2017-18 Hunting and Trapping Season Dates and Limits • FREE

New Jersey Hunting & Trapping Digest

August 2017

Highlights of Regulation Changes

page 6

A Summary of Regulations
and Wildlife Management Information
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License Information & Fees 2017–18

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 22–23 for license agent listings.

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Resident Firearm Hunting (16–64 years) $27.50
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Senior Resident Bow & Arrow Hunting (65 years & older) $16.50
Apprentice Sr. Resident Bow & Arrow $16.50
Non-Resident Bow & Arrow Hunting $135.50
Apprentice Non-Resident Bow & Arrow (14 and older) $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 (Valid July 1–June 30) $5
Non-Resident Waterfowl Stamp (Valid July 1–June 30) $10

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

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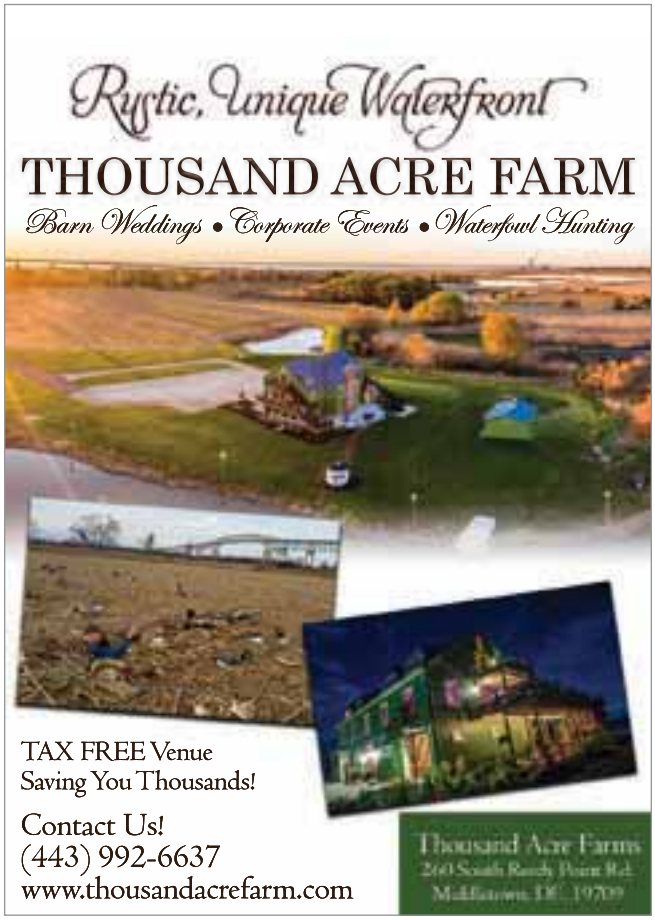

New Jersey Hunting & Trapping Digest

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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. The *Digest* is available at license agents and Fish and Wildlife offices. Information may be reprinted with permission. Subscriptions are not available. This *Digest* is designed and produced by J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC; www.jfgriffin.com. Partial funding for the Digest is provided by the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program.
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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.
- To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.
- To maximize the recreational and commercial use of New Jersey's fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.

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Director's Message

LARRY HERRIGHTY

Hunting season, my favorite time of year, is fast upon us. I have been bowhunting since I was 14. The year was 1966. My hunting buddy and I had practiced all summer in anticipation of the season. On opening day his father took us to Stokes State Forest where we had built tree stands a few weeks before. The prospect of hunting deer—and especially bear hunting, both legal quarry during the fall bow season—was exciting and I was *eager*.

It was mid-afternoon on our first day hunting. I was dozing off when a bear growled in the swamp behind me. Truth be told, startled, I almost fell out of the tree! That year my lack of success was not isolated, as the harvest total was only three bears statewide, two by bow and arrow.

Not so last year as hunters took part in the historic re-opening of New Jersey's archery black bear season that had been closed since 1971. Although I did not bear hunt this past year, I participated in the excitement of the many successful bowhunters who brought their bear to the Whittingham WMA check station. Bowhunters harvested 85 percent of the bears taken in October including six bears harvested with traditional archery equipment.

Many hunters continued to hunt with bows when the muzzleloader segment kicked in for the last three days of the hunt. Most important, as our biologists predicted, hunters harvested many bears that would not have been available during the December season segment. The result: 636 bears, the highest harvest in New Jersey history. *The success of this management tool is demonstrated in a 46 percent decrease in bear complaints this year.* It's a perfect example of hunter-conservationists enjoying their sport while managing wildlife for the benefit of all New Jersey citizens. Check out the black bear season information on page 51.

As we continue to celebrate our agency's 125 anniversary, I'm reminded that "the more things change, the more they remain the same." The 2015 deer harvest was low throughout the northeast region, not just in the Garden State. Requests ensued by New Jersey hunters to make the deer regulations more conservative. Despite a rebound in the 2016 harvest, we worked with the State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and the Fish and Game Council to cut back the season or bag limit in select deer management zones.

Conservation has a long history in New Jersey and reacting to lack of game is not a new idea! The first restrictions placed on deer harvests date back to 1722; the first season was instituted in 1771. Prior to that, deer were hunted all year. For more interesting facts about our wildlife agency's history, visit our 125th anniversary webpage at: NJFishandWildlife.com/history.htm.

Also, be sure to check out the 2017 *Highlights of Regulation Changes* on page 6.

Finally, enjoy your time afield, whether you're observing the world awakening from your tree stand or duck blind, taking pride in your dog's work while hunting upland game or mentoring your son, daughter or apprentice hunting partner (page 8) so that they, too, can enjoy the tradition of hunting.

Always remember that we are blessed with bountiful natural resources and be proud that your efforts have made this possible. Your contributions are many and include your support for wildlife conservation through your license dollars along with the federal excise taxes you pay on sporting equipment (page 78.) Equally important are your observations and ideas expressed through letters, emails or conversations with our staff and with your Fish and Game Council representatives. All your efforts help us to improve the sport of hunting and trapping and ensure wildlife will be here in New Jersey for generations to come.

Larry Herrighty is the Director of New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife.

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Highlights of Regulation Changes

2017–18 HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Changes to deer regulations for the 2017–18 seasons are extensive and involve changes to the bag limits for the deer management zones in Regulation Sets 2, 5 and 6; season date changes for the permit shotgun and permit muzzleloader seasons for zones in Regulation Sets 6, 7 and 8; a small boundary change between zones 26 and 42 and changes to several Special Area zones.

