confirm they have current authorization for access to Picatinny Arsenal prior to purchasing a permit. Purchasing a Zone 54 permit does NOT guarantee access to Picatinny Arsenal. Only those individuals who have authorization for hunting privileges and corresponding gate access on the installation are allowed to hunt. There are no refunds or exchanges for permits that can not be used.

Fall Bow Season: Oct. 3–Oct. 30, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and one antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 60 permits are available. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Six-day Firearm Season: Dec. 7–12, 2015; **Bag limit:** two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 50 permits are available.

Permit Shotgun Season: Dec. 7–12, and 19, 2015 and Jan. 2 and 4–8, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless

deer only. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 50 permits are available.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 1–31, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Special Areas— U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Refuge System

Special regulations for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) lands are in effect throughout all authorized deer hunting seasons, in addition to state game laws and regulations. **NOTE: No Sunday bowhunting on national wildlife refuges.** The following federal regulations apply to all national wildlife refuges (NWRs) in New Jersey:

1. Hunting over bait or distributing bait is prohibited on all refuges.
2. The use of a spotlight or other artificial light—including automotive headlights—for the purpose of spotting, locating or taking any wildlife is prohibited on all refuges, regardless of whether one is in possession of a weapon.
3. All firearm hunters (muzzleloader and shotgun) must wear an outer garment consisting of at least **400 square inches of solid fluorescent orange** while deer hunting on any refuge (double the state law requirement).

4. Entry is prohibited on all refuge lands posted *Area Closed* and on refuge roadways posted with *Inholders Only* signs.
5. The use of nails, wire, screws or bolts to attach a stand to a tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven to support a hunter, is prohibited on all refuges.

Most refuges can accommodate individuals who have obtained a permit for handicapped hunters from New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, including permits to hunt from vehicles. Interested persons should contact the appropriate refuge in advance of the deer hunting seasons.

Cape May NWR

Cape May NWR is open for all six deer seasons. Season dates and bag limits for Deer Management Zone 34 will apply. Contact the refuge office for more information at (609) 463-0994.

Edwin B. Forsythe NWR (Zones 56, 57, 58 and 70)

To hunt Edwin B. Forsythe NWR, hunters must possess the proper permits. **Permits will be available for sale until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 30.** There are NO exceptions. Permits will be available for sale at all License Agents and online.

Only designated sections of the Edwin B. Forsythe NWR are open for deer hunting. All other areas are closed. The refuge only allows deer hunting by permit. While the Permit Bow, Permit

Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader seasons may overlap the Six-Day Firearm season dates, refuge hunting is *only* conducted under applicable permit regulations, **not** Six-day Firearm Season regulations. On November 10, 2015, at 7 p.m., the refuge will hold a Deer Hunt Information meeting at the Forsythe Refuge Headquarters in Galloway Township. Attendance is optional but strongly encouraged for all refuge deer hunters.

Refuge parking permits and hunt maps will be mailed to hunters after the refuge receives notification of permit holders from New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife. Hunt maps are also available on the refuge website at http://www.fws.gov/refuge/edwin_b_forsythe/. Not all refuge deer hunting zones are posted with National Wildlife Refuge property and boundary signs. It is the hunter's responsibility to know the zone boundaries.

The refuge encourages hunter feedback on your refuge hunting experience. For any questions, information or comments regarding refuge-specific hunting regulations or activities, call the refuge manager at (609) 652-1665. Additional information about the refuge may also be found at the refuge's Facebook page: www.Facebook.com/ForsytheNWR.

Edwin B. Forsythe NWR (Zone 56) is open for deer hunting to properly licensed hunters as follows:

- ♦ **Permit Shotgun Season (Zone 56):** Dec. 14–18,

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Regulations in red are new this year.

2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer—not on the refuge—during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 25 permits are available for Zone 56.

Edwin B. Forsythe NWR (Zone 57) is open for deer hunting to properly licensed hunters as follows:

- ♦ **Permit Bow Season (Zone 57):** Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 40 permits are available for Zone 57.
- ♦ **Permit Muzzleloader (Zone 57):** Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31 2015 and Jan. 1–9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time. A total of 40 permits are available for Zone 57.
- ♦ **Permit Shotgun Season (Zone 57):** Dec. 7–12, 2015 are antlerless deer only. Antlered or antlerless: Dec. 16–18, 2015 and Jan. 2–30, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun

Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer—not on the refuge—during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at a time. A total of 40 permits are available for Zone 57.

Edwin B. Forsythe NWR (Zone 58) is open for deer hunting to properly licensed hunters as follows:

- ♦ **Permit Bow Season (Zone 58):** Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 35 permits are available for Zone 58.
- ♦ **Permit Muzzleloader (Zone 58):** Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time. A total of 35 permits are available for Zone 58.
- ♦ **Permit Shotgun Season (Zone 58):** Dec. 2–4 and 7–12, 2015 are antlerless deer only. Antlered or antlerless: Dec. 16–18, 2015 and Jan. 2–9, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer—not on the refuge—during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless

deer only. Two deer may be taken at a time. A total of 50 permits are available for Zone 58.

Edwin B. Forsythe NWR (Zone 70) is open for deer hunting to properly licensed hunters as follows:

- ♦ **Permit Bow Season (Zone 70):** Oct. 31–Nov. 29, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 15 permits are available for Zone 70.
- ♦ **Permit Muzzleloader (Zone 70):** Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 15 permits are available for Zone 70.
- ♦ **Permit Shotgun Season (Zone 70):** Dec. 16–18, 2015 and Jan. 9–16, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer—not on the refuge—during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. A total of 25 permits are available for Zone 70.

Zones 56, 57, 58 and 70 are closed to deer hunting at all other times.

Great Swamp NWR (Zone 38)

To hunt Great Swamp NWR, hunters must possess a Zone 38 permit. **Permits will be available for sale until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 30.** There are NO exceptions. Permits will be available for sale at all license agents and online over the Internet.

The refuge is open only for Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun season hunting and closed to deer hunting at all other times. Hunters may apply only for either a Permit Muzzleloader or a Permit Shotgun permit, not both. In addition to the state permit, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will charge a \$26 fee (\$13 for holders of a Senior, Golden Age, or Golden Access Passport and youths with a valid 2015 New Jersey Youth hunting license) to issue a federal hunting permit. The refuge will supply additional information on hunt procedures and regulations to those hunters who obtain their Zone 38 permit from NJ Fish and Wildlife via the lottery. For more information, contact the refuge wildlife biologist at (973) 425-1222 ext. 158.

Great Swamp NWR (Zone 38) is open for deer hunting to properly licensed hunters as follows:

- ♦ **Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun Season (concurrent):** Oct. 31 and Nov. 4–7, 2015. On Oct. 31 (Saturday), hunting is only for youths who possess a valid 2015 New Jersey Youth hunting license and a Zone 38 permit. Youths must be accompanied by a licensed but non-hunting adult that is at least 21 years of age. **Bag limit: one deer**—either antlerless or antlered. Hunters must be in possession of the appropriate Antlered Buck Permit before attempting to take an antlered deer. A total of 200 muzzleloader and 200 shotgun permits are available. The eastern side of the refuge (approximately 4,000 acres) will be open

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* Distances above are with barrel held at an elevated angle for maximum trajectory. Always consider the angle of your barrel when shooting.

* Never shoot at or over the crest of a hill.

* All distances are approximate and can vary depending on the shotgun's gauge/choke and ammunition used.



to muzzleloader hunting only and the western side of the refuge (approximately 3,700 acres) will be open to muzzleloader and shotgun hunting.

Supawna Meadows NWR (Zone 63)

Supawna Meadows NWR is open for Fall Bow, Youth Bow Day, Permit Bow and Winter Bow seasons ONLY! The use of firearms is prohibited on Supawna Meadows NWR. No refuge permit fee is required to hunt Supawna Meadows NWR. For more information, call (609) 463-0994.

Any antlered deer taken on Supawna Meadows NWR must have at least one antler with three or more antler points.

Supawna Meadows NWR is open for deer hunting to properly licensed hunters as follows:

- ♦ **Fall Bow Season:** Sept. 12–Oct. 30, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. First deer must be antlerless from Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2015. First deer may be antlered or antlerless from Oct. 3–30, 2015.
- ♦ **Youth Day (Bow):** Sept. 26, 2015; **Bag limit:** one deer of either sex.
- ♦ **Permit Bow Season:** Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2015; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. NOTE: Hunters MUST have a Zone 63 Permit Bow Season permit to hunt the Supawna Meadows NWR during the Permit Bow Season.
- ♦ **Winter Bow Season:** Jan. 1–31, 2016; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer.
- ♦ Supawna Meadows NWR is closed to deer hunting at all other times.

Wallkill River NWR (Zone 2)

Designated areas of the refuge are open during all six deer seasons. Season dates and bag limits for Zone 2 apply. An annual hunting map, additional regulations and a signed access permit from the refuge must be obtained prior to scouting or hunting. The access permit is \$30 (permit is free for youth; discounts available for those with Federal Senior or Access Passes) and must be signed and carried at all times when hunting on refuge property. Permits can be purchased online at www.WallkillRiverPermits.com; for more information, visit our website at www.fws.gov/refuge/Wallkill_River/visit/hunting.html, or call (973) 702-7266.

Special Areas— Other Public Lands

Bayside PSEG Tract (Zone 29)

Hunters interested in hunting this 4,500-acre PSEG property located in Greenwich Township, Cumberland County may visit www.pseg.com/environment/estuary or call (888) MARSHES for more information. Driving of deer is prohibited on all PSEG lands. Season dates and bag limits for Zone 29 apply.

Horseshoe Bend Park (Zone 11)

Horseshoe Bend Park and adjacent state lands in Kingwood Township are open for limited deer

hunting through a lottery system. Hunting in this park is prohibited at all other times. There is a non-refundable \$5 fee for each season lottery application. Contact the Kingwood Township Park Commission at (908) 996-4276 or go to www.kingwoodtownship.com/parks for more information, season dates, maps and hunter access details.

Kingwood Township— Ukarish Property (Zone 11)

The Ukarish Property is open for limited deer hunting through a first-come, first-served process (limit 10 hunters) for bow hunting only. Hunting in this park is prohibited at all other times. Contact the Kingwood Township Park Commission at (908) 996-4276 or go to www.kingwoodtownship.com/parks for more information, season dates, maps and hunter access details.

Lizard Tail Swamp (Zone 34)

This 400-acre property, jointly owned by New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife and The Nature Conservancy (TNC), is located in Middle Township, Cape May County. A TNC access permit is required. Call (609) 861-0600 for permit applications, maps and site-specific regulations. Season dates and bag limits for Zone 34 apply.

Newark Watershed (Zones 3 and 6)

The Newark Watershed, located in Morris, Passaic and Sussex counties, is open to deer hunting from September to December. A watershed access permit is required. Call (973) 697-1724 or (973) 697-1758 for access permit applications, maps and site-specific regulations. Season dates and bag limits for Zone 3 and Zone 6 apply.

Franklin Parker Preserve and Four Mile Spring Preserve (Zone 68)

Hunters must purchase Zone 68 permits from license agents or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. See *Deer Season Permits*, page 16. **The hunter is responsible to confirm they have current authorization for access prior to purchasing a permit.** The purchase of a deer permit for Zone 68 does NOT guarantee access to Zone 68. There are no refunds or exchanges for permits that cannot be used.

Franklin Parker Preserve and Four Mile Spring Preserve are managed by the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. Designated areas of these preserves are open to deer hunting. Contact the Foundation directly at (908) 234-1225 for more information.

Season dates and bag limits for Regulation Set #6 apply. 🍖

Hunters Helping the Hungry Needs Help with Meat-processing Costs



Hunters Helping the Hungry, an organization that has enabled hunters to provide over one million servings of tasty and nutritious venison to feed New Jersey families since 1997, needs some help from the public to cover the costs of professional meat processing.

The program, which donated more than 24,019 pounds of venison (from 723 hunter-provided deer) to food banks and charitable organizations last year alone, operates with limited funding. Butchers who participate in the Hunters Helping the Hungry program receive \$65 to process the donated deer. Currently, hunters who donate deer to feed the hungry must contribute either \$10 (for field-dressed deer weighing 50 lbs. or more) or \$25 (for deer under 50 lbs.) toward that processing fee. If the program's funding runs out, hunters who donate deer will have to cover the entire cost for meat-processing.

Hunters should check on funding availability before harvesting a deer intended for donation by visiting the website below.

Anyone interested in making a charitable contribution to offset the program's meat-processing costs can visit our website at HuntersHelpingTheHungry.org to donate securely through PayPal or send a check payable to: Hunters Helping the Hungry, P.O. Box 587, Lebanon, NJ 08833.

Participating Butchers Include:

- Newton High School, Newton (973) 383-7573 x243 (Call first for instructions.)
- Game Butchers, Lebanon (908) 735-4646
- 57 West Deer Processing Phillipsburg (908) 619-0195
- Hunterdon Butcher (908) 797-2315
51 Old Franklin School Rd., Pittstown
- Bishop's Market Whitehouse Station (908) 534-9666
- V. Roche and Sons Whitehouse Station (908) 534-2006
- The Hunter's Butcher (732) 414-1446
967 Route 524 (Adelphia near Howell)
- The Buck Stop, Stanley Mihalecz (856) 794-1281
989 Alvine Rd., Pittsgrove, Salem Co.
- Bringhurst Fine Meats/Catering Berlin (856) 767-0110

Butchers will not accept donated deer during the Six-day Firearm Buck Season, from Dec. 7–12, so they can accommodate their regular customers.

For upcoming fundraising events such as sporting clay shoots, a striper fishing trip and a 3-D archery shoot, visit our website at HuntersHelpingTheHungry.org.

What's Happening with Muskrats?

By Andrew Burnett, Principal Biologist

Nothing gets a muskrat trapper more excited than rumors of \$10 pelts, especially if they haven't actively trapped in a few years. Typically when pelt prices are that high, trappers react with great expectations—taking equipment inventory, buying supplies, boiling traps—all the while thinking about how to spend that money from the 'rats they know are right where they used to trap them. All that work only to find precious little sign of the critters in pre-season scouting. So what happened?

The muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*) gets its name from the musky odor produced by glands along either side of the male's reproductive organ, which enlarge during the mating season. It is a large, brown aquatic rodent about the size of a football, not including its 9-inch tail which is vertically flattened from side to side compared with the broad flat tail of the larger American beaver. The muskrat is most abundant in marsh systems where shallow water supports a variety of cattails and other food plants. They are particularly abundant in the tidal marshes along the Delaware Bay.

In marshes and swamps, the muskrat builds a conical lodge from the dominant water plants of its habitat, preferably cattails and/or sedge grasses, on a thick bed of decayed vegetation that lies below water level. Lodges are then built up by the accumulation

of vegetation creating a dry sleeping chamber above the water level with one or more plunge holes leading to the water. Most lodges, which can harbor up to 10 individuals, are constructed in May or early June, and again in October. Muskrats may also construct several smaller feeding shelters known as "pushups" where food is brought and eaten in relative safety. Where conditions are unsatisfactory for building a lodge, muskrats may excavate a bank den having its entrance below water and an enlarged chamber well above the high-water level. Muskrats spend about half of their time within 50 feet of their lodge or den; the average home range is about 200 feet in diameter.

Muskrats are seldom seen far from water and may remain submerged for as long as 20 minutes. They use their broad, webbed hind feet and tail to propel

themselves through the water as fast as three miles per hour and can even swim backwards. They are mainly vegetarians, especially favoring the roots and stalks of cattails and other aquatic plants although they may foray out to fields to eat herbaceous plants or growing corn. Large freshwater clams, fish, and crustaceans form a minor share of their diet. Like beavers, muskrat can close their upper lips behind their incisors in order to cut materials underwater without drowning.

Muskrats are polygamous and quite prolific breeders. This is essential to compensate for their high annual death rate of up to 80 percent. The first litter is born in late April or early May after a month long gestation period. Young muskrats can swim at two weeks of age and are weaned when about a month old. Several litters averaging five to six kits are produced each season.

Carrying capacity of the land can be as high as 26 'rats per acre in the best habitats, but muskrats in poor-quality habitat tend to have fewer and smaller litters. Invasive plant species such as phragmites and purple loosestrife are indicative of poor quality muskrat habitat that displaces our native sedge grasses and cattails.

The muskrat is pursued by many predators, mink being the dominant one. Mink regularly enter lodges and bank dens to feed heavily on muskrats. Other animals that include muskrats in their diet are the northern harrier, larger owls, foxes and raccoons.



The muskrat is one of our most important native furbearers. According to the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, 29.8 million muskrats were harvested nationally between 1993–2012, second only to raccoons at 33.2 million. Garden State muskrat trappers harvested an average of slightly more than 41,000 annually through the 2000's. Although New Jersey has more muskrat trappers today than in 1995, these trappers have experienced a downward trend in the muskrat harvest since then, as calculated by the catch-per-unit-effort approach.

Based on New Jersey Trapper Harvest Surveys, the catch-per-unit-effort has declined from 14.1 during 1995–04 to 6.5 during 2005–2014. Every experienced trapper knows that there are good harvest years and bad and that fur prices fluctuate based on fashion trends and on the weather half the world away. But the question remains, what happened to muskrat populations?