- The Permit Muzzleloader season will close on December 30 in **DMZs in Regulation Set 0.**
- The Permit Shotgun season in **DMZs in Regulation Set 0** is expanded from 1 day to 3 days.
- The bag limit for **DMZs in Regulation Set 2** is changed from two deer to one antlered and one antlerless deer.
- The bag limit for **DMZs in Regulation Set 5** is changed from one antlered and unlimited antlerless deer to one antlered and five antlerless deer.
- The bag limit for **DMZs in Regulation Set 6** is changed from one antlered and unlimited antlerless to one antlered and nine antlerless deer. **Also,** the six days of antlerless-only Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader hunting which ran concurrent with the Six-day Firearm season is eliminated.
- The Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader season antlerless-only days immediately prior to the opening of the Six-day Firearm season are eliminated in **DMZs in Regulation Sets 7 and 8.**
- **DMZ 54** (Picatinny Arsenal) is closed to Permit Muzzleloader hunting on Christmas Day.

Other Game Code amendments for the 2017–18 hunting seasons include the following:

- The **Youth Pheasant Hunt** is extended from one day to six days; see page 25.
- The **liberation of northern bobwhite quail** is banned on certain wildlife management areas; see page 56.
- The **hunting season for gray squirrel** is extended one week to coincide with the closure of the rabbit season. See page 56.
- The opening day of the **trapping season for mink, muskrat and nutria** on pheasant-stocked WMAs is changed to November 15 from January 1. See page 63.
- The opening day of **the trapping season for raccoon, fox, opossum, skunk, weasel, and coyote** is now earlier, changed to Nov. 15 on pheasant-stocked WMAs where ONLY cage traps or encapsulated foothold traps are legal during this early part of the season through Dec. 31. See page 63.
- The required **timeframe to check traps** is changed for **semi-aquatic species in tidal waters ONLY.** See page 63.
- The waters and shoreline of Barnegat Inlet are closed to waterfowl hunting. See page 67.
- The holders of an apprentice hunting license (see QR Code, below) are prohibited from hunting during the black bear season and the special nighttime coyote and fox seasons. See page 8.
- Drones or unmanned aircraft are prohibited for the purposes of hunting. See page 26.
- "Smart" rifles or guns are prohibited for the purpose of hunting. See page 26.

New Apprentice Hunting License

For information on the new Apprentice Hunting License, scan this QR code or visit our website at **NJFishandWildlife.com/hntlic_apprentice.htm**

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LICENSE INFORMATION

Regulations in red are new this year.

DEER PERMITS ARE VALID for the 2017–18 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 2017–18 trapping season. For permit and license fees, see page 1.

Licenses

The electronic license system will create a customer profile identified by an assigned lifetime **Conservation Identification Number (CID#)** for all first-time purchasers of any hunting, trapping or fishing license or permit. This unique number appears on every license, permit and stamp issued by New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife. Your customer profile and CID# can be established on the license website (www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) from your home computer or with valid identification at a license agent (see agent list, page 22), during—or preferably prior to—your first license or permit purchase. A first-time *hunting* license must be purchased at an agent by showing a appropriate Hunter Education course completion card or with a prior **resident** hunting license (firearm or bow and arrow) from any state.

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 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 22) 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 22, 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.

Apprentice License

The Apprentice Hunting License is new for 2017 and is valid for the calendar year. An Apprentice License does not require completion of a hunter education course. However, an apprentice MUST hunt under the direct supervision and guidance of a hunting mentor, hunting together as a unit in the same location. Mentors must be 21 years of age or older and must possess a valid NJ Hunting License for the weapon type being used.

Both residents and non-residents are eligible. Individuals are limited to two apprentice licenses per weapon type per lifetime. The Apprentice License cannot be used as proof of the hunter education requirement for purchasing a regular license. Due to N.J. Firearm ID Card regulations, Firearm Apprentice Licenses are limited to individuals 18 years of age and older. An archery Apprentice License holder must be 14 years of age or older.

There are no free youth apprentice licenses. Apprentice license holders are NOT eligible for a Bear Permit, Rifle Permit or Muzzleloader Deer Permit and may not hunt with any type of rifle. An air gun is not considered a rifle. See *Firearms and Missiles* beginning on page 26. For additional information, see the Apprentice License QR code and web-link on page 6.

Apprentice hunters must ALWAYS hunt under the direct supervision of a licensed hunter and cannot hunt at night nor hunt for black bear.

Apprentice licenses are available only at web-based license agents. Call the license agent in advance to confirm that they are web-based.

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 30)

(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;
- 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) 292-2965.

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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LICENSE INFORMATION

Regulations in red are new this year.

(continued from page 8)

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 30.

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*, this page.

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) 2-HUNT-NJ or (877) 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) 2-HUNT-NJ 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 the Harvest Report 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 not open to the public for license and permit sales. A $2 fee is charged for each duplicate license/permit.

New Jersey National Guard Licenses

Only New Jersey National Guard personnel in good standing 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/iasd/fishing.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 atf.gov/content/firearms/firearms-industry/guides/conditional-importation.

Non-resident hunters: 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 Dec. 31 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 29. **Youth licenses are available free to youths who have completed the hunter (ages 10–15) or trapper (ages 12–15) education course; see this page for course information.** See also *Take a Kid Hunting* pages 24–25.

Check Your Lottery Application and Status 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. All hunters should check their application status and can edit the application if 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 then go back into your profile to verify that the information is correct.

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."

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,

beaver and otter hunting or trapping permits. **There is no lottery for deer, bear or fall turkey 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.)
- 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

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CHRISTMAS & ASSOCIATES

Regulations in red are new this year.

reminded to set your junk/spam folder to accept this notification. **IMPORTANT:** the notification may fail to arrive due to email account provider issues (email filters, data storage capacity) or postcard delivery delays.

Permit Claim Deadline!

The applicant is responsible to know the lottery results notification date and permit claim period deadline. If you did not receive your permit award notification, you can check the permit award status in your customer profile. You MUST claim your permit *BEFORE* the claim period has ended! (See *Application Status Check*, in the box on page 10.)

Claim Your Permit!

Successful lottery applicants will have only a short window in which to claim the awarded permit(s). Pay close attention to the claim period dates listed! Unclaimed permits will be redistributed and become available for over-the-counter sales. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Lottery permit winners may claim their permit(s) at any license agent or via the Internet. See the corresponding lottery permit claim dates listed in this *Digest* for beaver/otter and spring turkey permits. At the time of application, the hunter paid only the non-refundable $2 application fee; the actual permit fee must still be paid. Bring your CID# to the license agent to claim your Fish and Wildlife-awarded lottery permit. Internet-claimed permits 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. 16 on Fish and Wildlife's website, NJFishandWildlife.com.
- Lottery 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. 6. Successful applicants may begin to claim permits on Nov. 6. Beaver and Otter Permits awarded in the lottery must be claimed prior to 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 4. Awarded permits that are not claimed prior to 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 4 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 MONDAY, Dec. 11. However, trappers may possess only one Special River Otter Trapping Permit. For leftover and unclaimed permit availability, see our website the afternoon of Thursday, Dec. 7.
- For trapping season information including regulations, season dates and bag limits see *Trapping Regulations*, page 62.