Muskrats can be tolerant of human disturbance and less than ideal water quality; muskrat predators, on the other hand, are more sensitive to these conditions. It's entirely plausible that muskrat populations of the 1970s were higher than might otherwise be expected due to pollution levels which repressed certain predator populations.

Subsequent environmental legislation such as the National Environmental Protection Act and the Clean Water Act has resulted in cleaner water for human and wildlife populations. In addition, there has been great success in recovering many avian predator populations from indiscriminate shooting and pesticide application since the late 1970's. Both of these factors may result in an increase in natural muskrat predators.

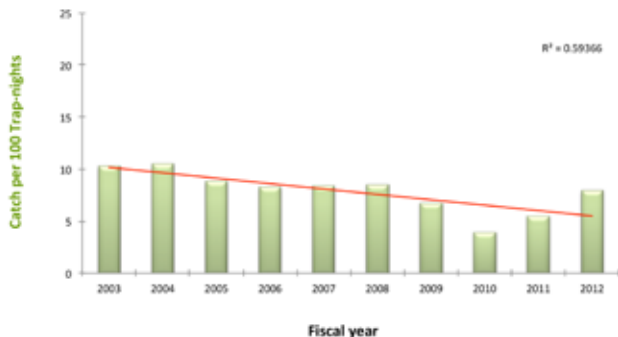
Less obvious factors, and perhaps less understood, might include disease and parasites. Muskrats are subject to a host of diseases, but only tularemia and hemorrhagic disease are currently considered major problems. However, an ongoing study by East Stroudsburg University has found babesiosis infection in 60 percent of muskrat carcasses examined. Muskrats are also host to dozens of parasitic worm species, in addition to ticks and mites.

The majority of the New Jersey muskrat harvest comes from tidal counties from Salem to Ocean. Severe weather events like Hurricane Sandy can have dramatic impacts on muskrats. Muskrat harvests, on the upswing in 2011–12, were cut in half the year following Sandy. Harvest estimates increased 25 percent the year after Sandy; hopefully that trend will continue.

Muskrats can be used as a monitor of environmental quality and ecosystem productivity. Inland freshwater systems dominated by invasive species such as purple loosestrife may look pretty, but these plants out-compete the native cattails on which muskrats thrive and degrade marshland habitat overall. Continued human development impacts the wetland environment and run-off from pesticides, fertilizer, silt and agricultural practices can alter the habitats that the muskrat calls home.

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife biologists will continue to monitor muskrat populations and assess the data to ensure the continued survival of the muskrat in the Garden State.

Muskrat Catch per Unit Effort in New Jersey, 2003-2012
Mean 324 Active Muskrat Trappers



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Regulations in red are new this year.

FOLLOWING COMMENCEMENT OF the black bear season, the Fish and Wildlife Director may announce closure of the season or **extension of the season** based upon data obtained and reviewed by Fish and Wildlife. A season closure, if announced, will become effective 24 hours from the daily legal closing time of the day on which the decision is made. **The dates of a bear season extension, if announced, will be Wednesday, December 16 through Saturday, December 19, 2015. Hunting regulations for the season extension will be the same as those during the regular season. Only those permit holders who did not harvest a bear during the regular season may hunt during the season extension. The bag limit is one bear per hunter for the entire bear season, including the extension.** The notification number for season closure or extension is the permit hotline number, (609) 292-9192. Season closure or extension notification will also be announced by news release, radio and Fish and Wildlife's website NJFishandWildlife.com.

Black Bear Hunting Season: Dec. 7–12, 2015

Hunting Hours: Legal hunting hours for black bear shall be ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

Bag Limit: Only one bear of either sex and any age may be taken per properly licensed hunter or farmer hunter regardless of the number of black bear permits held. It is unlawful to take or attempt to take or continue to hunt for more than the number of black bear permitted.

Special permit requirement: All black bear hunters must have a current and valid firearm hunting license and a special Black Bear Hunting Permit issued by Fish and Wildlife. See *Black Bear Management Zone Descriptions*, page 59; see also *Black Bear Hunting Permits*, page 12. Hunters are limited to purchasing two black bear hunting permits, one each for two different zones. The bag limit remains at one black bear per hunter.

Youth Bear Hunters: Youth hunters with a valid hunting license must also possess a black bear hunting permit. Youth hunters aged 10 through 13 on or before Dec. 7, 2015 must be under the direct supervision of a properly licensed adult (21 years of age or older) while bear hunting. The adult must also

possess a black bear hunting permit. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The youth hunter may not hunt independently of the adult.

Firearms and Ammunition Legal For Bear Hunting

Shotgun: not smaller than 20 gauge nor larger than 10 gauge with rifled slugs. Lead, lead alloy or copper rifled slug or sabot slug. Buckshot is prohibited.

Muzzleloader Rifle: must be single-barrel, single shot rifles not less than .44 caliber. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions are allowed. Double barrel muzzleloaders prohibited. Persons hunting with a muzzleloader rifle must also possess a current and valid rifle hunting permit.

Additional Black Bear Hunting Regulations

- ♦ Black bear hunters must wear a hat of solid fluorescent hunter orange or an outer garment containing at least 200 square inches of fluorescent orange material visible from all sides at all times while bear hunting **and also must follow the fluorescent orange requirements pertaining to hunting from a ground blind as specified under *Hunter Orange*, page 25.**
- ♦ It shall be illegal to use dogs to pursue or run black bear.
- ♦ No person shall attempt to take or kill a black bear or have in their possession or control any firearm, or other weapon of any kind, while elevated in a standing tree or in a structure of any kind within 300 feet of a baited area. On national wildlife refuges and at the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, the distribution of bait and/or hunting over bait is prohibited. Hunters should also check with the landowner or administrative agency before placing bait on any hunting area.

- ♦ Allowable hunting methods: stand hunting, still-hunting or drive hunting.
- ♦ Hunters using or possessing any shotgun slug in the field during the bear seasons must have a shotgun with adjustable open iron or peep sights or a scope affixed to the shotgun.
- ♦ Telescopic sights of any magnification (scope power) are permitted for bear hunting on all firearms, including muzzleloader rifles.
- ♦ Shotgun shells containing single spherical projectiles referred to as pumpkin balls are prohibited.
- ♦ While bear hunting with a shotgun, it is illegal to have in possession any ammunition not authorized for bear hunting.
- ♦ Only one muzzleloader rifle may be in possession while bear hunting.
- ♦ All firearms must be cased and unloaded while being transported in vehicles.
- ♦ It is illegal to take or attempt to take a black bear with a bow and arrow or with a crossbow.
- ♦ It is illegal to take or attempt to take a bear in a den structure.

Black Bear Hunting on State Lands

- ♦ Baiting is **prohibited** within 450 feet of campsites and picnic areas in all state parks and forests to coincide with the bear management policy for these areas. Learn these locations **BEFORE** you hunt.
- ♦ Hunting is prohibited in the Cedar Swamp Natural Area at High Point State Park due to sensitive wetland habitat that could be impacted by going off trail in this area.
- ♦ ATV use is prohibited in state parks, forests and wildlife management areas. However, hunters might be permitted to use ATVs to retrieve a bear but only with approval from, and on a pathway approved by, the park superintendent or designee (for state parks and forests) or from Fish and Wildlife's regional Law Enforcement office (for assistance on wildlife management areas).

After Harvesting a Bear—Mandatory Bear Check Requirement

Properly licensed hunters who harvest a black bear shall immediately complete and affix to the bear hide the "Black Bear Transportation Tag" from their Black Bear Hunting Permit. Information included on the black bear transportation tag shall include: the hunter's name, address, Conservation ID number; date and time of kill; nearest road, county and municipality of kill; and the sex of the black bear. When field dressing a black bear, leave the sex organs intact and attached to the body.

Hunting Tips

Scan this code for tips on hunting New Jersey's black bear or visit NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/bear tips.htm.



Proper Meat Handling

It is critical to remove the hide and cool the bear immediately after checking the bear. Cooling a bear with ice from inside the body cavity is inadequate to prevent the meat from spoiling. If the hide remains on overnight, the meat may be unsuitable for consumption.



Successful hunters must take the black bear to a designated check station by 7 p.m. on the day of the kill. Hunters shall surrender the black bear transportation tag and will be issued a legal possession seal.

Any legally killed black bear recovered too late to be brought to a designated black bear check station by 7 p.m. on the date of the kill must be re-reported immediately by telephone to the Northern Region Office of the Bureau of Law Enforcement (908) 735-8240. On the telephone message recording device, hunters must leave their name, address and a telephone number where they can be reached. The harvested black bear must be brought to a designated black bear check station on the next weekday to be registered and to receive a legal possession seal. After check stations have closed on Saturday during the regular season or Saturday during a season extension (if announced), hunters reporting a bear harvest via the Law Enforcement recorder will be contacted by a Fish and Wildlife biologist on Sunday to legally check the bear and to collect biological data.

Mandatory Black Bear Check Stations

In the event of a season extension, check station information will be announced via the permit hotline (609) 292-9192, news release, and on Fish and Wildlife's website NJFishandWildlife.com.

Hours: 12 noon to 7 p.m.

Warren County

- ♦ **Pequest Wildlife Management Area**
605 Pequest Road, Oxford

Morris County

- ♦ **Black River Wildlife Management Area***
275 North Road, Chester
- ♦ **Green Pond Golf Course**
765 Green Pond Rd, Rt. 513, Rockaway

Sussex County

- ♦ **Flatbrook Roy WMA**
Rt. 615 (Walpack Rd.), Sandyston
- ♦ **Whittingham WMA**
148 Fredon-Springdale Rd., Newton

* Operating Opening Day and Saturday only

Black Bear Game Care

As when cooking any raw meat, care must be taken to prevent exposure to disease when consuming wild game. Black bear are known to carry *Trichinella*, a parasite commonly associated with pork. States nationwide report incidents of bears infected with *Trichinella* and New Jersey is no different. A *Trichinella* infection (Trichinellosis) is a risk only if the meat is cooked improperly. To ensure bear meat is safe to eat, be sure it's cooked to an internal temperature of 170 degrees for at least 15 seconds.

Toxoplasmosis, most commonly associated with cats, is another parasitic disease that may be transmitted to humans if meat is not handled properly. To eliminate any health risks associated with Toxoplasmosis make sure no one who may be pregnant handle raw bear meat and always cook the meat thoroughly

as you would for *Trichinella*. If you follow these simple guidelines you can enjoy your bear meat without any concern for exposure to *Trichinella* or Toxoplasmosis.

Black Bear Management Zone Descriptions

Note: Black bear management zones are different than deer management zones. Choose carefully when purchasing a black bear permit. For the 2015 season, only zones 1–5 are open for hunting.

Bear Management Zone 1: That portion of Warren and Sussex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the Portland Bridge and the Delaware River at Columbia; then northward along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York State Line; then east along the New York State Line to Rt. 519; then south along Rt. 519 to its intersection with Rt. 627; then south along Rt. 627 to its intersection with Rt. 626; then south along Rt. 626 to its intersection with Rt. 521; then southwest along Rt. 521 to its intersection with Rt. 94 in Blairstown; then southwest along Rt. 94 to the Portland Bridge, the point of beginning in Columbia. The islands of Labar, Tocks, Poxono, Depew, Namanock, Minisink and Mashapacong lying in the Delaware River are also included within this hunting area.

Bear Management Zone 2: That portion of Sussex, Warren and Morris counties lying within a continuous line beginning at Portland Bridge in Columbia; then northward along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 521 in Blairstown; then north along Rt. 521 to its intersection with Rt. 626; then north along Rt. 626 to its intersection with Rt. 627; then north along Rt. 627 to its intersection with Rt. 519 in Branchville; then north along Rt. 519 to the New York State Line; then southeast along the New York State line to Rt. 517; then south along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 94; then south on Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 23 in Hamburg Borough; then south along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 517 in Franklin; then south along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 15 in Sparta; then south along Rt. 15 to its intersection with Interstate 80 in Dover; then west along interstate 80 to its intersection with Rt. 94; then south along Rt. 94 to the intersection with the Portland Bridge and the Delaware River located in Columbia, the point of beginning.

Bear Management Zone 3: That portion of Sussex, Passaic, Morris, and Bergen counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 80 and Rt. 15 in Dover; then north along Rt. 15 to its intersection with Rt. 517 in Sparta; then north along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 23 in Franklin; then north along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 94 in Hamburg Borough; then north along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 517; then north along Rt. 517 to the New York State Line; then east along the New York State Line to its intersection with Rt. 287; then south along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 15 the point of beginning in Dover.

Bear Management Zone 4: That portion of Sussex, Warren, Morris, Somerset and Hunterdon counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Route 78 and the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River

to the Portland Bridge at Columbia; then northeast along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then east along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 287; then southwest along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 78; then west along Rt. 78 to the Delaware River the point of beginning.

Bear Management Zone 5: That portion of Hunterdon, Mercer, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, and Warren counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 78 and the Delaware River; then east along Rt. 78 to its intersection with Rt. 287; then northeast along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 202 in Oakland; then south along Rt. 202 to its intersection with Rt. 23; then south along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with the Passaic River; then west along the north bank of the Passaic River to its intersection with Rt. 80; the west on Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 280; then south along Rt. 280 to its intersection with Rt. 632; then south along Rt. 632 to its intersection with Rt. 608; then south along Rt. 608 to its intersection with Rt. 124; then southeast along Rt. 124 to its intersection with Rt. 638; then south along Rt. 638 to its intersection with Rt. 531; then south along Rt. 531 to its intersection with Rt. 527; then south along Rt. 527 to its intersection with Rt. 533; then south along Rt. 533 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then south along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 518; then west along Rt. 518 to its intersection with Rt. 165; then west along Rt. 165 to its intersection with Rt. 179; then west along Rt. 179 to the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to its intersection with Rt. 78, the point of beginning. ♪

2014 Black Bear Harvest by Zone and County

BMZ	2014 Harvest
1	80
2	88
3	78
4	27
Total	273

County	2014 Harvest
Sussex	150
Warren	60
Morris	28
Passaic	28
Hunterdon	5
Bergen	2
Total	273

No bears were harvested in the portion of Somerset county open to bear hunting in 2014.

Black Bear Management Zone Map

NOTE: Bear management zones are *different* than deer management zones.



Small Game Hunting

REGULATIONS

Regulations in red are new this year.

A CURRENT AND valid hunting license (Bow and Arrow, Firearm or All-Around Sportsman) is required to pursue any small game species. See page 24 for *General Hunting Regulations*. The use of dogs, unless specifically stated otherwise, is permitted to pursue any small game species, except wild turkey. Hunting for those species shown on page 63 is prohibited during the statewide Six-day Firearm (deer) Season and on the Wednesday of the Permit Shotgun (deer) Season that immediately follows the Six-day Firearm Season. For exceptions, see *Coyote and Fox* and *Semi-wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting* sections below. **Sunday hunting is prohibited**; see *Raccoon and Opossum*, page 62 plus *Semi-wild and Commercial Shooting Preserves* for exceptions.

Season Dates and Bag Limits: The *Small Game Hunting Seasons* table on page 63 lists dates, hunting hours and daily bag limits for all small game species open for hunting.

General Small Game Hunting Methods: Properly licensed hunters may hunt small game with shotguns or bow and arrow and limited hunting with small caliber rifles; see air gun and coyote/fox regulations. See also *General Hunting Regulations*, page 24.

Shotgun: Unless specifically stated otherwise, shotguns for small game hunting may be single or double barrel, rifled or smoothbore and not larger than 10-gauge or smaller than .410 caliber and capable of holding no more than three shells.

Shot: Unless specifically stated otherwise, shot size for small game hunting may be no larger than #4 fine shot.

Bow and Arrow: All bows must meet the requirements specified in *General Hunting Regulations*, page 24. **For taking game birds in flight, arrows equipped with an edged head are prohibited. Flu flu arrows are required for taking game birds in flight.**

Air gun: Air guns may be used for taking cottontail rabbit, hare and gray squirrel using ammunition not smaller than .177 caliber or larger than .22 caliber. Air gun BBs are not legal for hunting. See also *Air Guns* under *Firearms and Missiles*, page 28.

Muzzleloading Rifles: For limited small game rifle hunting, see below for *Coyote and Fox—Special Permit Season, Squirrel—Muzzleloading Rifle Season* and *Woodchuck* for restrictions.

Wildlife Damage: Property owners or their agents, and occupants of dwellings that are suffering damage from coyote, fox, opossum, raccoon, skunk, squirrel, weasel or woodchuck may control them by lawful means at any time subject to local ordinances.

Stealing Traps or Trapped Animals: It is illegal to take, carry away or unlawfully remove or steal a trap belonging to another person that is set along, by or in public or private property, ditch, stream, pond or water in this state and which has been set for the purpose of catching any of the furbearing animals species for which a legal season is established. It is also illegal to remove, alive or dead, any animal from the trap of another person.

harvested to a Fish and Wildlife Regional Law Enforcement Office within 24 hours. Callers must identify themselves by name, CID# and daytime phone number.

In addition to the general coyote and fox seasons described in the chart below, properly licensed turkey hunters may legally harvest coyotes if encountered incidental to legal turkey hunting. Turkey hunters shall not actively pursue coyotes or have coyote calls or decoys in possession. Also, properly licensed persons hunting deer during the Six-day Firearm, Permit Muzzleloader or Permit Shotgun deer seasons may kill coyote or fox if the coyote or fox is encountered before the hunter has taken the season bag limit of deer. However, after the hunter has taken a daily bag limit of deer, they must cease hunting immediately. Incidental hunting of coyote or fox while deer hunting may resume the following day (provided the season remains open and the season bag limit of deer has not been reached.) Only applicable projectiles approved for deer hunting may be used to take coyote and fox incidental to deer hunting during the deer seasons described above. See *Firearms, Bow and Ammunition* chart, page 31.

Baiting for coyote/fox is prohibited while hunting elevated in a standing tree or in a structure of any kind within 300 feet of a baited area.

Further, in addition to the general Coyote and Fox seasons plus the incidental harvest of coyote or fox while deer hunting, a Special Permit Coyote and Fox Season runs concurrent with the regular small game coyote and fox season. A Fish and Wildlife-issued permit is required to hunt coyote or fox under the provisions (see below) of the Special

Coyote and Fox, General and Special Permit Seasons

See chart below for both general and special permit season regulations for coyote and fox. NOTE: All successful coyote hunters must report any coyote

Coyote / Fox Season

Dates	Bow Only: Sept. 12–Nov. 6 in DMZs open for early fall bow deer hunting; otherwise Oct. 3–Nov. 6	Firearm or Bow: Nov. 7–March 15	Special Permit Season: Jan. 1 – March 15 (Permit required with shot larger than #4 fine thru #3 Buck sizes and/or nighttime hunting and/or using a muzzleloading rifle other than incidental to deer hunting and/or using a modern rifle)	
Hours	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except 8 a.m. start on Nov. 7	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise
Weapon Type and Projectiles Permitted	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> above.	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above. Shotgun and Shot Size: See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above.	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above. Shotgun: single or double barrel. Not smaller than 20 gauge or larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells. Shot: Not smaller than BB or larger than #3 Buck. Pellets must be lead or a tungsten-nickel-iron hybrid. Muzzleloading rifle: single-shot, single barrel no less than .44 caliber. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted, loaded only with a single projectile, either round ball or conical bullet. Electronic ignitions prohibited. A modern rifle magazine need not be pinned (plugged), but may be loaded with no more than three cartridges. Centerfire rifles: From .17 to maximum of .25 caliber with soft point or hollow point bullets and maximum of 80 grains. Rimfire rifles: From .17 to maximum of .22 caliber with soft point or hollow point bullets and maximum of 50 grains.	Shotgun: single or double barrel. Not smaller than 20 gauge or larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells. Shot: sizes not smaller than #4 fine shot or larger than T
Notes	Hunter orange not required. Use of dogs prohibited. Daily bag: unlimited coyote or fox	Hunter orange required when using firearm. Muzzleloading rifle may be used only incidental to deer hunting. Use of dogs permitted except not during Dec. 7–12 and Dec. 16. Daily bag: unlimited coyote or fox	While hunting under the provisions of the Special Permit: Hunter orange is not required (but is recommended while traveling to/from hunting areas.) Hunting methods are restricted to calling and stand hunting. A predator-calling device (manual or electronic) must be in possession. Use of dogs is prohibited. Use of bait is prohibited. Portable lights are allowed. Sunday hunting is not legal. Daily bag: unlimited coyote or fox	

Permit Coyote and Fox Season; as follows:

A permit to hunt coyote or fox is required 1.) to hunt at night and/or 2.) to use shot sizes larger than #4 fine and up to size #3 Buck, and/or 3.) to use a rifle for coyote or fox other than incidental to deer hunting. Sunday hunting is not legal.

Coyote/Fox permits: \$2, available at any license agent or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site (www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) beginning December 1. A 2016 hunting license must be purchased prior to or in conjunction with the purchase of a Special Season Coyote and Fox Permit.

Northern Bobwhite (Quail)

Northern bobwhite quail are native to the southern half of New Jersey. In recent years, quail populations have declined throughout their range including New Jersey.

Quail Season Closed

In an effort to reverse this decline in New Jersey, the statewide quail hunting season is closed except at Peaslee WMA and Greenwood Forest WMA where Fish and Wildlife will provide hunters and falcons the opportunity to hunt for quail.

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 63 for season dates and bag limits. Exception: This statewide closure does not apply to certain semi-wild and commercial shooting preserves that were permitted to stock quail during the 2009–10 season.

Pheasant

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 63 for season dates and bag limits. See exceptions below

for semi-wild and commercial preserve hunting.

Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas: Anyone aged 16 and over (except 16 year olds whose Youth License remains valid until Dec. 31 in the year they reach 16 years of age) hunting or possessing pheasant or quail on the following designated wildlife management areas shall have in possession a current and valid Pheasant and Quail Stamp (Youth Hunting licenses include pheasant and quail stamp): Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Millville (Bevan), Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook, Glassboro, Greenwood (including Howardsville), Heislerville, Tuckahoe (MacNamara), Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Rockport, Stafford Forge, Walpack, Whittingham and Winslow. A current and valid Pheasant and Quail Stamp is also required at the Delaware River National Recreation Area.

Pheasant and Quail Stocking

Wearing a hunter orange hat is required for all fire-arm small game hunters on wildlife management areas stocked with pheasant or quail.

Fish and Wildlife anticipates pheasant and quail releases to be as follows:

- ♦ Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook, Glassboro, Millville (Bevan), Nantuxent, Pequest, Port Republic, Tuckahoe (MacNamara), Walpack and Whittingham WMAs will be **stocked with pheasant** for the following dates:
 - » Nov. 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28
 - » Dec. 5, 19, 22, 29, 31
- ♦ Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and the Heislerville, Howardsville, Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan, Medford, Stafford Forge and Winslow WMAs will be **stocked with pheasant** for the following dates:
 - » Nov. 7, 14, 21, 26, 28
 - » Dec. 5, 19, 22, 29, 31

- ♦ Greenwood Forest and Peaslee WMAs will be **stocked with quail** for the following dates:
 - » Nov. 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28
 - » Dec. 5, 19, 22, 29, 31

New maps showing the specific field locations for every stocked wildlife management area are now available here: NJFishandWildlife.com/pheasmaps.htm.

Stocking Maps

Scan this QR code or follow the link for maps of the pheasant and quail stocked fields for each stocked WMA. Go to NJFishandWildlife.com/pheasmaps.htm.



Fish and Wildlife reminds sportsmen and sportswomen that the stocking schedule is tentative until approved by the Fish and Game Council in early October. The schedule is subject to pheasant production and may change due to emergency weather conditions. For changes to the stocking schedule due to inclement weather or other necessary adjustments, visit our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/smgame_info.htm.

Rabbit and Hare

The rabbit and hare hunting season will begin the last Saturday in September. The early opening date allows for hunting opportunity when rabbit populations are at their peak. Air guns may be used for taking cottontail rabbit and hare using ammunition not smaller than .177 caliber or larger than .22 caliber. See also *Air Guns* under *Firearms and Missiles*, page 28 and *General Small Game Hunting Methods*, page 60.

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 63 for season dates and bag limits.

Weights & Growth Rates of the Rockport Rockets

Do you know how much a pheasant chick weighs? No? You are not alone. Before our research, we didn't either.

Although a number of state wildlife agencies raise and stock ring-necked pheasants (*Phasianus colchicus*) for hunting, the weight of a pheasant chick from the day it was hatched until the day it was stocked remained unknown. To accumulate data on body weight and growth rate of juvenile pheasants, personnel from the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife embarked on a tight protocol of weighing pheasant chicks from one-day-old hatchlings through five-week-old brooder birds.

The researchers weighed more than 9,600 pheasant chicks in 2013 and 8,200 chicks in 2014. In general, cock and hen birds weighed about the same on the day of hatching, about 2/3 of an ounce. By the second week after hatching, though, cockbird chicks were significantly larger than hen chicks. Chicks grew at a considerable

rate after hatching, doubling their weight from day-olds to the first week. Again they doubled their weight from the first week to the second.

After the second week, the rate of growth slowed to about 1.5 times each week for the remainder of the five-week brooder period. Overall, chicks gained about 14 times their initial hatching weight over five weeks, from about 0.66 of an ounce to about 9.3 ounces.

At the end of the brooding period the pheasants were placed in the range pens to grow and become fully feathered for stocking. The birds released for stocking weighed approximately 2.5 pounds for hens and 3 pounds for cockbirds. This data collected throughout the brooding period is helpful information for the Rockport Game Farm



staff as they monitor the health and growth rate of our fast-flying Rockport Rocket pheasants to be stocked for the upcoming hunting season.

— Patrick C. Carr, Supervising Wildlife Biologist and Steve Wilson, Senior Wildlife Worker

50,000 Pheasants Stocked for Hunting on 26 WMAs Statewide!

View the 2015 Pheasant Stocking Schedule, available in mid-October, at NJFishandWildlife.com/pdf/2015/pheas-quail_sched15.pdf

Raccoon and Opossum

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 63 for season dates and bag limits.

Hours: Hunting may not begin until one hour after sunset on the opening day of the season. On all other days open during the season, the hours of hunting are one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise. Sunday hunting is permitted **only for raccoon** between the hours of midnight (the beginning of Saturday) and one hour before sunrise (Sunday).

Hunting methods: Portable lights are permitted. Fluorescent orange is encouraged but not required on outer clothing while hunting raccoon and opossum. A current and valid rifle permit is required when possessing a .22 caliber rifle while hunting raccoon and opossum. Only .22 caliber shorts are permitted.

Dog Training: Dogs may be trained during the month of September and from March 2 to May 1, inclusive. The training hours are one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

Ruffed Grouse

The state's two ruffed grouse hunting zones are delineated by Rt. 70. North of Rt. 70 the season will begin October 17. South of Rt. 70 the season will begin Nov. 7 to reduce harvest mortality of the remaining populations in the southern zone. The ruffed grouse zones are identical to those for woodcock and will provide for consistent regulations for these species that are often hunted simultaneously. See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 63 for season dates and bag limits.

Semi-Wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting

Hunting for pheasant, quail and partridge is allowed from Nov. 7 to March 15 on semi-wild and from Sept. 1 through May 1 on commercial shooting preserves (which also allows mallards) that are properly licensed for the taking of such species. These game birds may be hunted on Sunday only on semi-wild or commercial shooting preserve lands.

Youth hunters (in possession of a valid Youth Hunting License and accompanied by a licensed, non-shooting adult) will be permitted to hunt pheasant, quail and partridge on licensed semi-wild preserves on Saturday, Nov. 1—the Youth Upland Bird Hunting Day.

All game taken on semi-wild or commercial preserves must be properly tagged before being transported off the licensed property.

A person may legally hunt on semi-wild or commercial preserves for game birds during deer seasons, but no shot larger than #4 fine may be used. There are no daily bag or seasonal limits for pheasant, quail, partridge or mallards taken on commercial preserves. There are no daily bag limits for pheasant, quail or partridge taken on semi-wild properties. Seasonal harvests on semi-wild properties may not exceed the number of birds to be stocked as indicated on the semi-wild permit application.

Woodchuck Season

Dates	Weapon Type Permitted	Gauge, Caliber or Weight	Projectile(s)
	Center-fire rifle	.25 caliber or less	Hollow point, soft point or expanding lead core bullets of any weight. Hollow point, soft point or expanding lead core bullets of any weight not exceeding 80 grains in weight.
		Larger than .25 caliber	
March 2 to Sept. 30, 2015	Rim-fire rifle	.25 caliber or less	Hollow point or soft point of any weight not exceeding 50 grains in weight.
	Muzzleloading rifle: single-shot, single barrel. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted.	No restriction	Must be loaded with a single projectile, either round ball or conical bullet.
March 1 to Sept. 28, 2016	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow	35 pounds pull at archers draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow); 75 pounds pull for crossbow	Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of 3/4"
	Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells	Shot – sizes not larger than #4 fine shot
Sept. 26–Dec. 5 and Dec. 14, 15, 17–31, 2015	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow	35 pounds pull at archers draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow); 75 pounds pull for crossbow	Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of 3/4"
	Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells	Shot – sizes not larger than #4 fine shot
Jan. 1–Feb. 15, 2016	Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells	Shot – sizes not larger than #4 fine shot

Squirrel, Regular Season

Air guns may be used for taking squirrel using ammunition not smaller than .177 caliber or larger than .22 caliber. See also *Air Guns* under *Firearms and Missiles*, page 28 and *General Small Game Hunting Methods*, page 60. See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 63.

Squirrel, Muzzleloading Rifle Season

Persons holding a current and valid firearm license and rifle permit may hunt for squirrels from sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset with a muzzleloading rifle (.36 caliber or smaller loaded with a single projectile) during the periods Sept. 26–Nov. 6, 2015 and Jan. 2–Feb. 15, 2016.

Hunting for squirrel in the manner described above is restricted to the areas described below:

- Those portions of Passaic, Mercer, Hunterdon, Warren, Morris and Sussex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 513 and the New York State line; then south along Rt. 513 to its intersection with Rt. 511; then south along Rt. 511 to its intersection with Rt. 46; then west along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 15; then north along Rt. 15 to its intersection with the Morris-Sussex County line; then south along the Morris-Sussex County line to the Warren County line; then southwest along the Morris-Warren County line to the Hunterdon County line; then southeast along the Morris-Hunterdon County line to the Somerset County line; then south along the Somerset-Hunterdon County line to its intersection with the Mercer County line; then west and south along the Hunterdon Mercer County line to its intersection with Rt. 31; then south along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 546; then west along Rt. 546 to the Delaware River; then

north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York State line; then east along the New York State line to the point of beginning at Lakeside. ♦ In that portion of Salem, Gloucester, Camden, Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 295 and the Delaware River; then east along Rt. 295 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then east along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 40; then east along Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Rt. 536; then east along Rt. 536 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then northeast along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 571; then southeast along Rt. 571 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then south along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with Rt. 9 at Somers Point; then south along Rt. 9 to its intersection with Rt. 83; then west along Rt. 83 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Dennis Creek; then south along the west bank of Dennis Creek to its intersection with Delaware Bay; then northwest along the east shore of Delaware Bay and the Delaware River to the point of beginning.

Woodchuck

All persons in possession of a rifle (including a muzzleloading rifle) while hunting woodchuck must have a current and valid rifle permit in addition to the current hunting license. Rifle hunting (of any kind) for woodchuck is prohibited on state wildlife management areas, state parks, state forests or state recreation areas. Farmers and their agents may use shot not larger than #4 buckshot to control woodchuck causing damage. Hours of hunting are sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. See chart above for woodchuck hunting details. 🦫