Black Bear Hunting Permits

A total of 11,000 black bear hunting permits, allocated by bear management zone, will be available to properly licensed hunters and farmer hunters. These permits are valid for the entire black bear hunting season, which now consists of two segments, Segment A in October and Segment B in December. (See page 51.)

Permit sales are broken into two periods: 10 a.m. on Sept. 11–Oct. 14 and again beginning at 10 a.m. on Nov. 1 until the end of the season or until permit quotas are reached. Hunters are strongly urged to purchase permits during the early sales period. Permits are valid for both segments of the bear season.

A hunter may not possess more than two unfilled permits at any time during the entire season; these permits must be for different zones. The season bag limit is one bear per permit, but only one bear may be taken per segment, regardless of the number of permits the hunter holds. In total, a hunter with valid permits may harvest up to two bears, one in each segment.

If a hunter harvests a bear during segment A, the permit for that zone is no longer valid. However, if the hunter wishes to continue hunting in that same zone during Segment B in December, the hunter may purchase a replacement permit for that zone once permit sales re-open on Nov. 1, provided permits for that zone are still available.

If no harvest is made during Segment A, the permit(s) is still valid for hunting during Segment B in December. Hunters who purchase only one permit prior to the end of Segment A and ***do not harvest a bear*** during Segment A may continue to use that permit during Segment B, and also may purchase a second permit after Nov. 1 for a different zone. Hunters who purchase two permits prior to the end of Segment A and ***do not fill either permit during Segment A*** may NOT purchase a third permit when permit sales reopen in November.

2017 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 on or about Dec. 4, 2017. A 2018 hunting license must be purchased prior to, or in conjunction with, the purchase of a 2018 Coyote/Fox Permit.
- For season details, see coyote and fox hunting regulations, page 54.

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 44, 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 18. See page 1 for fees.

Farmer Permits

See *Farmer Hunting and Permit Information*, page 30.

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 26.

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 specific rifles allowed. 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 will also be certified for rifle hunting. 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

Fish and Wildlife has discontinued printing the Wild Turkey Hunting Season Information booklet (Turkey Supplement). All information is contained in this hunting Digest for the fall 2017

(continued on page 14)

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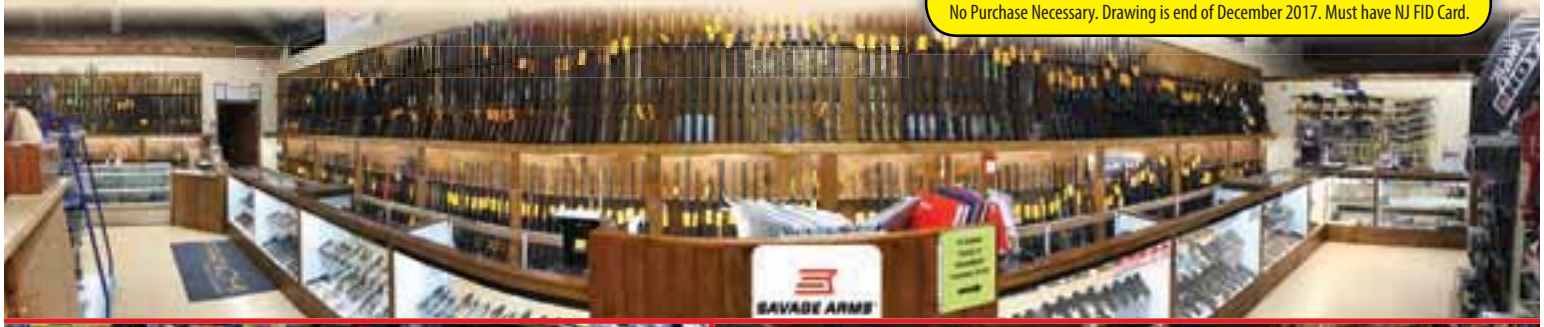

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LICENSES AND PERMITS

Regulations in red are new this year.

(continued from page 12)

and spring 2018 turkey hunting seasons. Turkey hunting is by permit only. For turkey hunting season details, see page 58. See page 1 for fees.

Turkey Permits, 2017 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 Monday, September 11, 2017. Permits will be available until the permit quota is reached or the season ends.

Turkey Permits, 2018 Spring Season

- Application Period January 25–February 22
- Award Notifications and Permit Pickup Begins March 5. Permits **must** be claimed by 11:59 pm on March 26.
- **All Permits awarded in the lottery will be available to claim until 11:59 on March 26. Unclaimed awarded permits will be redistributed in the over-the-counter sale. Application fee(s) will not be refunded for unclaimed permits.**
- Over-the-county sale of leftover permits: 10 a.m. MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018 until permits sell out or the season ends, whichever occurs first.

Spring 2018 Gobbler Season Permits

Hunters are limited to filing only one application which allows for up to two permits, one in the first lottery and one in the second lottery. For each permit, there will be the option to insert three different choices in order of your preference.

First Lottery

- Selects applicants from the Spring Season First Lottery.
- See page 59 for dates of the five turkey hunting period segments.
- The Youth Turkey Hunting Program guarantees that all applicants aged 10 to 16 (**those still eligible to hunt using their Youth License**) will receive their first choice permit request in the first lottery for the spring season designated as Period Y. Youth permits are not counted in the permit season quotas. Period Y Permits are also available during the over-the-counter sales period.
- Hunters possessing a **Permit to Shoot From a Standing Vehicle** are guaranteed one first lottery permit only for the Spring Season. Any additional permit purchased is taken from the available permit quota and is not guaranteed. Individuals possessing a Permit to Shoot from a Standing Vehicle must apply and/or purchase their permits via their home computer or go to a web-based license agent. Verifone© agents cannot handle these requests.

Second Lottery

- Gives each applicant an opportunity to receive a second permit for the spring season.
- Selects applicants **independent** from the first lottery.
- Assigns unissued first lottery permits (leftover) to applicants who applied for a permit in the second lottery.
- Youth permit requests for the second lottery are **not** guaranteed. A youth's second permit (or more) is valid *only* for the one designated hunting period A, B, C, D or E.

If you request the same turkey hunting area and period in both the first and second spring lotteries you could receive two permits for the identical area and period combination. **Permits will not be exchanged if you receive the permits requested on your application.** Consider your requests carefully!

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.

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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 from which they are 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 this vehicle.

For more information on these permits, call (609) 292-1473 or write: 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: (609) 984-0530, NJFishandWildlife.com/captpermits.htm.

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 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 65.

Pheasant Allocation Formula:
Maximizing Hunter Safety and Satisfaction

By Dave Golden, Assistant Director

Pheasant and quail hunters are in for another great season in New Jersey as the Division of Fish and Wildlife is set to stock 45,000 adult pheasants and 11,000 quail as part of our Pheasant and Quail Stocking Program.

Additional pheasants will be stocked for the Youth Pheasant Hunt and at our dog training areas. Once again, Fish and Wildlife will stock pheasants for the 2017 season according to the New Jersey Pheasant Allocation Formula.