2015–16 Small Game Hunting Seasons

Species (alphabetical)	Inclusive Dates	Hunting Hours	Daily Limits	Notes
Bobwhite (quail)	Closed statewide; except at Peaslee & Greenwood WMA (see Notes) At Peaslee & Greenwood WMAs ONLY: Nov. 7–Dec. 5; Dec. 14, 15, 17–31, 2015 and Jan. 1–30, 2016	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	4	8 a.m. start on Nov. 7 Quail may be hunted ONLY at Peaslee and Greenwood Forest WMAs. Pheasant and Quail Stamp required. Season closed in remainder of the state. (See exceptions under Northern Bobwhite, page 61.)
Coyote* and Fox, General All coyote must be reported within 24 hrs.	Bow and Arrow only: Sept. 12–Nov. 6 in DMZ Regulation Sets 4–8 Oct. 3–Nov. 6 in DMZ Regulation Sets 0–3 Firearm or Bow and Arrow: Nov. 7–Mar. 15	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 7 Deer hunters may harvest coyote and fox during all open deer seasons with restrictions as specified under Small Game Hunting, <i>Coyote and Fox</i> , page 60. Rifle permit required in possession when hunting with rifle (allowed only incidental to deer hunting).
Coyote* and Fox, Special Permit Season All coyote must be reported within 24 hrs.	Firearm or Bow and Arrow: Jan. 1–Mar. 15 (permit required)	Permit holders may hunt day and night with certain restrictions; see Notes at right. Sunday hunting for coyote/fox is not legal. All such hunting must end at 11:59 p.m. Saturday night and may resume at 12:01 a.m. Monday morning.	No limit	For complete details, and for when a permit is required, see Small Game Hunting, <i>Coyote and Fox</i> , page 60. Calling and standing hunting only. Predator calling device must be in possession. See <i>Coyote/Fox Season</i> table, page 60, for firearm and ammo restrictions. Rifle permit required in possession when hunting with any legal rifle, allowed only during daytime hunting hours. During night hunting (½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise), only 10 or 12 gauge shotguns are permitted. See pellet restrictions in table on page 60. <i>Coyote/fox permit required.</i>
Crow** (Mon., Thurs., Fri., Sat.)	Aug. 10– Dec. 5** and Dec. 14–Mar. 19 (See Notes .)	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 7 Maximum shot size is #4
Grouse, Ruffed**	North of Rt. 70: Oct. 17–Dec. 5; Dec. 14, 15, 17–31 South of Rt. 70: Nov. 7–Dec. 5; Dec. 14, 15, 17–31	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	2	8 a.m. start on Nov. 7
Opossum & Raccoon	Oct. 1 to Mar. 1	1 hour after sunset to 1 hour before sunrise	No limit	Rifle permit required when hunting with rifle. 7:41 p.m. start on Oct. 1. Closed Dec. 7–12 and Dec. 16.
Pheasant & Partridge	Nov. 7–Dec. 5; Dec. 14, 15, 17–31, 2015; Jan. 1–Feb. 15, 2016	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Partridge — 7 Pheasant — 2	8 a.m. start on Nov. 7 Pheasant and Quail Stamp required on designated areas (see <i>Small Game Hunting</i> page 61).
Rabbit, Hare & Jackrabbit**	Sept. 26–Dec. 5; Dec. 14, 15, 17–31, 2015; Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2016	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Cottontail — 4 Hare — 1 Jackrabbit — 1	8 a.m. start on Nov. 7. Air guns are legal to harvest rabbits, hare and jackrabbit. See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> .
Squirrel, Gray**	Sept. 26–Dec. 5; Dec. 14, 15, 17–31, 2015; Jan. 1–Feb. 15, 2016	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	8 a.m. start on Nov. 7. Air guns are legal to harvest squirrel. See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> page 60.
Squirrel, Gray: Muzzleloading Rifle (.36 caliber or smaller)	Sept. 26–Nov. 6, 2015 and Jan. 2–Feb. 15, 2016	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	Rifle permit required. Designated areas only (see <i>Small Game Hunting</i> page 62).
Turkey (Fall, Either-Sex)	(Period N) Oct. 24–31, 2015	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.	1 Turkey (either sex) per permit	Permit required. All Turkey Hunting Areas statewide are now open to fall hunting.
Turkey (Spring Gobbler)	(Periods A to E) April 25–May 27, 2016	½ hour before sunrise to noon; starting May 16, hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset	1 Male Turkey per permit	Permit required. Refer to 2016 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Turkey (Spring Gobbler, Youth)	(Period Y) April 23–May 27, 2016	½ hour before sunrise to noon; starting May 16, hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset	1 Male Turkey per permit	Permit required. Refer to 2016 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Woodchuck:** Bow, Rifle or Shotgun	Mar. 2–Sept. 30, 2015 Mar. 1–Sept. 28, 2016	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	Rifle permit required when hunting with rifle. Rifle hunting prohibited on state property (see <i>General Hunting Regulations</i> , page 24 and <i>Small Game Regulations</i> page 60).
Woodchuck: Bow or Shotgun	Sept. 26–Dec. 5; Dec. 14, 15, 17–31, 2015; Jan. 1–Feb. 15, 2016	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 7
Woodcock**	See <i>Migratory Bird Regulations**</i> on page 68	Sunrise to sunset	3 daily; 6 possession	HIP number required (see page 69). 8 a.m. start on Nov. 7
Youth Turkey Day	April 23, 2016	½ hour before sunrise to noon	1 Male Wild Turkey	Permit required. Refer to 2016 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Youth Upland Bird Day	Oct. 31, 2015	8 a.m. to sunset	Pheasant — 2 Quail — 4	Selected WMAs and licensed semi-wilds (see page 23).

* All harvested coyotes must be reported to a regional Division Law Enforcement Office within 24 hours. Callers must identify themselves by name, CID# and daytime phone number.

** The starting time to hunt migratory birds on Nov. 7 only on those WMAs designated as Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas shall be 8 a.m. See list of areas, page 61.

Fall & Spring Wild Turkey Hunting

REGULATIONS

Fall 2015 Turkey Hunting Regulations

The 2015 fall turkey season will consist of one seven-day hunting segment, N, (excluding Sunday) from Saturday, Oct. 24 through Saturday, Oct. 31, 2015. Fall hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset. **Fall turkey hunting is now open statewide in all Turkey Hunting Areas.**

• **Bag Limit:** One wild turkey of either sex per day during the fall season regardless of the number of permits the hunter holds.

Youth Turkey Hunt Day

April 23, 2016 (See page 23)

If no turkey is harvested on this youth hunt day, Period Y permits may be used by the youth hunter in the designated zone for the balance of the season until a bird is harvested (see page 23).

Non-hunting adults accompanying youth turkey hunters need only have in possession a valid hunting license. Turkey hunting is by permit only. Spring and fall turkey hunting is by permit only. See *Turkey Hunting Permits, General*, page 12. For farmers, see *Farmer Turkey Permits*, page 29.

- The fall lottery for turkey permits has been eliminated. A permit is still required (see page 12) and may be purchased at license agents or online at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com.
- Dogs and artificial decoys may be used while turkey hunting in the fall season, except the use of electronically-operated decoys is prohibited. All hunters are required to possess a calling device while turkey hunting. The use of a hand-held decoy or a turkey tail-on-a-stick as camouflage to sneak up on a turkey is prohibited. Stalking a turkey is illegal.
- The maximum group size while turkey hunting is five hunters.
- Hunters may not attempt to chase or drive turkeys for the purpose of putting them in range of other hunters. However, hunters may flush a flock of turkeys to cause the flock to scatter.
- No shot larger than #4 fine shot or smaller than #7½ fine shot may be used for turkey hunting.
- Hunters may not use shotguns larger than 10-gauge or smaller than 20-gauge for turkey hunting.
- Fluorescent hunter orange is not required to hunt turkey.
- Properly licensed hunters may use archery tackle to hunt turkeys.
- While turkey hunting, a weapon may not be in possession within 300 feet of any baited area.

Immediately upon killing a turkey, hunters must complete the transportation tag on their fall hunting permit and affix it to the bird. The turkey must be taken to an official wild turkey check station by 7 p.m. on the day it is killed by the hunter who killed the bird.

Turkey Hunting Areas

Map for general reference only. For a complete description of the Turkey Hunting Areas, see the supplemental document *Wild Turkey Hunting Season Information*.



Spring Turkey Season Hours

Spring turkey hunters are reminded that legal hunting hours for the **last two weeks** of the spring turkey season (including all of period D and the **last Saturday** of period E) are changed to ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. For periods A, B, C and the first three Saturdays of period E, hunting hours will still end at noon. These hunting hours allow opportunities for working and youth hunters.

Coyotes may be harvested incidentally while turkey hunting. See page 60.

Spring 2016 Gobbler Hunting Regulations

Spring gobbler hunting regulations are published in the 2016 Wild Turkey Hunting Season permit supplement available in January. See *Turkey Hunting Permits, General*, page 12.

Turkey Hunting Seminars

The latest turkey hunting techniques are presented at several turkey hunting seminars sponsored by Fish and Wildlife or wildlife conservation organizations. These seminars focus on how to set up, calling techniques and key safety information for turkey hunters. New turkey hunters are especially encouraged to join us at a seminar. Check your newspaper and the January 2016 Wild Turkey Hunting Season permit supplement for the seminars scheduled during March or April. 🦃

2016 Spring Gobbler Hunting Season

Hunting Period	Dates
Youth Turkey Hunting Day (10–16 years of age)	Sat., April 23 If no turkey is harvested on this youth hunt day, Period Y permits may be used in the designated zone for balance of season until a bird is harvested
Hunting Period Y	
Hunting Period A	Mon., April 25–Fri., April 29
Hunting Period B	Mon., May 2–Fri., May 6
Hunting Period C	Mon., May 9–Fri., May 13
Hunting Period D	Mon., May 16–Fri., May 20; Mon., May 23–Fri., May 27
Hunting Period E	All Saturdays, April 30, May 7, May 14 and May 21

Stalking is Illegal

Use of a hand-held decoy or a turkey tail-on-a-stick as camouflage to sneak up on a turkey is prohibited. In New Jersey, stalking of wild turkeys is illegal, both for ethical reasons and for personal safety.

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4-Day Guided Deer/Bear Combo
\$800/Person Spring Turkey Special
\$650/Person 3-Day Guided Hunt
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www.BigGameHuntingNY.com
P.O. Box 1526
Richfield Springs, NY

Fall 2015 Turkey Check Stations

ATLANTIC

Butterhof's Farm & Home Supply,
5715 White Horse Pike, Egg Harbor City (609) 965-1198
Ted's Taxidermy, 713 Rt. 40, Buena (856) 697-8585

BURLINGTON

Sportsman's Center, Rt. 130, Bordentown (609) 298-5300

CAMDEN

Banger's Sport Shop,
840 Piney Hollow Rd., Winslow (609) 561-1717

CAPE MAY

Belle Plain Supply,
346 Handisville Ave., Belle Plain (609) 861-2345
Fletcher's Corner,
212 South Rt. 47, Cape May C.H. (609) 465-4949

CUMBERLAND

Beaver Dam Boat Rentals,
514 Old Beaver Dam Rd, Newport (856) 447-3633
Blackwater Sports Center,
2228 Delsea Dr., Vineland (856) 691-1571

GLOUCESTER

Sportsman's Outpost,
Fries Mill Rd., Williamstown (856) 881-3244
The Bottle Barn,
65 West Broad St., Gibbstown (856) 423-3608

HUNTERDON

Sportsman's Rendezvous,
Rt. 31, Speedway Plaza, Flemington (908) 788-5828
Boan's Marine, 1296 Rt. 179, Lambertville (609) 397-3311
The Corner Store, Rt. 12 and Rt. 519, Baptistown (908) 996-7648
Carousel Deli And Bakery,
Rt. 179 and Wertsville Rd., Ringoes (908) 788-5180
Jugtown Mountain Campsites,
1074 Rt. 173 East, Asbury (908) 735-5995

MIDDLESEX

Sayreville Sportsmen,
52 Washington Ave., Sayreville (732) 238-2060

MORRIS

Mount Hope Deli,
662 Mount Hope Ave., Wharton (973) 328-7259

PASSAIC

Tackle and Field, 81 Ringwood Ave., Wanaque (973) 835-2966
Greenwood Lake Sports Center,
1745 Greenwood Lake Turnpike, Hewitt (973) 728-1000

SALEM

Salem Boat Exchange,
1163 South Broadway, Pennsville (856) 935-2515
Sam's Super Service, 290 Rt. 40, Elmer (856) 358-3488

SOMERSET

Gladpack Sunoco,
1 Pottersville Rd., Peapack-Gladstone (908) 234-1355
Puskas Dairy Farm,
170 South Middlebush Rd. Somerset (732) 690-0380

SUSSEX

Garden State Bow & Reel,
2760A Rt. 23N, Stockholm (973) 697-3727
Hainesville General Store,
283 Rt. 206 South Hainesville (973) 948-4280
Mountain Mike's Sport Shop,
7 Old Rudetown Rd., McAfee (973) 827-6527
Mountain View Country Store,
300 Rt. 519, Wantage (973) 875-6000
Simon-Peter Bait And Tackle,
Rt. 206 And Brighton Rd., Newton (973) 786-5313
Swartswood Deli,
911 Newton-Swartswood Rd., Stillwater (973) 579-3354

WARREN

Alpine Meats, Rt. 94 N., Blairstown (908) 362-8568
Hi-Way Sport Shop,
Box 253, Rt. 31 North, Washington (908) 689-6208
Smitty's Liquor & Deli, 89 Rt. 46, Delaware (908) 475-5933
The Owl's Nest, 97 Rt. 519, Warren Glen (908) 995-7903

Family Shares Two "First Turkey" Harvests

The 2014 turkey season will be one of my most memorable. My daughter Emily, 15 and son Mitchell, 11, each harvested their first turkey.

Emily got her turkey on April 23 in a quick morning hunt before school. My oldest son, Matthew, came with us to do the calling and called in a great tom which Emily shot at only 15 yards. She wanted to use her "pop's" old 16 gauge pump action shotgun. With one shot she knocked the strutting tom into the stream behind him. With shaking hands and a huge smile she looked at me and said, "That was awesome! I can't wait till deer season!" It was awesome indeed!

Ten days later, May 3rd, Mitchell got his opportunity. My buddy RJ set us up on some turkeys that he had roosted the night before. At the crack of daylight we heard turkeys gobbling—and there were a lot of them! After listening for what seemed like forever, I called with a couple of soft yelps. The birds responded immediately! Two jakes flew down first and came straight to our decoys. Mitchell took one shot with his old hand-me-down 20 gauge double-barreled shotgun to successfully harvest his first turkey.

Emily's tom weighed 20 pounds with a 10.5 inch beard. Mitchell's, while only 16 pounds, had a double beard, one measuring 5.5 inches the other 3 inches.

I encourage all sportsmen and sportswomen to take a kid hunting or fishing. Show them the outdoors and give them the opportunity to decide for themselves if they to want to hunt or fish. Hunt safe!

— Gary Hughes



Ron Hughes

Regulations in red are new this year.

- A trapping license is required and a Trapper Education course must be passed. See pages 1 and 8 for license information.
- All traps set or used must bear a legible tag of durable material with the name and address of the person setting, using and maintaining the traps. Trap tags with Fish and Wildlife-issued trap identification number or the trapper's Conservation Identification Number (CID#) may be used in lieu of name and address to mark each trap.
- No traps or trap stakes are to be set prior to times indicated in this section.
- All traps must be checked and tended at least once every 24 hours, preferably in the morning.
- No trap shall be permitted to remain set on any property at the close of the trapping season.
- No person shall steal or attempt to take traps of another, or remove a trapped animal without permission of the trap owner.
- **There is a mandatory reporting requirement for trappers who incidentally capture a bobcat to call (877) WARNDEP before releasing the bobcat. A Fish and Wildlife Trapper Response Team technician will go to the site for data collection and the safe release of the bobcat.**
- **Any person (including a farmer) who traps a coyote must report their harvest via the Automated Harvest Reporting System no later than 8 p.m. on the day of harvest.**
- Licensed trappers in possession of a valid rifle permit may carry a .22 caliber rifle and use only .22 caliber short rimfire cartridges to kill legally trapped animals other than muskrat. **Licensed trappers may carry an air gun and use ammunition no smaller than .177 caliber and no larger than .22 caliber to dispatch legally trapped animals other than muskrat.** Firearms may not be loaded with more than three rounds.

Beaver and River Otter

Beaver may be taken only by properly licensed trappers in possession of a special beaver trapping permit valid for an entire management zone, or a special site-specific beaver permit valid as designated on the permit. River otter may only be taken by properly licensed trappers in possession of a special river otter trapping permit valid for an entire management zone. Application can be made at license agents or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. Applicants must have a current and valid trapping license to apply.

Zone maps, boundary descriptions and permit quotas are available on our website or call (609) 292-1473. Applicants must have a current and valid trapping license to apply. The application period is October 1–31. Applicants may apply for **only one beaver trapping permit and/or one otter trapping permit**. If the number of applications exceeds the permit quota, a random lottery drawing will be held to determine permit holders. Successful beaver permit applicants will be given first opportunity for otter permits in their respective zone.

The Director may issue Beaver Damage Control Permits to owners or lessees of any land to control

beaver damage. Damage Control Permits issued during the open beaver trapping season may be awarded to applicants that did not receive a zone wide permit during the open lottery and who reside near the damage site. All beaver harvested on Damage Control Permits issued during the open season must be registered at an official beaver/otter check station. Beaver taken on Damage Control Permits issued outside of the open beaver trapping season may not be possessed or sold by the damage permit holder.

Other beaver/otter rules and regulations:

- Holders of a river otter trapping permit may use a maximum of three traps daily.
- **Trappers may only possess one Special River Otter Trapping Permit per season.**
- All beaver and otter trap tags must be clearly visible above the water or ice.
- **Holders of both a Special Beaver Permit and a Beaver Damage Control Permit may use five additional traps daily on the property listed in the Damage Control Permit.**
- A Fish and Wildlife-issued Beaver Transportation Tag or Otter Transportation Tag must be affixed to the beaver or otter carcass **immediately upon taking possession of the animal.**
- All otters harvested incidentally by beaver trappers (i.e., trappers possessing a beaver permit but not an otter permit) must be fully surrendered to the Division of Fish and Wildlife. The entire carcass, including the pelt, must be surrendered.
- All successful trappers (or their agents) must present their beaver and/or otter pelts at a designated check station for examination where pelt tags will be affixed. **All otter carcasses must be surrendered when pelts are registered, as required by the Game Code. Failure to submit your carcass will result in the issuance of a citation by the Bureau of Law Enforcement.**
- Trappers are requested to properly flesh and stretch all pelts for examination. Additional information on check stations will be provided to all permit holders.
- Fish and Wildlife will staff check-in stations at the Assunpink, Clinton, Flatbrook, Tuckahoe and Winslow WMAs and the Newfoundland Fire Company on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016 (9 a.m.–noon). Successful trappers who cannot attend the scheduled dates should contact either Joseph Garris at (908) 735-7040 or Andrew Burnett at (609) 748-2047 prior to Feb. 13 to make alternate arrangements.
- Permit holders will be notified via email, telephone or U.S. mail in the event the beaver and otter trapping season is extended for any reason, and notified of any change in the pelt registration date.

Bobcat and Fisher

Bobcats are classified as endangered in New Jersey; they are distributed widely across the northern part of the state. Fishers are returning, naturally and through reintroduction efforts in New York and Pennsylvania, to most of their historic range in the northeastern United States. Fishers have been documented in several northern and southern New Jersey counties.

There is no open trapping season for either bobcat or fisher. **It is now mandatory for trappers and farmers to report any incidental bobcat capture within 24 hours of discovery by calling 1-877-WarnDEP (1-877-927-6336).** Possession of New Jersey bobcats or fishers is prohibited but those legally harvested in other U.S. states or Canadian provinces may be possessed if properly documented. **Call the same number for a dead bobcat or fisher on your trapline; a Fish and Wildlife technician will arrange to pick up the animal. Biological samples will be taken from all bobcat and fisher carcasses. The data collected will be instrumental to understand the status of the species populations.**

Traps, Live-capture Foot Encapsulating

Enclosed or foot encapsulating (also known as enclosed foothold or dog-proof traps) traps are now legal for trapping. These traps have been specifically designed to capture species such as raccoon and opossum (which possess a degree of manual dexterity) while minimizing the capture of non-target animals especially domestic dogs and cats. Enclosed foothold traps are a live-restraint trap which do not result in the death of the captured animal or in the potential for significant injury.

These traps are subject to the following requirements:

- All triggering and restraining mechanisms shall be enclosed by a housing.
- The triggering and restraining mechanism is accessible only by a single opening when the trap is set.
- The access opening does not exceed 2 inches in diameter or when measured diagonally.
- The triggering mechanism can be activated only by a pulling force.
- The trap has a swivel-mounted anchoring system.

Traps, Live-capture Cable Restraints (Snare)

- No person shall set, use or maintain any type of snare unless they have first passed a Fish and Wildlife-approved trapper education course and carry on their person appropriate certification thereof.
- **All live capture cable restraints must include a relaxing-type lock, except when submerged underwater or when set for mink, muskrat, nutria or weasel.**
- All natural baits consisting of fish, bird or mammal carcasses or flesh used in trapping with live-capture cable restraints must be covered or concealed from view except when placed at least 30 feet from any trap set.

Live-capture cable restraints set for mink, muskrat, nutria and weasel are subject to the following requirements:

- All such traps must be constructed of aircraft cable or crucible wire measuring 1/32, 3/64 or 1/16 inches in diameter, equipped with a swivel;
- Mink, muskrat and nutria cable restraints must be set within 50 feet of the mean high water line.
- All such traps must be equipped with a stop to prevent the average loop diameter from exceeding 4 inches; and,

- All such traps must be set so that the distance between the ground/walking surface to the top of the loop does not exceed 7 inches.

Live-capture cable restraints set for coyote, fox, opossum, raccoon, skunk and weasel shall be subject to the following requirements:

- All such traps must be constructed of aircraft cable or crucible wire measuring 5/64 to 3/16 inches in diameter and be equipped with a swivel and a relaxing-type lock;
- All such traps must be equipped with a deer stop located no less than 6 inches from the beginning of the cable and a loop stop to prevent the average loop diameter from exceeding 12 inches; and,
- All such traps must be set so that the distance between the ground / walking surface to the top of the loop does not exceed 24 inches.

The above requirements for cable diameters, loop stops and loop sizes do not apply to body gripping restraining snares that are completely submerged underwater at all times (e.g., when set for beaver or river otter).

Traps, Body-gripping or Killer-type

No body-gripping or killer-type trap shall be used in non-tidal waters unless completely submerged underwater when the water is at the normal level. In tidal water, such traps must be completely covered at normal high tide.

It is illegal to use, set or maintain a body-gripping or killer-type trap having a jaw spread greater than

6 inches without a permit for beaver or river otter. A body-gripping or killer-type trap with a jaw spread of no more than 10 inches may be used for beaver or river otter. Jaw spread shall be measured between the inner edges of the jaws across the trigger of a set trap.

Beaver and otter trap tags must be placed above the water line and exposed to view.

Traps, Leg-hold

It is illegal to possess or use steel-jawed leghold traps anywhere in New Jersey.

Coyote, Red and Gray Fox, Raccoon, Skunk, Opossum and Weasel Trapping

- **Season Dates:** Nov. 15–Mar. 15 except Jan. 1–Mar. 15 for trapping coyote, red and gray fox, raccoon, skunk, opossum and weasel on these wildlife management areas: Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Bevans (Millville), Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Flatbrook-Roy, Glassboro, Greenwood (incl. Howardsville), Heislerville, MacNamara (Tuckahoe), Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Stafford Forge, Walpack, Winslow and Whittingham. **Trapping is prohibited at all times on the Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area.**

- **Bag Limits:** No daily bag limit for any of these species.
- No open fisher season. Call (877) 927-6337 to report any fisher capture.

- Traps may not be set prior to 6 a.m. on the respective opening day.
- Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area closed to trapping.

Mink, Muskrat and Nutria Trapping Zones

- **Bag Limits:** No daily bag limit for mink, muskrat or nutria.
- **North Zone Nov. 15–Mar. 15:** Those portions of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties lying north beginning at the intersection of US Rt. 1 and the Delaware River at Trenton; then north along Rt. 1 to its intersection with I-287; then south along I-287 to its intersection with Rt. 440; then east along Rt. 440 to the NJ-NY state line.
- **South Zone Dec. 1–Mar. 15:** Those portions of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem counties lying south of the aforementioned line.

*The following wildlife management areas (WMAs) are closed to trapping until Jan. 1: Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Bevans (Millville), Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Flatbrook-Roy, Glassboro, Greenwood (incl. Howardsville), Heislerville, MacNamara (Tuckahoe), Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Stafford Forge, Walpack, Winslow and Whittingham. **Trapping is prohibited at all times on the Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area.**

Beaver and River Otter Trapping Zones



Del. Water Gap Nat'l Rec. Area closed to trapping

Mandatory pelt registration:
Feb. 20 (9 a.m.–noon)

Season Dates:

Dec. 26–Feb. 9 except
Jan. 1–Feb. 9 on select WMAs*
(See WMA list this page, above.)

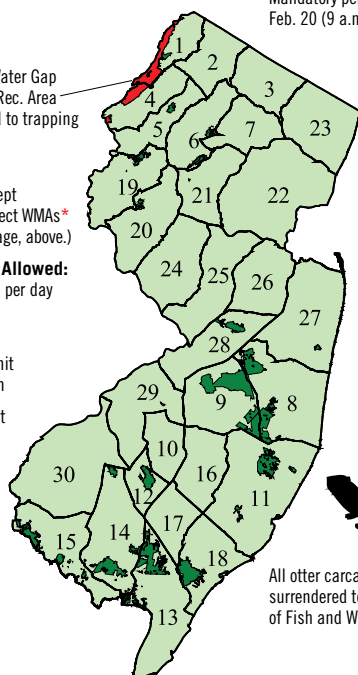
Number of Traps Allowed:

Beaver—5 per zone per day
Otter—3 per day

Bag Limits:

Beaver—8 per permit
Otter—1 per season

Traps may not be set prior to 6 a.m. on the respective opening day.



All otter carcasses must be surrendered to the Division of Fish and Wildlife.



Mink, Muskrat and Nutria Trapping Zones



Del. Water Gap Nat'l Rec. Area closed to trapping

North Zone:

Nov. 15–Mar. 15

South Zone:

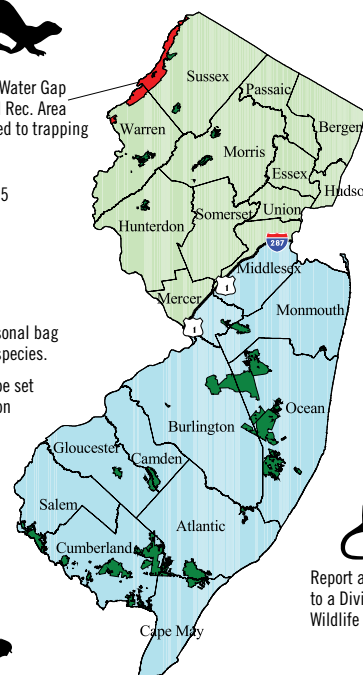
Dec. 1–Mar. 15

WMAs:

Jan. 1–Mar. 15

No daily or seasonal bag limit for these species.

Traps may not be set prior to 6 a.m. on the respective opening day.



Report any nutria harvest to a Division of Fish and Wildlife Office.



THE COMPLETE MIGRATORY bird regulations will be published in the *New Jersey 2015–16 Migratory Bird Regulations* available in September at license agents, Fish and Wildlife offices and on the Fish and Wildlife website at NJFishandWildlife.com. Migratory bird season dates published in the Migratory Bird Regulations booklet supersede those printed in this *Digest* if there are discrepancies.

Migratory Bird Seasons

Season	Area	Dates	Daily Bag Limit
September Canada Goose*	Statewide	Sept. 1 – 30	15
Rail and moorhen	Statewide	Sept. 1 – Nov. 7	Sora & Virginia rail: 25 total or aggregate; moorhen and clapper rail: 10
Sea Duck	Special Sea Duck Area	Sept. 29 – Jan. 30	7, singly or in aggregate to include long-tailed ducks, eiders and scoters; except no more than 4 scoters
Snipe	Statewide	Sept. 18 – Jan. 2	8
Crow (Mon., Thurs., Fri., Sat.)	Statewide	Aug. 10 – Dec. 5** and Dec. 14 – Mar. 19	No limit
Woodcock	North Zone	Oct. 17 – Nov. 21	3
	South Zone	Nov. 7 – 28 and Dec. 19 – Jan. 1	
Mourning Dove, swans, harlequin duck, king rail	Statewide	Closed	No Season
Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days	North Zone	Oct. 3; Oct. 31	For all species, Youth Day limits are the same as for regular seasons
	South Zone	Oct. 10; Nov. 7	
	Coastal Zone	Nov. 7; Feb. 13	

* See special regulations only for September Canada goose hunting, on right.

** The starting time to hunt any migratory game bird, including waterfowl, on the opening day of the pheasant season (Nov. 7, 2015) shall be 8 a.m. on wildlife management areas stocked with pheasant and quail. See page 61 for stocked WMAs.

Attention Waterfowl Hunters

Special Regulations Permitted During September Canada Goose Season

Special regulations designed to help curb the growth of resident population Canada geese. These special regulations are optional.

1. Electronic calls are permitted.
2. Shotguns capable of holding no more than seven shells (including magazine and chamber) are permitted.
3. Hunting hours: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

Remember: these special regulations apply only to the September Canada goose season. Hunters who choose to use an unplugged gun during the September Canada goose season must remember to reinstall the magazine plug before pursuing other game species.

During all other waterfowl seasons, including duck, brant, regular and winter Canada goose, and snow goose, standard regulations apply. Standard regulations include: electronic calls prohibited, shotguns may not be capable of holding more than three shot shells and hunting hours end at sunset.

Hunters: Report Banded Birds

Hunters who recover banded migratory birds are asked to report the band number to the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bird Banding Laboratory (BBL), Washington, D.C. Banding data plays a critical role in migratory bird harvest management. There are three ways to report bands:

1. **Online:** reportband.gov
2. **Call Toll Free:** (800) 327-BAND
3. **Write:** to the address inscribed on the band.

Online reporting provides instant access to the original banding information including the species, sex, location, date and age of the bird at banding. Band reporters will be able to print a certificate of appreciation on their home computer which will include information about the bird which had been banded.

When contacting the BBL, be prepared to provide: band number, date the bird was recovered, exact location of the bird's recovery as well as nearest town, and method of recovery, e.g., shot or found dead. Hunters may keep the bands.

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TEL (419) 960-7307 • FAX (419) 734-9275 • info@fowlfoolers.com
www.fowlfoolers.com

What Do I Need To Hunt Migratory Birds In New Jersey?

Species Hunted	Hunting License	HIP Certification	NJ Stamp Certification	Federal Stamp
Crow	✓			
Woodcock, rail, moorhen, snipe	✓	✓		
Duck, brant, goose	✓	✓	✓	✓

Waterfowl Stamps: Both the New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp Certification and Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp are required for waterfowl hunters 16 years and older and must be signed in ink. New Jersey Stamp Certifications (the state stamp itself no longer exists) are available from license agents and from the Licenses and Permits button on Fish and Wildlife's website. Federal stamps are available from some U.S. post offices and online at <http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps>.

Information For Migratory Bird Hunters

Important Reminder in Obtaining HIP Certification

Hunters, including youths, must purchase a Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification before hunting ducks, geese, brant, woodcock, rails, snipe, coot or moorhens (gallinules) in New Jersey and must always hunt with proof in possession in the license holder. HIP certifications are valid from Sept. 1 to April 15 each year.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will use this confidential information only to conduct migratory bird harvest surveys. Only a small, random group will be surveyed.

Hunters may purchase an HIP certification via three sales outlets:

- 1. License Agents**
HIP certification may be purchased at any license agent for a \$2 fee. Hunters will have their HIP certification printed on their license or as a separate document.
- 2. Internet Sales Site**
Hunters may purchase an HIP certification for a \$2 fee on Fish and Wildlife's Internet sales site (www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) then self-print the HIP certifications.
- 3. Telephone Sales Site**
Hunters may purchase their HIP certifications using Fish and Wildlife's telephone sales process (888) 277-2015. Hunters will receive a transaction number; record this number for immediate proof of completing an HIP certification. The actual HIP certification will be mailed to the hunter. Note: purchases made via telephone will incur an additional shipping and handling fee of \$5.13.

New Jersey Waterfowlers Clinic

Every year, experienced waterfowlers throughout New Jersey join together dedicating their time and energy to present the **New Jersey Waterfowlers Clinic**—an all day, free seminar covering "everything you ever wanted to know" about the traditions of waterfowl hunting in New Jersey. This year is no exception!

Thirty years ago, the clinic began as an opportunity to introduce young people to the world of waterfowl hunting. However, with the growing interest among men and women, as well as children, the event has been transformed into an opportunity for anyone 10 and up to spend a fun and interesting day learning about waterfowling!

Our full-day clinic covers waterfowling from A to Z, and includes bird identification, decoys, calling, guns and ammo, boats, safety, laws and ethics, do's and don'ts, clothing and camo, and even a demonstration by working retrievers! The value of the day is priceless. It's a unique chance to ask any question you've ever had about the sport—to be answered by the most experienced waterfowlers in New Jersey. Our instructors have a combined 300 years of experience!

- **Free breakfast and lunch to all attending!**
- **Date:** Sunday, Oct. 4, 2015
- **Location:** Tip Seaman Park, Tuckerton, NJ
- **Time:** 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Please **register in advance** by calling Marty Kristiansen at (732) 977-5648 so we can plan accordingly.



We hope you'll join us this year and share our enthusiasm for all that is waterfowling!

Be a Conservation-Minded Trapper

For tips to avoid the accidental capture of bobcat or to prevent injury if one is trapped, scan the QR code, below.



Scan this code for Trapping Tips to Prevent the Accidental Capture of—and Injury to—Bobcat or visit NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/traptips.htm

If an accidental bobcat trapping occurs, it is **mandatory** that you call NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife's Trapper Response Team at **(877) WARN-DEP (877-927-6337)** so that we may obtain genetic samples.

Have You Seen This Cat?

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife needs your help by reporting bobcat sightings so we can better understand the size, distribution and genetic structure of our bobcat population.

Contact our agency if you have observed a bobcat:

- **Live and trail cam photos**—Complete a brief sighting report form: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/ensp/rprtform.htm>. Data from south Jersey is of particular interest.
- **Dead on the road**—call us at (908) 638-4127 to report the carcass location.



It is illegal to possess incidentally trapped or road-killed bobcat from New Jersey.

REGULATIONS

Regulations in red are new this year.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED: alcoholic beverages, camping, geocaching, cutting or damaging vegetation, removing timber or firewood, dumping, fires, swimming and picnicking.

Wildlife management area (WMA) regulations are established by the Division of Fish and Wildlife with penalties of not less than \$50 nor more than \$1,500. A second violation of any WMA regulation will result in a five-year loss of all sporting licenses and privileges.

Information on WMA regulations and permit applications may be obtained by writing to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, MC 501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420, or NJFishandWildlife.com/wmaregs.htm.

Fish and Wildlife may revoke any permit (or other authorization) for violation or due cause.

Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit

Any vehicle used to transport or launch a vessel or water conveyance on the following WMAs must have affixed to the lower corner of the driver's side rear window a boat ramp maintenance permit, or a photocopy of a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. Be sure your Conservation ID number is clearly displayed; all other personal information may be blacked out for reasons of privacy. The boat ramp maintenance permit fee is \$15, available from a license agent or at Fish and Wildlife's Internet sales site. For more information see: NJFishandWildlife.com/wmaregs.htm.

Persons 70 years and older are not required to obtain a boat ramp maintenance permit and need no license, but must affix to their window proof of age, such as a former license displaying your date of birth.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Round Valley Angler Access | 5. Mad Horse Creek |
| 2. Assunpink | 6. Union Lake |
| 3. Dennis Creek | 7. Menantico Ponds |
| 4. Tuckahoe | 8. Prospertown Lake |

Dog Training, Exercising and Hunting

A person may exercise or train dogs only in designated dog training areas from May 1 to Aug. 31, inclusive and only on the following select WMAs:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Assunpink | 8. Millville |
| 2. Black River | 9. Pequest |
| 3. Clinton | 10. Salem River |
| 4. Colliers Mills | 11. Stafford Forge |
| 5. Glassboro | 12. Tuckahoe |
| 6. Hainesville | 13. Whittingham |
| 7. Manasquan | 14. Winslow |

All dogs must be properly licensed. Dogs may be exercised or trained on any WMA from Sept. 1 to April 30.

Additional regulations involve the release of game birds for training, the use of pigeons, the use of firearms, frozen game birds, the use of call back pens and the release of fox, raccoon, rabbit and hare. For more information call (609) 984-0547.