First initiated in 2016, Fish and Wildlife staff developed this formula with input from constituent stakeholders. Although it was a big change from the previous allocation method, the Pheasant Allocation Formula represents an *objective* approach for distributing pheasants among our wildlife management areas (WMAs) *to maximize hunter safety and satisfaction*.

The Pheasant Allocation Formula uses two key parameters (stocked acreage and proximity to stamp buyers) to calculate the percentage of pheasants (from the total available, statewide) that will be allocated to each wildlife management area and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. Because "stocked area" and "proximity to stamp buyers" are measurable parameters, the Pheasant Allocation Formula is an objective approach for allocating birds. Additional information on the Pheasant Allocation Formula can be found on our website at: NJFishandWildlife.com.

Stocked Acreage

By using *acreage* of the stocked fields as the primary factor determining the allocation for each WMA, birds are distributed in an equitable fashion throughout the state, proportional to the stocked land area. More evenly allocated birds leads to a more even spread of hunters, helping us to achieve *the shared goal of increasing hunter safety and hunter satisfaction* on our stocked WMAs.

Pheasant and quail stamp buyers are encouraged to review our Pheasant and Quail Stocking Maps online (www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pheasmaps.htm) to identify the fields stocked as part of Fish and Wildlife's Pheasant and Quail Stocking Program.

Proximity to Stamp Buyers

The proximity to pheasant-stocked WMAs where stamp buyers live is also factored into the stocking formula so that hunters contributing to the Pheasant Stocking Program—through the purchase of a Pheasant & Quail Stamp—have reasonable access to the stocked birds. The percentage of pheasants allocated to each WMA was adjusted by the percentage of Pheasant & Quail Stamp buyers living within 40 miles of that stocked area. This approach puts the birds near the stamp-buying hunters.

Outlook for 2017 Pheasant & Quail Stamp Buyers

- **A total of 45,000 pheasants will be stocked in 2017**
- **Pheasants will be allocated according to the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Pheasant Allocation Formula**
- **All WMAs will receive a minimum of 600 pheasants during the season**
- **All WMAs will be stocked on each of the 15 stocking days**
- **See page 55 for the 2017 Pheasant and Quail Stocking Allocation Schedule.**

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Deer Season Permits

PERMIT INFORMATION

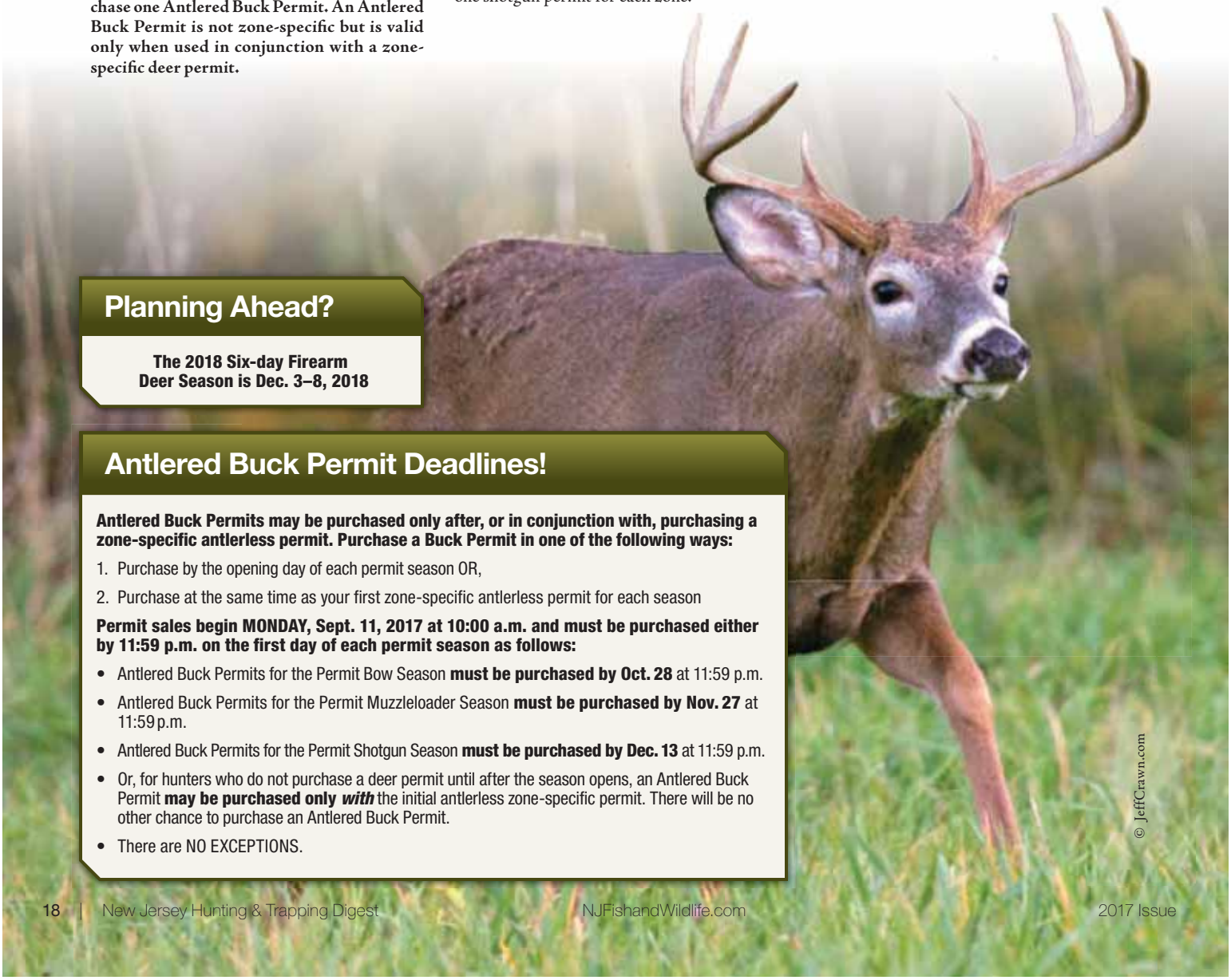
Regulations in red are new this year.

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 30. 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 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 2018 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 33.)
- 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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Planning Ahead?