Field Trials

A permit to conduct a field trial on a wildlife management area may be obtained by contacting Fish and Wildlife at (609) 259-2132.

Higbee Beach

Higbee Beach WMA is closed to hunting from Sept. 1 until 12:01 a.m. on Dec. 14, 2015.

Horseback Riding

Horseback riding is allowed on designated WMAs only by permit from the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Apply online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. Horseback riding permits should be displayed on outer clothing while riding. For more information on horseback riding permits, call (609) 259-2132.

Hunting Regulations

The restriction prohibiting firearm hunting on wildlife management areas on the day prior to the opening of the regular small game season for pheasants and quail is rescinded. Pheasants are stocked after dark, precluding interaction between Fish and Wildlife personnel and hunters or the chance of prematurely harvesting a pheasant before the season opens.

The quail season is closed statewide with the exception of the Peaslee and Greenwood WMAs. See *Pheasants*, page 61.

It is legal to use a .22 caliber rifle and .22 caliber rimfire short cartridges for hunting raccoon and opossum and for dispatching trapped animals other than muskrat on WMAs.

For coyote and fox hunting: the use of .17 and .22 caliber rimfire or .17 through .25 caliber centerfire rifle ammo is allowed on WMAs. See *Coyote/Fox* ammo chart on page 60 for additional restrictions.

The use of air guns to hunt rabbit and squirrel is allowed on WMAs. See *Air Guns* page 28, and *Squirrel, Regular Season* on page 62.

Rifles, including muzzleloading rifles, may not be used to hunt woodchucks on WMAs.

Motor Vehicles and Other Forms of Conveyance

No person shall operate an unregistered vehicle on any state WMA. All motor vehicles are restricted to established public roads and parking areas.

All motor boats must be properly registered and have all the required safety equipment. (See *Outboard Motors*, below.)

The use of dog sleds and dog carts, off road vehicles, ATVs, trail bikes, or snowmobiles is prohibited on all WMAs unless authorized by Fish and Wildlife.

Outboard Motors

Only electric motors are allowed on freshwater lakes and ponds owned by NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife areas with the exception of Union Lake where an outboard motor, not exceeding 9.9 hp, may be used. On Prospertown Lake, only manually operated boats and canoes are allowed.

All titled boats must also be registered. Any boat mechanically propelled, regardless of length, must be registered. All boats greater than 12 feet, regardless of propulsion means, must be titled and registered.

Restricted Hours

Wildlife management areas are closed from 9 p.m. until 5 a.m. unless engaged in lawful hunting, fishing or trapping activities. Special permission may be granted for Fish and Wildlife-approved activities.

Target Practice

Only archery, shotgun, muzzleloading shotgun, muzzleloading rifle, .177 and .22 caliber rimfire rifle shooting is allowed in designated hunter training ranges according to regulations posted at the training area.

The following types of ranges are available on designated WMAs statewide:

- ♦ **Shotgun Range:** for use with clay birds and the patterning of fine shot;
- ♦ **Archery Range:** approved backstops at select ranges, no broadheads allowed;
- ♦ **Muzzleloading Rifle and Shotgun Slug Range:** for sighting in with shotgun slugs or buckshot, .177 or .22 caliber rimfire rifles and muzzleloaders; no other firearms allowed. See page 71 for a list of ranges and requirements.

Waterfowl Blinds

No permanent waterfowl blinds, including pit blinds, shall be constructed, hunted from or used in any manner on any of the following WMAs:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Assunpink | 8. Whittingham |
| 2. Black River | 9. Beaver Swamp |
| 3. Colliers Mills | 10. Sedge Island |
| 4. Hainesville | 11. Salem River |
| 5. Tuckahoe | 12. Prospertown |
| 6. Manahawkin | 13. Paulinskill |
| 7. Stafford Forge | |

Any blind used in these designated areas must be portable and shall be completely removed at the end of the day. Blinds remaining in WMAs will be subject to confiscation and properly disposed of by Fish and Wildlife.

Warning to Violators

Be advised: two violations of wildlife management area regulations will result in loss of all sporting licenses and privileges for a period of five years.



Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Ranges

The following information pertains to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife facilities. Information on privately operated facilities is available at "Where To Shoot," a site maintained by the National Shooting Sports Foundation at www.wheretoshoot.org

- ♦ All WMA regulations apply.
- ♦ Ranges are open 8 a.m. to sunset.
- ♦ At least one member of the shooting party must have a current, valid New Jersey hunting license in possession.
- ♦ **Shotgun range:** fine shot only. No buckshot or rifled slugs.
- ♦ **Archery range:** target or practice tips only (NO broadheads.)
- ♦ **Muzzleloading rifle range:** muzzleloading firearms, shotguns with rifled slugs or buckshot and modern rimfire (both .177 and .22 caliber) rifles and air guns in calibers legal for hunting.
- ♦ No handguns or centerfire rifles permitted.

Northern Region

Hunterdon County

Clinton WMA

Route 173W, Clinton

- ♦ Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloader (100 yards)
- ♦ All target frames must measure a minimum 30 inches from its base to the bottom of the paper target held in the frame. Frames must be placed only on top of a target mound located at the 25, 50 and 100 yard lines. This minimum target height requirement will eliminate the risk of ricochet and ensure that all projectiles are collected in the berm behind the 100 yard target.
- ♦ Spinner type targets for .177 caliber and .22 caliber firearms MUST be placed directly at the base of the 25 yard berm so that all bullets are directed into the berm. These targets are not to be used at other yardage or target mound placements.

Morris County

Black River WMA

Route 513 (Dover-Chester Rd.), Chester

- ♦ Archery, open year-round.
- ♦ Shotgun: Closed weekends from the third Saturday in May through the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, as well as on Christmas and Easter. Operating hours are 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. during this summer period, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the rest of the year. Hunter education classes will continue at the range and are not affected by these new hours.

Sussex County

Flatbrook WMA

Route 615, Layton

- ♦ Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloader (75 yards)

Warren County

Pequest WMA

Pequest Rd., Oxford

- ♦ Archery

Central Region

Monmouth County

Assunpink WMA

Imlaystown-Hightstown Rd., Upper Freehold Twp.

- ♦ Archery
- ♦ **Shotgun range is restricted to the use of non-toxic shot; no lead shot is allowed.**

Turkey Swamp Park

Georgia Rd., Freehold Twp.

- ♦ Archery (Special regulations apply; call 732-842-4000.)

Ocean County

Colliers Mills WMA

Off Colliers Mills and Hawkins Rds., Jackson Twp.

- ♦ Archery, Muzzleloader (100 yards)
- ♦ Shotgun range is closed.

Stafford Forge WMA

Off Route 539, south of Warren Grove, Little Egg Harbor Twp.

- ♦ Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloader (100 yards)

Southern Region

Atlantic County

Makepeace Lake WMA

Elmwood-Weymouth Rd., Weymouth

- ♦ Shotgun, Muzzleloader (100 yards)

Gloucester County

Winslow WMA

Piney Hollow Rd., Monroe Twp.

- ♦ Archery
- ♦ Shotgun and muzzleloader ranges are closed.

Cape May County

Tuckahoe WMA

Off Tuckahoe Rd. (Rt. 631), Tuckahoe

- ♦ Archery
- ♦ Shotgun range is closed.

Cumberland County

Millville WMA

Ackley Rd. (Rt. 718), Millville

- ♦ Shotgun, Archery, Muzzleloader (100 yards)

Landowner-Hunter/Trapper Agreement Card

HUNT/TRAP SMART Courtesy Card

Visitor's Copy — Not Transferable

I request permission to enter your property for the following purpose: _____

Dates from ____/____/____ to ____/____/____

Limitations _____

Hunter may hunt within 450 feet (150 feet for bow) of buildings: Yes No

Landowner's Name _____

Address _____

Landowner Copy

Permission given to _____

Address _____

Vehicle Make _____ Yr. _____ Color _____

Vehicle Lic. No. _____ No. in Party _____

Dates from ____/____/____ to ____/____/____

Limitations _____

Other licenses, tag no. _____

Permission dates from ____/____/____ to ____/____/____

Limitations _____

Hunter may hunt within 450 feet (150 feet for bow)

of buildings: Yes No

Garden State Deer Classic

January 7–10, 2016

At the Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's Show

Raritan Center
Edison, New Jersey

New Youth Division!
See page 73.



See New Jersey's most outstanding white-tailed deer for 2014–15

Awards ceremony on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Applications must be received by Nov. 1, 2015 to enter a deer harvested during last year's 2014–15 hunting seasons. No exceptions!

To arrange for an official measurer to score your New Jersey white-tail, contact Cindy Kuenstner at (609) 633-7598.

Deer will not be measured at the Deer Classic.

See entry details on page 73.

Brought to you by:

- NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
- NJ Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
- United Bowhunters of New Jersey
- New Jersey Outdoor Alliance
- Conservation Foundation
- Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's Show

Visit gsoss.com

Promises to be the show of the year!

Landowner-Hunter/Trapper Agreement Card

I agree to conduct myself safely, responsibly and lawfully, respecting the landowner, property, and others using it. I accept the responsibilities which are part of the activities which I pursue. I agree to comply with the instructions of the landowner while on this property.

I understand that the laws of New Jersey absolve the landowner from liability for non-paying recreationists engaged in hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, hiking, and certain other activities, except in the case of willful or malicious failure to guard or warn of hazards.

Signed (visitor) _____
Date ____/____/____



This card provided by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish and Wildlife



HUNT/TRAP SMART Courtesy Card

I hereby give permission to: (visitor's name) _____

to enter my property for the purpose listed on the reverse side of this card. He/she has agreed to act safely, responsibly, and lawfully and to accept responsibility for his/her actions.

Signed (landowner, lessee, or operator) _____

Date ____/____/____



Outdoor Recreation on Private Property is a Privilege — NOT A RIGHT



NEW JERSEY'S OUTSTANDING WHITE-TAILED DEER PROGRAM has a new Youth Division!

The Outstanding Deer Program is designed to showcase the fine quality deer produced in the Garden State and recognize the hunters who harvested them with a bow, crossbow, shotgun or muzzleloading rifle.

Joining the program's regular Open Division is a **new Youth Division** for hunters ages 10–16 with eased entry requirements reduced by 10 points (inches) for all Antler categories and a reduction in the Weight categories by 10 or 20 pounds for doe and buck, respectively. (See table below for minimum entry requirements.)

For the Antler Category, Youth Division deer may be unofficially scored by our trained volunteers who need not be an official measurer. All Open Division deer *must* be scored by an official measurer. Visit our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/outdeer.htm for the **list of official measurers** (see page bottom for *Entering the Outstanding Deer Program*; then bottom of next page), program background, rules, score/entry forms and more.

Youth Division hunters must be prepared to submit a digital, high resolution, respectful photo of hunter and deer *after* their entry has been confirmed. (Day of harvest field photos must be Photoshopped or cropped to conceal any blood or the body cavity.) A family photo is encouraged! **Only Youth Division hunters** (not Open Division hunters who may email or call Cindy, below) may arrange for a measuring appointment by calling John Messeroll of the State Federation of Sportsmen's Club at (732) 735-1672. Don't wait for the deadline to approach before having your deer scored.

Applications are due Nov. 1 — NO EXCEPTIONS.

First place **Youth Division** hunters in each category may display a mounted deer at the Garden State Deer Classic (see page 72), whether as a European skull mount or a taxidermy mount. **All other Youth Division entrants'** photos will be *digitally displayed* at the event. **Open Division** hunters will be invited to display their deer mount, as always, at the Deer Classic.

The Outstanding Deer Program follows the measuring standards developed by the Boone and Crockett Club. This scoring system gives credit to antler length, spread, number of points, mass and symmetry. Legally harvested deer must have been taken under the Boone and Crockett-defined rules of fair chase. Deer taken from enclosed hunting lands are not eligible.

Note: It is best to have the rack measured before it is mounted. Don't wait!

In the Weight categories, the program recognizes exceptional body size as determined by the field-dressed weight, all vitals removed. Minimum eligible weights are listed in the chart. Bucks must be weighed on a certified scale* (no truck scales**) with the weighmaster's signature on a letterhead receipt or on the entry form, available on our website; does must be weighed either on a Fish and Wildlife regional office scale or on a certified scale with proof as above.

Any properly licensed hunter, regardless of residency, is eligible to enter the Outstanding Deer Program with their deer from the previous year's hunting seasons. Deer must be taken in accordance with New Jersey wildlife laws and regulations. Official entry form consists of the original score sheet, hunter information form plus a clear photo of the hunter *with* their deer. These forms with instructions are available on Fish and Wildlife's website NJFishandWildlife.com/outdeer.htm. There is no entry fee.

For questions about the **Open Division**, email Cindy Kuenstner at Cindy.Kuenstner@dep.nj.gov or call (609) 633-7598.

Qualifying entries for deer harvested during the 2014–15 hunting seasons are recognized at the 2016 Garden State Deer Classic. Join Fish and Wildlife in celebrating New Jersey's outstanding white-tailed deer where this event takes place in January at the Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's Show, Edison. See the ad on page 72 for more information.

The table at right lists the top-scoring deer and the hunters who participated in the 2015 Garden State Deer Classic which **showcased outstanding deer taken during the 2013–14 deer hunting seasons, not the most recent 2014–15 hunting seasons.** These deer will be honored at the January 2016 Deer Classic and printed in next year's *Digest*. 🍖

* See entry form. A certified scale might be available at the following businesses:

- » Warehouse with shipping department
- » Concrete, sand and gravel company
- » Junk yard or scrap metal recycler
- » Marina with party and charter boat fishing

2015 Garden State Deer Classic Winners*

Rank	Name	Score / Weight	County Harvested	DM Zone
135 Pound Doe — Shotgun				
1st	Fred Heydorn, Jr.	157	Somerset	14
200 Pound Buck — Archery				
1st	Hunter Delfa	220	Somerset	14
2nd	Mark Spoto	207	Morris	36
3rd	Joseph E. Ruggieri	205	Sussex	6
Non-typical Archery				
1st	Brian Nee	182 6/8	Monmouth	50
2nd	Anthony Santini	158 2/8	Hunterdon	10
3rd	Chris Schmidt	147 0/8	Monmouth	50
4th	Ryan Miller	145 5/8	Burlington	19
Non-typical Crossbow				
1st	Darren Guglielmelli	166 2/8	Ocean	16
2nd	Larry Newell	157 1/8	Ocean	18
3rd	John Pizzuro	149 6/8	Hunterdon	12
Non-typical Muzzleloader				
1st	Gary Hochhauser	160 1/2	Monmouth	16
Non-typical Shotgun				
1st	Glenn C. Poeppel	150 4/8	Salem	27
2nd	Shea Jones	138 3/8	Cumberland	45
Typical Archery				
1st	Douglas W. Schneider	152 2/8	Warren	5
2nd	William Schneider	150 5/8	Somerset	14
3rd	Courtney Lynne Erndl	142 2/8	Monmouth	50
Typical Crossbow				
1st	Don Ciancarelli	170 1/8	Cumberland	29
2nd	Keith Yasunas	158 1/8	Hunterdon	11
3rd	Andrew Tancredi	151 3/8	Middlesex	15
Typical Muzzleloader				
1st	Anthony D'Aniello	140 3/8	Somerset	12
2nd	Joseph Ribas	138 3/8	Monmouth	17
3rd	Randy Cuntala	128 2/8	Warren	5
Typical Shotgun				
1st	Thomas J. Mol	151 1/8	Sussex	6
2nd	Ashlyn Petersen	133 2/8	Middlesex	15
3rd	Brandon Totten	131 5/8	Burlington	17

* For deer harvested during the 2013–14 hunting seasons.

Outstanding Deer Program Minimum Requirements

Antler Category	Open Division Minimum	Youth Division Minimum
Typical Shotgun, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader, Velvet	125	115
Non-typical Shotgun, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader, Velvet	135	125
Weight Category		
Buck: Shotgun, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader	200 lbs.	180 lbs.
Doe: Shotgun, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader	135 lbs.	125 lbs.

Visit our website for a partial list of certified scales or contact your county weights and measures office. Be sure to locate a scale before the hunting season begins!

** A truck scale is not acceptable as the increments are too large.

CWD

Chronic Wasting Disease



What is CWD?

- ♦ Belongs to a family of neurological diseases called *transmissible spongiform encephalopathies* which include scrapie in sheep, mad cow disease in cattle and Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease in humans. *There is no evidence that CWD is transmissible to humans;* however the CDC advises against consuming any animal that appears ill.
- ♦ All members of the *Cervid* family (white-tailed deer, black-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, moose) are known to be susceptible.
- ♦ Caused by a misfolded protein called a prion which could be found in all deer bodily fluids.
- ♦ There is no cure. CWD is always fatal and there is no live test for deer.

Where Is CWD Found?

- ♦ First discovered in captive mule deer in Colorado, in 1967.
- ♦ Now in captive or wild deer in 25 states and Canadian provinces.
- ♦ Detected in wild deer in: New York State and West Virginia (2005), Virginia (2010), Maryland (2011), Michigan (2015), in Pennsylvania both in captive deer (2012) and in wild deer (2013) plus in captive deer in Texas (2015).