The 2018 Six-day Firearm Deer Season is Dec. 3–8, 2018

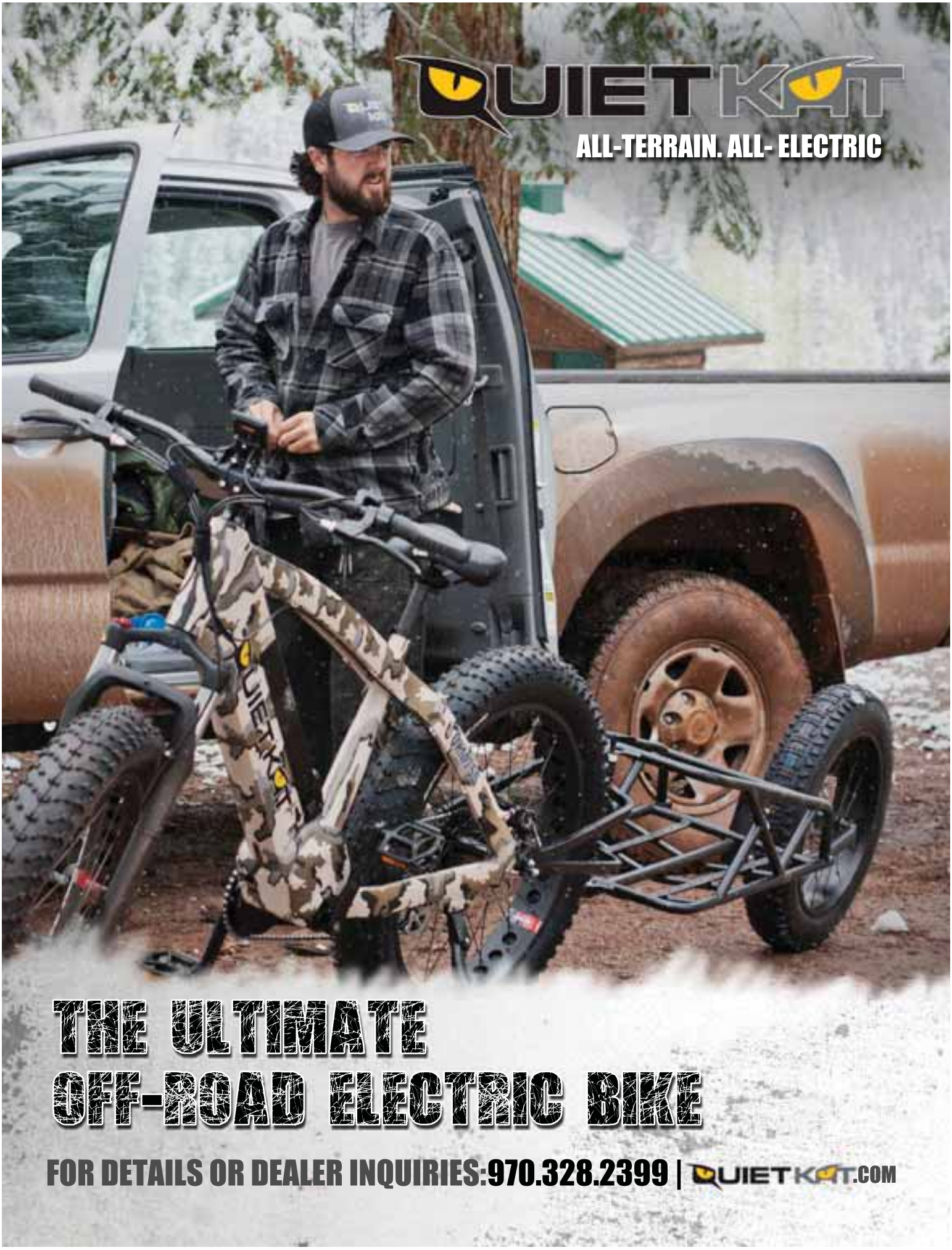
Antlered Buck Permit Deadlines!

Antlered Buck Permits may be purchased only after, or in conjunction with, purchasing a zone-specific antlerless permit. Purchase a Buck Permit in one of the following ways:

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

Permit sales begin MONDAY, Sept. 11, 2017 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. 28** at 11:59 p.m.
- Antlered Buck Permits for the Permit Muzzleloader Season **must be purchased by Nov. 27** at 11:59 p.m.
- Antlered Buck Permits for the Permit Shotgun Season **must be purchased by Dec. 13** 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.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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 22 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 MONDAY, Sept. 11, 2017 and continue until each season ends. Some seasons run through Feb. 10, 2018. See *Regulation Sets*, page 38.

- 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 44) 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 44) for complete details including when each permit sale will occur.

BULLET HOLE

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Permit and License Agents

ELECTRONIC PERMIT AND LICENSE SYSTEM

ATLANTIC

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
DC Sportsman, 366 E. Wheat Rd, Unit C, Buena . . . . . (856) 457-5433
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, 127 Bellevue Ave, Hammonton . . . . . (609) 561-1592
Lynkris Hometown Hardware, 208 Philadelphia Ave., Egg Harbor City . . . . . (609) 965-0815
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
Ramsey Outdoor Store, 835 Rt. 17 South, Ramsey . . . . . (201) 327-8141
Targeteers Sporting Goods, LLC, 101 Rt. 46, Saddlebrook . . . . . (201) 843-7788

BURLINGTON

Cheyenne Mountain Outfitters, 244 Rt. 130, Bordentown . . . . . (609) 570-8430
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
Schneider's F&W License Ctr, 2919 US 206, Columbus . . . . . (609) 284-3142
Sportsmen's Center, Rt. 130, Bordentown . . . . . (609) 298-5300
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
Creek Keepers Fin & Fur, 1130 S. Blackhorse Pike, Blackwood . . . . . (856) 227-1923
Dambly's Garden Center, 51 West Factory Rd., Berlin . . . . . (856) 767-6883
Dick's Sporting Goods, 2130 Rt. 70 West, Cherry Hill. . . . . (856) 317-8394
Wal-Mart #1807, 265 Rt. 73 North, West Berlin. . . . . (856) 753-8787
Wal-Mart #5047, 130 Blackhorse Pike, Audubon. . . . . (856) 310-1470

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 Handsmill Rd., Belleplain. . . . . (609) 861-2345
City Of Ocean City, 861 Asbury Ave., Ocean City . . . . . (609) 525-9324
Leisure Travel & Ticket Office, 1 Munroe Ave, Cape May . . . . . (609) 898-6804
Sea Gear Outfitters, 795 Rt. 109, Cape May . . . . . (609) 884-0330
Sea Isle Bait & Tackle, 4200 Park Rd., Sea Isle City . . . . . (609) 263-6540
United Uniforms, 1050 Rt. 47, Rio Grande . . . . . (609) 849-9347
Upper Township, 2100 Tuckahoe Rd., Tuckahoe . . . . . (609) 628-2805
Wal-Mart #3337, 3159 Rt. 9 South, Rio Grande. . . . . (609) 465-2204

CUMBERLAND

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, 3849 S. Delsea Dr., Vineland . . . . . (856) 776-7630
Franzwa Trailer Sales Inc., 2134 So. Second St., Millville. . . . . (856) 825-0111
Modern Bait & Tackle, 851 N. Pearl St., Bridgeton . . . . . (856) 451-1811
Randy's Inc., 84 E. Commerce St., Bridgeton. . . . . (856) 455-8309
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

ESSEX

Bullet Hole Inc, 78 Rutgers St., Belleville. . . . . (973) 759-3968

GLOUCESTER

Bob's Little Sport Shop, 318 N. Delsea Dr., Glassboro . . . . . (856) 553-8497
Borough of Swedesboro, 1500 Kings Hwy, Swedesboro . . . . . (856) 467-0202
Dick's Sporting Goods, 1450 Almonesson Rd., Deptford . . . . . (856) 384-8533
Sportsman's Outpost, 2517 Fries Mill Road, Williamstown. . . . . (856) 881-3244
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
Wal-Mart #3795, 2100-88th St., No. Bergen. . . . . (201) 758-2810
Wal-Mart #5447, 1215 Harrison Ave, Kearny. . . . . (201) 955-0280

HUNTERDON

Boan's Marine, 1296 Rt. 179, Lambertville . . . . . (609) 397-3311
Kathee's General Store, 4 Kingwood Ave., Frenchtown . . . . . (908) 996-6886
Shannon's Fly & Tackle, 74 B Main St., Califon . . . . . (908) 832-5736
Skip's Outdoors, 8 Risler St., Stockton . . . . . (732) 496-0480
Sportsman's Rendezvous, 174 Hwy. 31, Flemington . . . . . (908) 788-5828
The Sporting Life, 653 Hwy 22 E., Whitehouse Station. . . . . (908) 923-4332
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

Dick's Sporting Goods, 530 Nassau Park Blvd., Princeton . . . . . (609) 419-1661
NJ Dept Military/Vet Affair, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville. . . . . (609) 530-6866
Rosedale Mills, 101 Rt. 31 No., Pennington . . . . . (609) 737-2008
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
Wal-Mart #5012, 1750 Nottingham Way, Hamilton . . . . . (609) 438-4093

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 Rt. 18, East Brunswick. . . . . (732) 955-0871
Wal-Mart #5201, 2220 Rt. 27, Edison . . . . . (732) 650-1297
Wal-Mart #4153, 2825 Rt. 18, Old Bridge . . . . . (732) 955-0139

MONMOUTH

Brielle Bait & Tackle, 800 Ashley Ave., Brielle . . . . . (732) 528-5720
Dick's Sporting Goods, 650 Trotters Way, Freehold . . . . . (732) 358-1400
L & H Woods & Water, 2045 Hwy. 35, Wall. . . . . (732) 282-1812
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

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
Rich's Refrigeration, 4 King St, Morristown . . . . . (973) 234-5868
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

BHW Marine Center, 857 Mill Creek Rd, Manahawkin . . . . . (908) 240-6109
Cream Ridge Sptg. Goods, 465 Rt. 539, Cream Ridge . . . . . (609) 758-0699
Creekside Outfitters, 403 Rt. 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
Garden State Yacht & Sales, 101 Rt. 35 South, Pt. Pleasant . . . . . (732) 892-4222
Grizz's Forked River B & T, 103 Lacey Rd., Forked River . . . . . (609) 693-9298
Lacey Marine, 308 Rt. 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
Shooters Sporting Center, 1535 Rt. 539, Little Egg Harbor . . . . . (609) 296-4080
Surf City Bait & Tackle, 317 Long Beach Blvd., Surf City . . . . . (609) 494-2333
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 #3830, 631 Rt. 9 So., Little Egg Harbor . . . . . (609) 296-2430
Wal-Mart #5414, 580 Rt. 9 North, Lanoka Harbor . . . . . (609) 242-8311
West Creek Bait & Tackle, 387 Rt. 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 Rt. 23, Newfoundland . . . . . (201) 321-0153
No. Haledon General Store, 20 Manchester Ave, No. Haledon . . . . . (973) 427-1653
Tackle and Field, 81 Ringwood Ave, Wanaque . . . . . (973) 835-2966
Totowa Bait & Tackle Shop, 10 Albion Ave., Paterson . . . . . (973) 956-0825

SALEM

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

Middlebrook Firearms, 288 Rt. 22, Green Brook . . . . . (732) 529-6897
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
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, 33 Rt. 206 So., Augusta . . . . . (973) 300-5883
Stokes Forest Sport Shop, 29 Rt. 206 South, 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
Wild Bill's Rod & Gun, 53 Hopatchung Rd., Hopatcong . . . . . (973) 398-1702
YOJ Sports, 196 Main St, Andover . . . . . (973) 786-7382

UNION

Dick's Sporting Goods, 2700 Rt. 22 E., Union . . . . . (908) 964-2580
Wal-Mart # 3292, 900 Springfield Road, Union . . . . . (908) 624-0644

WARREN

Chrusz's General Store, 235 Main St., Johnsonburg . . . . . (908) 852-0181
Cobra One Tactical, 330 Rt. 46, Great Meadows . . . . . (908) 637-8838
Hi-Way Sport Shop, 253 Rt. 31 North, Washington . . . . . (908) 689-6208
Knot Just Flies, 61 Rt. 94, Blairstown . . . . . (908) 362-3474
Pequest Sporting Goods, 290 Rt. 46, Great Meadows . . . . . (908) 799-3530
Pequest Trout Hatchery, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford . . . . . (908) 637-4125
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
Washington One Stop, 288 Rt. 31 South, Washington . . . . . (908) 689-1353

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.

It is best to contact the agent in advance to ensure the licenses and/or permits are available and that the licensing system is active.

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

Hunter, Trapper Surveys

On occasion, the Division conducts hunter and trapper surveys to determine your participation, harvest and views on important fish- and wildlife-related issues. We may contact you by mail, email or telephone using the information you provide when you purchase a license or permit. In all cases, the Division ensures that your personal information and legal rights to confidentiality are protected.

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Fish and Wildlife

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Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/NJFishandWildlife

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 23, 2017

» **Youth Firearm Hunt**
Saturday, November 18, 2017

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 31.

- 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 36.

Wayne Wharton, II

On her very first day of hunting, 12-year-old Kaitlyn Tiesmeyer of Pemberton harvested this buck using a Remington 12-gauge pump while hunting with her proud father George on public land in Ocean County.

waterfowl

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

Youth hunters must possess a valid Youth Firearms to hunt the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days. See also *Youth Licenses*, page 10.

All youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a licensed, non-hunting adult 21 years of age or older. Hunting hours on these special youth days are from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset on the following dates by zone:

» **North Zone**—Oct. 7 and Feb. 3

» **South Zone**—Oct. 14 and Feb. 3

» **Coastal Zone**—Nov. 4 and Feb. 10

An HIP number is required. See page 65 for all waterfowl hunting requirements. Daily bag limits for ducks, Canada geese, brant, snow geese, coots, and gallinules will be the same as those allowed during the regular season. Adults may not hunt on this day.

Scott Paterson

Cooper Paterson proudly displays his first Canada goose, taken on a Youth Waterfowl Day in Monmouth County.

turkey

YOUTH TURKEY HUNT DAY

» April 21, 2018

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 21, 2018. 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.