How New Jersey Is Responding

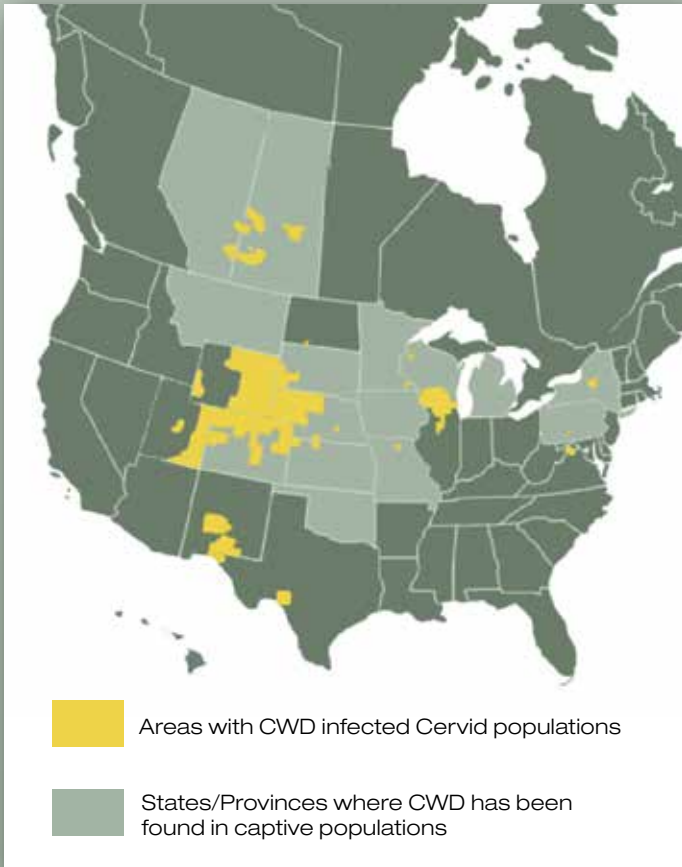
- ♦ Tested for CWD in symptomatic captive cervids and wild deer, and hunter-harvested wild deer since 1997. To date over 5,600 wild deer have been tested with no CWD-positive results.
- ♦ Banned the importation of cervids, recently expanded to include reindeer.
- ♦ Issued an advisory for New Jersey hunters bringing home venison from CWD-endemic states making it illegal to import into New Jersey a harvested deer carcass or deer parts from any state with CWD in wild deer unless strictly following that state's CWD protocol.
- ♦ Improved captive cervid regulations, including a proposed Herd Certification Program.
- ♦ Created the CWD Response Plan with protocols for detection of CWD to be activated when CWD is within 20 miles of the New Jersey border and within the state wild deer and captive cervids.

Attention!

Urine-Based Deer Lures Advisory

The NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife recommends the use of synthetic, non-urine-based scents or lures for deer hunting. The infectious prions which cause Chronic Wasting Disease can be spread through urine-based lures. Studies have shown the prions can survive for years in contaminated soils and the environment. Urine-based scents and lures are not treated to kill the prions as heat or chemical treatments would also reduce the desired scent characteristics. Hunters using urine-based scents should place them in areas out of contact with deer, the ground or vegetation.

▶▶ Chronic Wasting Disease in North America



See NJFishandWildlife.com/cwdinfo.htm for more information on CWD in New Jersey and the New Jersey CWD Response Plan.

Visit cwd-info.org for more comprehensive CWD information.



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For clubs and organizations, contact UBNJ for details.

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Please allow 6 – 8 weeks to receive membership ID.



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- Protection and enhancement of natural lands and waters
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A Synthesis of Waterfowl Harvest in New Jersey

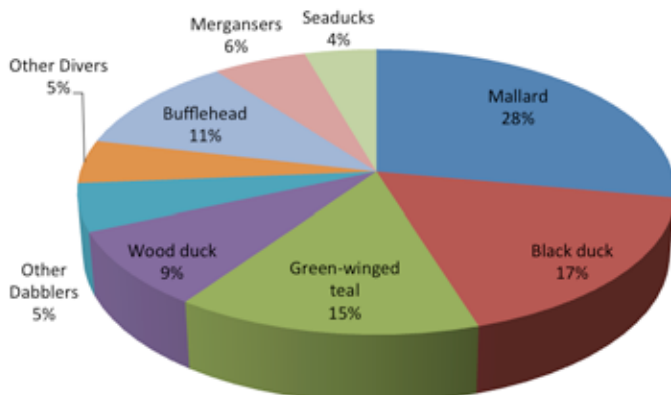
By Ted Nichols, Wildlife Biologist

Hidden in a blind on the edge of a tidal marsh, a dad whispers to his young son, “Here they come. Get ready. Get ready.... Take ‘em!” The young lad stands to shoot, whiffs on the initial shot but then drops the first duck of his waterfowl career on his second shot. The family’s Labrador retriever winds his way through the decoy lines making a retrieve across a tidal gut, bringing the prize back to the waiting pair. “What kind of duck is that dad?” asks the lad.

This story has played out for over a hundred years in the Atlantic Flyway. Annually, states and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service use the Harvest Information Program (HIP) to estimate the size and species composition of the waterfowl harvest in the United States. All migratory bird hunters must obtain a HIP certification. A sample of hunters is queried each year to complete harvest diaries to estimate total harvest and hunting activity. A second, smaller sample of HIP-certified hunters participates in the Parts Collection Survey, sending in duck wings and goose tails to obtain the species, age and gender composition of the waterfowl harvest.



Figure 1. Average annual percent of New Jersey duck harvest by species, 1999-2008.



Other dabblers: Pintail, gadwall, mallard X black duck hybrid, blue-winged teal, wigeon, and shoveler
Other divers: Greater and lesser scaup, ruddy duck, ring-neck, canvasback, redhead and goldeneye
Mergansers: Hooded, common and red-breasted mergansers
Seaducks: Long-tailed duck, eider, and black, surf and white-winged scoters

From these diaries we learned that New Jersey's 10,000 waterfowl hunters spend 73,000 hunter-days pursuing their quarry from September 1 to mid-February each year. Hunters annually harvest about 68,000 ducks, 26,000 Canada geese, 7,000 Atlantic brant and 5,000 snow geese. Based on results of the Parts Collection Survey, 26 duck species comprise the vast majority of the annual

waterfowl harvest (Table 1), but 60 percent of New Jersey's harvest is comprised of only three species—mallard, American black duck, and American green-winged teal (Figure 1). Adding in bufflehead and wood ducks brings the total to 80 percent of New Jersey's harvest. The remaining 20 percent of the annual state's harvest is comprised of 20-plus other waterfowl species.

Table 1. Average Annual New Jersey Duck Harvest by Species, 1999-2008.

Species	Harvest
Mallard	18,986
Black duck	11,730
Mallard X black duck hybrid	796
Gadwall	796
Green-winged teal	9,848
Blue-winged teal	92
Wigeon	693
Shoveler	421
Pintail	824
Wood duck	5,917
Redhead	56
Canvasback	66
Lesser scaup	580
Greater scaup	1,713
Ring-necked duck	356
Goldeneye	218
Bufflehead	7,555
Ruddy duck	365
Common merganser	253
Red-breasted merganser	1,133
Hooded merganser	2,565
Long-tailed duck	1,339
Common eider	56
Black scoter	917
White-winged scoter	81
Surf scoter	637
Other species	61
Total ducks	68,052



There are over 4,000 DU events held across the country each year. By attending a local event, you can have a great time while helping us fill the skies with waterfowl. To find one near you, visit ducks.org/events.

The waterfowl harvest is spread over many counties. For ducks, Ocean County ranks first with nearly 11,000 birds harvested while about 9,000 ducks are taken in each of the southern counties of Cape May, Cumberland, and Atlantic (Table 2). For Canada geese (Table 2), the central counties of Middlesex, Burlington, Monmouth and Mercer—a core wintering area for Atlantic Population Canada geese which nest in northern Quebec—take the top four county slots. Warren and Hunterdon counties rank high in the north and Salem is the lead county in the south. Although we occasionally get reports of Atlantic brant being harvested at inland locales such as Spruce Run Reservoir, nearly all brant are taken in the Coastal Zone (Table 2). The “regular season” snow goose harvest occurs around the state, but 70 percent of the harvest occurs in Cumberland County (Table 2). New Jersey hunters also take a handful of white-fronted geese annually and occasionally a cackling goose or Ross’s goose.

Because of New Jersey’s wide diversity of waterfowl species and habitats, the state was divided into three waterfowl zones (North, South and Coastal) in 1980. After making a few assumptions about how the harvest is distributed between zones within counties that transcend more than one waterfowl zone (for example, Cape May County is in both the South and Coastal Zones), we find that the Coastal and South Zones each comprise about 37% of the annual duck harvest (Figure 2). This is not surprising given the vast tidal marshes which are preferred duck habitat in these zones. What the North Zone lacks in tidal marshes as duck habitat, it compensates with agricultural fields preferred by

Table 2. Average Annual New Jersey Waterfowl Harvest by County, 1999–2008.

County	Ducks	Canada Geese	Atlantic Brant	Snow Geese
Cape May	9,033	471	2,120	154
Cumberland	8,997	812	0	3,707
Atlantic	9,203	1,161	1,977	868
Salem	5,079	1,999	0	469
Gloucester	2,004	1,355	0	8
Camden	349	201	0	0
Burlington	3,397	2,769	31	42
Ocean	10,839	866	2,317	14
Mercer	2,548	2,367	0	11
Monmouth	3,462	2,597	780	54
Middlesex	3,207	3,253	14	14
Somerset	560	1,337	0	0
Hunterdon	1,025	2,065	0	0
NY Metro*	1,070	106	0	0
Morris	538	781	0	0
Warren	3,746	2,336	0	15
Sussex	2,995	1,869	0	0
Total	68,052	26,345	7,239	5,356

*NY Metro includes: Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Union combined

Canada geese. As such, the North Zone comprises 75 percent of the annual Canada goose harvest (Figure 2).

Waterfowl hunting in New Jersey is a diverse recreational activity with opportunity from High Point to Cape May. New Jersey waterfowlers can pursue a plethora of species in a variety of habitats from small beaver ponds to the Atlantic Ocean as well as upland fields for Canada and snow geese.

Acknowledgment

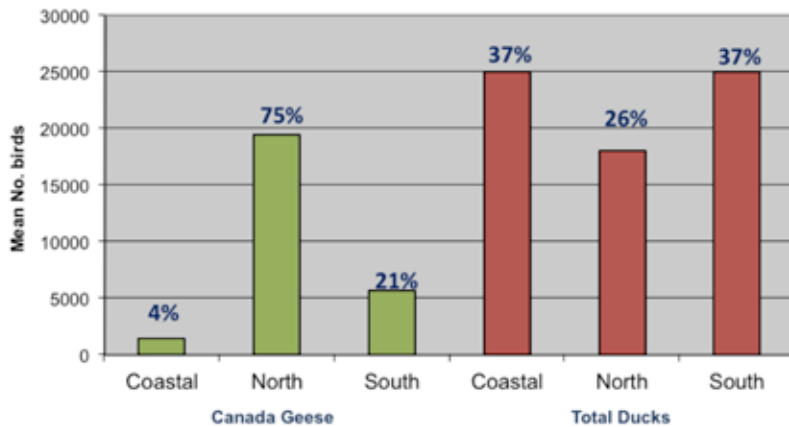
We thank Bob Raftovich, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Harvest Survey Section, for providing summarized HIP data used in this report.

Bufflehead and Atlantic brant are staple harvest species for Coastal Zone waterfowlers in New Jersey.



Wayne Martka/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Figure 2. Mean annual Canada goose and total duck harvest in New Jersey by zone, 1999-2008



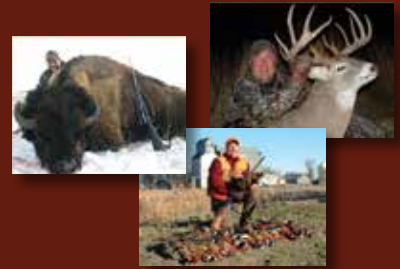
Craig Lemon/NJDFW



Craig Lemon/NJDFW



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Invite Quail onto Your (Restored) Land

Are you interested in restoring critical habitats for quail on your property?



Wild quail with necklace radio transmitter and antenna.

P. C. Carr/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

By Patrick C. Carr, Supervising Wildlife Biologist | Andrew Burnett, Principal Wildlife Biologist | Jim Sloan, Assistant Wildlife Biologist



Wild quail released into an early successional managed habitat.

P. C. Carr/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Bob-WHITE! The distinctive whistle cuts through the early morning fog along a brushy field edge. This habitat was created as part of New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Northern Bobwhite Action Plan (<http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com/pdf/quailplan.pdf>) to restore New Jersey's bobwhite quail population.

Ideal quail habitat includes a mixture of grasslands, shrubs and forest borders, also known as early successional young forest habitat. Restoring old, mature habitat and enhancing existing bobwhite habitat requires intensive management to create the openings that quail rely on for nesting, resting and foraging.

Fish and Wildlife has designated portions of Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem counties lying west of State Highway 55 as a Focal Region for bobwhite and other young forest wildlife species. Habitat management practices, including rotational strip disking, field buffering, prescribed burning, edge feathering, native warm season grass and forb planting and hydro-axing, began in 2013. The goal is to provide sufficient habitat to sustain a quail covey for their entire life cycle throughout the year.

Concurrently Fish and Wildlife is an active partner with New Jersey Audubon and Tall Timbers Research Station in the National Bobwhite Quail Initiative (<http://bringbackbobwhites.org>) to restore wild bobwhite quail to the Pinelands Region. In this cooperative project lead by NJ Audubon, 80 wild quail captured on private land in Georgia, which were tested and determined to be disease-free, were released in April 2015 on property owned by cooperator Pine Island Cranberry Corporation in Burlington County. Each quail was fitted with a necklace radio transmitter so that graduate students from the University of Delaware can monitor the birds' movements, habitat use, nesting success and survival.

These are the first of 240 wild birds to be released at the site over the next three years. The release site is a blend of landscapes on the 17,000-acre property managed under a forestry stewardship plan to create the young forests which quail require for survival. The goal is to establish a self-sustaining population of wild bobwhite quail in the heart of New Jersey's Pinelands. Aside from the important research opportunity that this project provides for Bobwhite Quail management and population recovery in the Mid-Atlantic region, the project is unique in that it will address the role of forest stewardship and management in the creation and enhancement of habitat for a broad suite of species.

Projects such as these, in conjunction with other research efforts such as predator surveys, will help Fish and Wildlife assess what is the greatest threat to quail survival and will help determine if restoring this native game bird to New Jersey's remaining open space is a possibility.

Are you interested in restoring critical early successional habitats for quail on your property? Division of Fish and Wildlife biologists are available to provide habitat recommendations (<http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com/pdf/bobwhitebasics.pdf>) for private landowners throughout southwestern New Jersey. This **free** service involves no contracts. Landowners interested in restoring and enhancing wildlife habitat on their property should contact our Bureau of Wildlife Management's Habitat Specialist Jimmy Sloan at (609) 748-2058. For information about the New Jersey Audubon Pinelands Project go to bobwhite.njaudubon.org.

Attention Private Landowners

Free: Your Upland Habitat Evaluation



Do you want your land to attract a greater diversity of wildlife species?

Are you interested in wildlife stewardship?

You can make a difference!

In an effort to restore critical early successional habitats for quail and other species, New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife staff is available to provide

habitat recommendations for private landowners throughout southwestern New Jersey. This service is free and involves no contracts.

Contact us for more information:

Jimmy Sloan
NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
Nacote Creek Research Station
PO Box 418
Port Republic NJ 08241-0418
(609) 748-2058

GET INVOLVED!

Join us for the 25th annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament!

May 15, 2016
Island Beach State Park

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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, along with our co-sponsors: New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry, New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Jersey Coast Anglers Association and New Jersey Beach Buggy Association, would like to thank the following organizations for contributing to the success of the 24th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament in 2015:

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Leave your name and address to receive an application.

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Tony McBride/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

It was a first deer harvest for both McBride siblings, Steven, 15 and Lydia, 14. This was Lydia's first hunting experience of any kind; Steven had spent a bit more time in the field. Both deer were taken with a crossbow last October at White Lake Wildlife Management Area in Warren County. Their father, Tony McBride, said that he can't describe how great it felt to sit next to each of them as they took their first deer, watching their reactions, whispering advice, trying to keep them calm! It was very exciting and rewarding.