On her second successful year of hunting the Youth Turkey Hunt Day, Bryanna Patterson used a 12-gauge Remington 1187 while hunting with her father Bryan Patterson and grandfather Phil Patterson who called in the bird. The 21-pound gobbler had a 8 7/8-inch beard and 7/8-inch spurs.

Keith Griglak/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Already an avid pheasant hunter, Cody Griglak, 12, harvests another bird with his Remington 870 Mini 20 gauge under a clear, blue sky.

upland bird

YOUTH UPLAND BIRD HUNT DAY

» Saturday, November 4, 2017

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, November 4, 2017 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

» November 4 and 6–10, 2017

The 2017 Take a Kid Hunting Pheasant Hunt will allow properly licensed hunters with a valid youth license (see *Youth Licenses*, page 10) to hunt any of the 10 stocked Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) on Saturday, Nov. 4 and Monday–Friday, Nov. 6–10, 2017. 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 Saturday, Nov. 4 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. To register for a guided morning hunt, go to www.NJFishandWildlife.com/ythpheas_register.htm and select the wildlife management area where you wish to hunt. When registration for each site reaches capacity, that particular site will be removed from the online registration options. Select one of the remaining locations. Register early; spaces fill quickly!

Registrations are accepted from Tuesday Sept. 5 through Monday, Oct. 16, 2017. Information pertaining to the pheasant hunt will be mailed on or around Oct. 17, 2017.

Selected Wildlife Management Areas for Youth Pheasant Hunting

WMA	Guided AM Nov. 4 only	Open 1 PM Nov. 4	Open All Day Nov. 4	Open All Day Nov. 6–10
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 November 4, 2017 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 November 4 and 6–10, 2017 from 8 a.m. until sunset. No registration required.

Volunteer Dog Handlers and Youth Hunting Mentors Needed

Come volunteer with us as a dog handler or youth hunting mentor to help support the tradition of safe, responsible hunting! To participate, visit our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/ythpheas_register.htm and select *Youth Hunt Volunteer*. When registering, be sure to accurately complete all fields. You will be contacted by a Fish and Wildlife Take-a-Kid Youth Hunt Coordinator during the week of Oct. 16 with details about the Nov. 4 hunt.

Jim Cox, the current Take-a-Kid Youth Pheasant Hunt Coordinator at Peaslee WMA said this about being a volunteer during this youth pheasant hunt, *"There's no better reward than sharing in the joy and excitement of a young hunter's first experience afield! The Youth Pheasant Hunt is more than just harvesting a bird. It is about forming friendships, hunter safety, and watching trained bird dogs work a field, all while pursuing premiere upland gamebirds."*

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 88, 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 14, for special rules.

Drones or unmanned aircraft are prohibited for the purposes of hunting and cannot be used to harass, scout, drive or rally wildlife.

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.

Baiting

Pursuant to NJSA 23:4-24.2, no person shall kill, destroy, injure, shoot, shoot at, take, wound, or attempt to take, kill or wound a game bird or game animal, or have in 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.

Safety Tips for Crossbow Shooting Success

- Keep fingers and thumb low on the crossbow forearm, below the rail; the flight path of string and cable can cause serious personal injury.
- Never cock a crossbow while in a treestand, except for crank-type models.
- 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.

To see all **10 Safety Tips for Crossbow Shooting Success**, scan this QR code or go to NJFishandWildlife.com/crossbow_safety_tips.htm.

Pursuant to NJSA 23:4-24.3, a "baited area" shall mean the presence of placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered agricultural products, salt, or other edible lure whatsoever capable of attracting or enticing such birds or animals.

Growing and unharvested crops shall not be considered baiting or feeding game birds or game animals.

Pursuant to NJSA 23:4-24.4, the above restriction does NOT apply to deer hunting. Hunters targeting deer while elevated in a standing tree or in a structure of any kind may be within *any* distance of a baited area.

Bow and Arrow

"Bow" means any long bow, recurve bow, compound bow or crossbow. Hand held release devices are permitted. Air bows are not legal for hunting.

See additional regulations under *Specifically Prohibited*, page 29 and page 34 for a table on sporting arms legal for deer hunting.

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, below. Crossbows are now legal for bowfishing except for Greenwood Lake. Crossbows are permitted for hunting migratory birds. See below for restrictions when taking game birds in flight.

All arrows used for hunting deer, bear, turkey, coyote, fox or woodchuck must be fitted with an edged head of well-sharpened metal and a minimum width of ¾ inches.

Arrows fitted with heads other than specified for deer, bear, 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 28.

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 28.

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 30.

Firearms and Missiles

For the purpose of hunting in New Jersey, *firearms* refer to a shotgun, muzzleloader (rifled or smoothbore), air gun and modern rifle.

- 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."
- The use of "smart" rifles or guns for hunting is prohibited. Computer-aided hunting devices would

negate the tenet of fair chase, giving hunters an unfair advantage by allowing a computer to target the prey.

- 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 to the lawful use of ammunition for air guns; see *Air Guns*, this page.
- Rimfire and centerfire rifles are not legal to hunt deer.
- **See sections on specific game animals for permitted firearms and ammunition.** See table on page 34 for sporting arms legal for deer hunting.
- 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 67) and during a light goose conservation order season, if any.
- See also *Specifically Prohibited* and *Safety Zones*, page 28.

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 26, 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 56. For muzzleloader deer hunting, see page 34. For Rifle Permit information, see page 12. For muzzleloader coyote/fox hunting, see page 54.

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 58), raccoon and opossum with hounds (.22 shorts only) plus coyote and fox (ammo restrictions, page 54). 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 54) and .25 caliber or larger for woodchuck (see page 58). See also *Firearms and Missiles*, page 26.

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

See chart on page 58 for details on small caliber rifle ammunition legal for hunting woodchucks and page 54 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 and during the Spring Light Goose Conservation Order; see page 67. 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 as per N.J.S.A. 23:7A-1 through N.J.S.A. 23:7A-3. 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 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 15.

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

Regulations in red are new this year.

the special permit season, page 54), 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.**

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*, this page.

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 intentionally kill or attempt to kill a bobcat or fisher in New Jersey. For more information about bobcat (including incidentally trapped) and fisher, see page 63. **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, 82 and 83.

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*, page 26. Questions should be directed to a regional Fish and Wildlife law enforcement office; see page 41.

Safety Zones

No firearm hunter or trapper 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

Edible Portions Guide

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. See *Wanton Waste of Game*, page 29.

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

building, 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 or trap 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 or trapping. Shooting into a safety zone is prohibited. (See *Safety Zone Awareness*, page 83, 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 on Sunday mornings only between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and one hour before sunrise during the prescribed season.