Day	Jan.		Feb.		Mar.		Apr.		May		June		July		Aug.		Sept.		Oct.		Nov.		Dec.	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
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02	7:22	4:44	7:08	5:18	6:31	5:52	5:41	6:25	4:57	6:56	4:31	7:23	4:34	7:32	4:58	7:12	5:28	6:29	5:57	5:39	6:30	4:55	7:04	4:33
03	7:22	4:45	7:07	5:19	6:29	5:53	5:39	6:26	4:56	6:57	4:31	7:24	4:34	7:32	4:59	7:11	5:29	6:27	5:58	5:37	6:31	4:54	7:05	4:33
04	7:22	4:46	7:06	5:21	6:27	5:54	5:38	6:27	4:55	6:58	4:30	7:25	4:35	7:32	5:00	7:09	5:30	6:25	5:59	5:36	6:32	4:52	7:06	4:33
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27	7:13	5:11	6:36	5:48	5:50	6:19	5:03	6:50	4:34	7:19	4:32	7:33	4:53	7:18	5:22	6:38	5:52	5:47	6:23	5:02	6:59	4:35	7:21	4:40
28	7:12	5:12	6:35	5:49	5:49	6:20	5:02	6:52	4:33	7:20	4:32	7:33	4:54	7:17	5:23	6:36	5:53	5:46	6:24	5:01	7:00	4:35	7:21	4:41
29	7:11	5:13	6:34	5:50	5:47	6:21	5:01	6:53	4:33	7:21	4:32	7:33	4:54	7:16	5:24	6:35	5:54	5:44	6:26	4:59	7:01	4:34	7:21	4:42
30	7:10	5:15			5:46	6:22	4:59	6:54	4:32	7:21	4:33	7:32	4:55	7:15	5:25	6:33	5:55	5:42	6:27	4:58	7:02	4:34	7:21	4:42
31	7:09	5:16			5:44	6:23			4:32	7:22			4:56	7:14	5:26	6:32			6:28	4:57			7:22	4:43

Eastern Standard Time • U. S. Naval Observatory, Washington, DC 20392-5420
 Add one hour for daylight savings time when in effect (second Sunday in March and reverts back the first Sunday in November).

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NEW JERSEY HAS more than 750,000 acres of public land available to the deer hunter. This list is arranged by deer management zone for public land open to deer hunting. Generally, only areas with 100 acres or more of upland habitat are listed. State parks and forests that allow hunting may have some sections which are closed to hunting. Some areas allow deer hunting only during certain seasons, require an access fee or have other special regulations. Refer to the *Digest* section *Special Areas Hunting Season Information* page 50 or contact the appropriate authority for details. See page 85 for hunting opportunities on national wildlife refuges in New Jersey.

Remember: Hunters must have permission to hunt agricultural land even if the land is not posted. Hunters should obtain permission before hunting any private property. Hunters are advised not to purchase a deer permit for a zone in which they have no place to hunt. Updates since last year are noted below in **red**.

Zone Public Land Open to Deer Hunting

- 1 • Bear Swamp WMA
 - Flatbrook—Roy WMA
 - Hainesville WMA
 - Stokes State Forest
- 2 • Kittatinny Valley State Park
 - Paulinskill WMA
 - Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge (see *Special Areas*)
 - Wawayanda State Park
- 3 • Abram Hewitt State Forest
 - Hamburg Mountain WMA
 - Long Pond Ironworks State Park
 - Newark Watershed (see *Special Areas*)
 - Norvin Green State Forest
 - Ramapo Mountain State Forest
 - Ringwood State Park
 - Wawayanda State Park
- 4 • Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area
 - Flatbrook—Roy WMA
 - Stokes State Forest
 - Walpack WMA
 - Worthington State Forest
- 5 • Beaver Brook WMA
 - Columbia WMA
 - Honey Run WMA
 - Jenny Jump State Forest
 - Paulinskill WMA
 - Swartswood State Park
 - Trout Brook WMA
 - White Lake WMA
 - Whittingham WMA
- 6 • Allamuchy Mountain State Park
 - Berkshire Valley WMA
 - Fanny State Park
 - Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
 - Newark Watershed (see *Special Areas*)
 - Rockaway River WMA
 - Sparta Mountain WMA
 - Weldon Brook WMA
 - Wildcat Ridge WMA
- 7 • Buckhorn Creek WMA
 - Clinton WMA
 - Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Union Forge Preserve, Tower Hill Reserve (see *Special Areas*)
 - Musconetcong River WMA
 - Spruce Run Recreation Area
- 8 • Allamuchy Mountain State Park
 - Black River WMA
 - Hacklebarney State Park
 - Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Cold Brook Preserve, Teetertown Ravine Nature Preserve, Point Mountain Preserve (see *Special Areas*)
 - Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
 - Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
 - Musconetcong River WMA
 - Pequest WMA
 - Rockport WMA
 - South Branch WMA
 - Voorhees State Park
- 9 • Black River WMA
 - Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
- 10 • Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Musconetcong Gorge, the Drag Strip Property, Hoffman Park, Schick Reserve, South Branch Reservation, Uplands Reserve (see *Special Areas*)
 - Musconetcong River WMA
 - 11 • Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Lockatong Nature Preserve, the Case Farm, Wescott Nature Preserve (see *Special Areas*)
 - Lockatong WMA
 - 12 • Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Cushetunk Mountain Park, Sourland Mountain Nature Preserve, Deer Path Park, South Branch Reservation (see *Special Areas*)
 - Mercer County Parks—Pole Farm Section
 - Round Valley Recreation Area
 - South Branch WMA
 - 13 • Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
 - 14 • Assunpink WMA (Robbinsville Twp section only)
 - Pigeon Swamp State Park
 - Six Mile Run Reservoir State Park (see *Special Areas*)
 - 15 • Assunpink WMA
 - Monmouth County Park System—Charleston Springs Golf Course, Perrineville Lake Park (see *Special Areas*)
 - 16 • Turkey Swamp WMA
 - Monmouth County Park System—Bear Swamp Tract of Manasquan Reservoir, Howell Park Golf Course, Turkey Swamp Park, Yellowbrook Tract of Manasquan River Linear Park (see *Special Areas*)
 - 17 • Colliers Mills WMA
 - Monmouth County Park System—Clayton Park, Crosswicks Creek Park (see *Special Areas*)
 - Pleasant Run WMA
 - Prospertown Lake WMA
 - 18 • Colliers Mills WMA
 - Manchester WMA
 - Whiting WMA
 - 19 • Medford WMA
 - Wharton State Forest
 - 21 • Double Trouble State Park
 - Forked River Mountain WMA
 - Greenwood Forest WMA
 - Lebanon State Forest
 - 22 • Bass River State Forest
 - 23 • Wharton State Forest
 - 24 • Bass River State Forest
 - Penn State Forest
 - Stafford Forge WMA
 - Swan Bay WMA
 - Warren Grove Recreation Area
 - Wharton State Forest
 - 25 • Cedar Lake WMA
 - Great Egg Harbor River WMA
 - Penbryn Pond WMA
 - Wharton State Forest
 - White Oak Branch WMA
 - 26 • Great Egg Harbor River WMA
 - Hammonton Creek WMA
 - Makepeace Lake WMA
 - Port Republic WMA
 - 27 • Salem River WMA
 - Thundergut Pond WMA
 - 28 • Buckshutem WMA
 - Elmer Lake WMA
 - Parvin State Park
 - Union Lake WMA
 - 29 • Bayside PSE&G Tract (see *Special Areas*)
 - Cohansey WMA
 - Gum Tree Corner WMA
 - Mad Horse Creek WMA
 - Maskells Mill Pond WMA
 - Stowe Creek State Park
 - 30 • Bear Swamp Natural Area (closed Jan. 15–Aug. 1)
 - Dix WMA
 - Egg Island WMA
 - Fortescue WMA
 - Nantuxent WMA
 - New Sweden WMA
 - 31 • Millville WMA
 - Buckshutem WMA
 - 34 • Beaver Swamp WMA
 - Belleplain State Forest
 - Cape May Wetlands WMA
 - Cape May National Wildlife Refuge
 - Dennis Creek WMA
 - Heislerville WMA
 - Higbee Beach WMA
 - Tuckahoe WMA
 - Lizard Tail Swamp Preserve (see *Special Areas*)
 - 35 • D.O.D. Ponds
 - Harrisonville Lake WMA
 - 36 • Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
 - 37 • Fort Dix Military Reservation (see *Special Areas*)
 - 38 • Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (see *Special Areas*)
 - 39 • No public deer hunting land
 - 41 • Alexauken Creek WMA
 - Mercer County Parks—Baldpate (Kuser) Mountain
 - Mercer County Parks—Howell Living History Farm
 - 42 • Port Republic WMA
 - Tuckahoe WMA
 - 43 • Millville (Bevan) WMA
 - 45 • Menantico Ponds WMA
 - Peaslee WMA
 - 46 • Gibson Creek WMA
 - Great Egg Harbor River WMA
 - Tuckahoe WMA (Lenape Farms Tract)
 - Maple Lake WMA (Lenape Farms Tract)
 - Peaslee WMA
 - 47 • Peaslee WMA
 - 48 • Rancocas State Park (see *Special Areas*)
 - 49 • No public deer hunting land
 - 50 • Cheesequake State Park
 - Monmouth County Park System—Hartshorne Woods Park, Tatum Park, Thompson Park, Big Brook Park, Huber Woods, the Ramanessin Section of Holmdel Park (see *Special Areas*)
 - 51 • Allaire State Park
 - Manasquan River WMA
 - Manahawkin WMA
 - Monmouth County Park System—Shark River Park, Rt. 33 Tract and Shark River Park—East of Remsen Mill Rd. (see *Special Areas*)
 - 53 • Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Station (see *Special Areas*)
 - 54 • No public deer hunting land
 - 55 • Glassboro WMA
 - 56 • Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (see *Special Areas*)
 - 57 • Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge (see *Special Areas*)
 - 58 • Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge—north of Rt. 72 (see *Special Areas*)
 - 61 • Atlantic County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
 - 63 • Abbots Meadow WMA
 - Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (see *Special Areas*)
 - 64 • Monmouth Battlefield State Park (see *Special Areas*)
 - 65 • Winslow WMA
 - White Oak Branch WMA
 - 66 • Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center (see *Special Areas*)
 - 67 • High Point State Park (see *Special Areas*)
 - 68 • Franklin Parker Preserve (see *Special Areas*)
 - 70 • Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, north of the Mullica River and south of Rt. 72 (see *Special Areas*)

Maps Available

Maps and information on hunting land is also available from the following sources:

Wildlife Management Area Maps

Free download. Maps and information on lands administered by NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife. Both topographic and road maps available. www.njfishandwildlife.com/wmaland.htm Photocopies also available of individual WMA maps on USGS base. Free. Specify which WMA. NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife, WMA Map Request MC 501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420 (609) 984-0547.

USGS Topographic Maps

Free download. Topo quads available. www.state.nj.us/dep/njgs/pricelst/usgsbase.htm Or write, below, stating exact location including county, township and road. Printed topo quads—\$10 ea. NJ DEP Division of Water Supply and Geoscience Maps and Publications MC 29-01, P. O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0402 (609) 292-1185

State Parks and Forests Maps

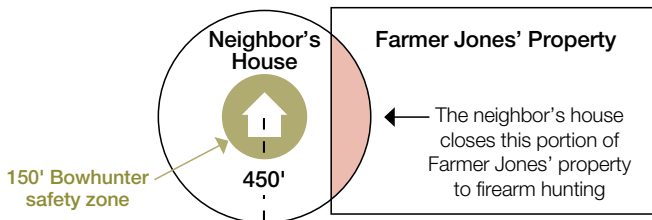
Free download. Find a state park, forest, recreation area or marina by location. www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/parkindex.html. Maps and information on lands administered by the Division of Parks and Forestry. Specify which park or forest. Free. NJ DEP, Division of Parks and Forestry MC 501-04, PO Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420 (800) 843-6420

SAFETY ZONE Awareness: Protecting Your Hunting Privilege

NEW JERSEY HUNTERS enjoy many types of hunting, numerous days afield and generous bag limits. But development and other human encroachment on the forests and fields of the Garden State has changed both wildlife habitat and land suitable for hunting, such that SAFETY ZONE awareness is even more critical for hunters.

What is a SAFETY ZONE?

- ♦ The firearm SAFETY ZONE is the area within 450 feet of a building or school playground, even if not occupied. For bowhunters, the SAFETY ZONE around buildings is 150 feet **but remains 450 feet from a school playground**. See *Safety Zone*, page 26.
- ♦ The SAFETY ZONE is the place where you, the hunter, cannot carry a loaded firearm or nocked arrow unless you have written permission in hand.
- ♦ The SAFETY ZONE was established by legislation in 1946 as an area to place some physical distance, a buffer, between hunters and homeowners.
- ♦ The SAFETY ZONE could be land where there is suitable wildlife habitat for adaptable species, like the white-tailed deer, cottontail rabbit and Canada goose.
- ♦ The SAFETY ZONE is not a magic shield and cannot stop a misdirected projectile from entering the area around a home.



What can you do to heighten your SAFETY ZONE awareness?

1. Post SAFETY ZONE signs.
2. Talk with landowners.
3. Scout hunting property annually to be aware of new construction or other changes.
4. Hunt SMART and remind your hunting partners to Hunt SMART.
5. Know the law. Know the land.



Remember, failure to hunt safely and responsibly is inexcusable. Always be a responsible hunter. Always be aware of your surroundings, the target and what may lie beyond the target. The principles of good conduct learned at your hunter education course are called into practice every time you hunt.

Take special care hunting on “high visibility” property, habitat where our adaptable wildlife species—especially white-tailed deer—are flourishing. Here, hunter conduct will be watched closely; the image we portray can have a great impact on the tolerance for our sport. Hunting these *Special Areas* carries added responsibility for you, as a hunter, to exercise restraint and make superior judgment decisions. 🐾

Hunting Opportunities on New Jersey's National Wildlife Refuges: 2015–16 Hunting Seasons

Hunting on national wildlife refuges is not permitted unless specifically opened as listed below. *No Sunday hunting on national wildlife refuges.*

Cape May NWR

- 24 Kimbles Beach Rd., Cape May Court House, NJ 08210 (609) 463-0994; fws.gov/northeast/capemay
- ♦ **Deer—Special Areas Hunting Season Information; see page 50.**
 - ♦ **Migratory game birds except crow—on refuge lands north of Rt. 550 or west of Rt. 47**
 - ♦ **Turkey, rabbit and squirrel hunting in select areas only.**
No refuge permit is required. Special hunting conditions apply. Contact refuge office for information.

Great Swamp NWR

- 241 Pleasant Plains Rd., Basking Ridge, NJ 07920-9615 (973) 425-1222 ext. 155; www.fws.gov/refuge/great_swamp/
- ♦ **Deer—Special Areas Hunting Season Information; see page 50.**
In addition to required state licenses and permits, hunters must obtain a Refuge permit for \$26 (\$13 for holders of a Senior, Golden Age, Access, or Golden Access pass and youths with a valid New Jersey youth hunting license).

Edwin B. Forsythe NWR

- 800 Great Creek Rd., Oceanville, NJ 08231-0072; (609) 652-1665; www.fws.gov/refuge/edwin_b_forsythe/
- ♦ **Deer—Special Areas Hunting Season Information; see page 50.**
 - ♦ **Waterfowl**
Information can be obtained at the refuge, at dispensers, at the headquarters, on the refuge website, or through the mail.

Supawna Meadows NWR

c/o Cape May NWR, 24 Kimbles Beach Rd., Cape May Court House, NJ 08210, (609) 463-0994; www.fws.gov/supawnameadows/


- ♦ **Deer—Bowhunting only. Special Areas Hunting Season Information; see page 50.**
- ♦ **Waterfowl**
Special hunting conditions apply. Contact refuge office for information.

Wallkill River NWR

- 1547 County Rt. 565, Sussex, NJ 07461-4013; (973) 702-7266; www.fws.gov/refuge/Wallkill_River/visit/hunting.html
- ♦ **Deer—Special Areas Hunting Season Information; see page 50.**
 - ♦ **Migratory Birds except crow**
 - ♦ **Spring and Fall Turkey (Zone 5)**
In addition to the required state licenses and permits, hunters must obtain a refuge permit, either \$30 for for a single game permit or \$75 for a combination, all game permit. Discounts are available for Senior and Access pass holders. Youths remain free. Details on obtaining refuge hunt permits are available at the link above.
 - ♦ **Additional hunting opportunities**
 - » **Hunters with Disabling Conditions:** Special Hunting Permits are available for eligible mobility-impaired persons during the prescribed seasons set by the refuge. For more information and eligibility requirements visit our website at www.fws.gov/refuge/Wallkill_River/visit/disabledhunt.html or call the office at the number above.
 - » **Mentored Hunts:** The refuge offers mentor-lead hunts for youth and disabled hunters on specified dates during the hunting season. Registration is required and space is limited. Contact the refuge for details. Special hunting conditions apply. 🐾

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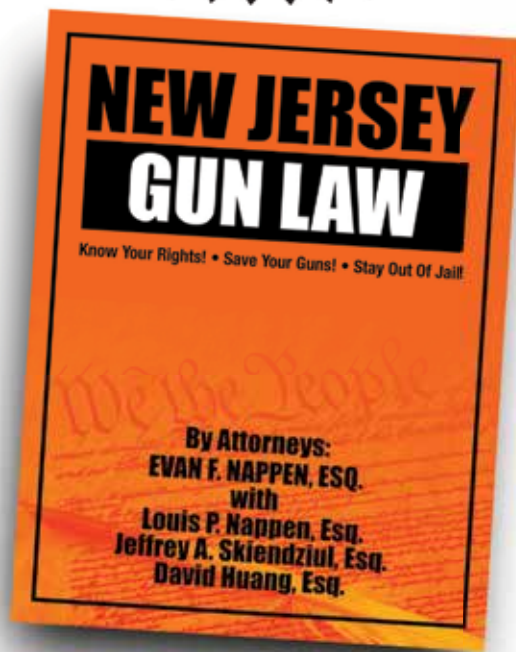
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