Stands and Blinds on State Parks, Forests

The State Park Service has modified its policy on the use of hunting tree stands and ground blinds on state parks, forests and recreation areas where hunting is allowed. To view the updated policy, visit the State Park Service website at NJParksandForests.org/stand-blind_policy.htm.

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 either by verbal notice or when the land has been conspicuously posted with intervisible signs displayed not fewer than ten to a mile along the exterior boundaries and at all roads, trails and rights-of-way entering such land.

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 or woodchuck. See *Edible Portions Guide* on page 28.

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. See page 41.

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 10 and *Youth Licenses*, page 10. Be sure to visit the *Take a Kid Hunting* section and special youth hunt days, pages 24–25.

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 83 for diagram with complete safety zone explanation. See also *Safety Zone*, page 28.)
- 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.

Farmer Hunting and Permit Information

FARMER REGULATIONS

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 31) to have accessible for when you report your deer harvest 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) I HUNT NJ or (855) 448-6865 or online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. See page 36 for additional reporting 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 31 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 29. See also *General Regulations*, page 26.

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 *Law Enforcement* page 41 or *Telephone Directory* page 88.

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 MONDAY, Sept. 11, 2017 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 18.
- 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 a regular 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.
- 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 MONDAY, September 11, 2017 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. Farmers may claim **spring** season turkey permits beginning MONDAY, April 2, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. 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 this page.

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 this page. 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.

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 September 1**. There is no fee; all qualified applicants will receive a Special Farmer Black Bear Permit via mail for the 2017 black bear season which will be valid for both segments. However, the bag limit remains at one bear.

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—regular black bear season permit(s).

Special Farmer Black Bear Permits will NOT be issued via the electronic license system for the 2017 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.

Deer Harvest Report Card

All hunters may use this card to fulfill tagging requirements upon recovering their deer. Confirmation # required if continuing to hunt where bag limit has not been reached, except those DMZs where two deer at a time may be taken.

Youth & Farmers: 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 license tag on which to record youth or farmer harvest data. To report your deer, call (855) I HUNT NJ or (855) 448-6865 or NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm.

Name _____ CID# _____

Hunting Season _____ Date Deer Killed _____

County _____ Deer Mgt Zone _____

Township _____ Deer Mgt Unit* _____

Circle sporting arms used: S/G, M/L, vertical bow, crossbow.

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

Check only one white box:

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

Confirmation Number:

Deer Harvest Report Card

All hunters may use this card to fulfill tagging requirements upon recovering their deer. Confirmation # required if continuing to hunt where bag limit has not been reached, except those DMZs where two deer at a time may be taken.

Youth & Farmers: 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 license tag on which to record youth or farmer harvest data. To report your deer, call (855) I HUNT NJ or (855) 448-6865 or NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm.

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Name _____ CID# _____

Hunting Season _____ Date Deer Killed _____

County _____ Deer Mgt Zone _____

Township _____ Deer Mgt Unit* _____

Circle sporting arms used: S/G, M/L, vertical bow, crossbow.

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

Check only one white box:

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

Confirmation Number:

Deer Harvest Report Card

All hunters may use this card to fulfill tagging requirements upon recovering their deer. Confirmation # required if continuing to hunt where bag limit has not been reached, except those DMZs where two deer at a time may be taken.

Youth & Farmers: 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 license tag on which to record youth or farmer harvest data. To report your deer, call (855) I HUNT NJ or (855) 448-6865 or NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm.

Name _____ CID# _____

Hunting Season _____ Date Deer Killed _____

County _____ Deer Mgt Zone _____

Township _____ Deer Mgt Unit* _____

Circle sporting arms used: S/G, M/L, vertical bow, crossbow.

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

Check only one white box:

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

Confirmation Number:

Deer Hunting

REGULATIONS

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Six-day Firearm Deer Season

Dec. 4–9, 2017 and Dec. 3–8, 2018
(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 regardless of the number of antlered buck permits in possession, except two deer may be taken during the Six-Day Firearm Season. To be legal, all deer harvested must be reported using Fish and Wildlife's Automated Harvest Report System (see page 36), either online or by telephone. Hunters will be assigned a Confirmation Number 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.

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.

Deer Management Zone Boundaries

Deer management zone (DMZ) boundary descriptions are now available by scanning this QR code with your mobile device or by visiting our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/pdf/deerzones.pdf. Review the map on page 42 for general DMZ borders and the Regulation Set color-coding scheme.

For quicker results, use the **Deer Hunting Location Viewer** at NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm with simple instructions above the viewer's map to determine the deer management zone (zone), county, township and deer management unit (unit) where you hunt. Write down all of this information and keep it accessible while in the field for when you must report your deer harvest.

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 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 (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.

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 (908)735-6938.

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

- **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 44 for details.
- **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. 23, 2017. The Youth Firearm Deer Hunt Day is Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017.** 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 24 for details. See page 31 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. In addition, during the overlapping Six-day Firearm Season, bowhunters with a valid Permit Bow Season zone permit in those zones governed by Regulation Sets 4–8 may continue to hunt using their bow and arrow license and must register their harvest with their zone permit Harvest Report Number. Hunters without a Permit Bow Season zone permit who want to use a bow during the Six-day Firearm Season MUST also possess a valid Firearms Hunting License and register their harvest using Harvest Report Number on their firearm license.
- **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. 28 for Permit Bow; Nov. 27 for Permit Muzzleloader and Dec. 13 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.

Regulations in red are new this year.

Firearms, Ammunition and Sights

- See chart below and page 26 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.
- Muzzleloaders are legal during the Six-day Firearm season where the hunter must also possess the annual Rifle Permit. See page 12.
- 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 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 44 for details.

Blinds and Tree Stands

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 tree stands 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.

The State Park Service has modified its policy on the use of hunting tree stands and ground blinds on state parks, forests and recreation areas where hunting is allowed. To view the updated policy, visit the State Park Service website atNJParksandForests.org/stand-blind_policy.htm.

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**

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 ¾"	Handheld release devices are permitted
Permit Muzzleloader Season	**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 Season	**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 ¾"	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 sabotted 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 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 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	—

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.
- During fall bow in early season zones, the hunter need only harvest one antlerless deer to satisfy the antlerless-first requirement and may then harvest a buck in any zone where the early season is open.
- Bag limits for the fall bow and winter bow seasons are as prescribed for each zone (see *Regulation Sets*, page 38) 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 18.**
- **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 for the Six-day season from their firearm or All-around Sportsman License only.** However, during the overlapping Six-day Firearm Season, bowhunters with a valid Permit Bow Season zone permit in those areas governed by Regulation Sets 4–8 may continue to hunt using their bow and arrow license and must register their harvest with their Permit Bow Season zone permit Harvest Report Number.
- 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 18.
- 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

An Apple A Day...

Deer Love New Jersey Apples!

Apples are a favorite feed source among New Jersey deer.

Buy direct from the farmer!

For information of local sources of New Jersey apple farmers offering deer feed, contact: **The New Jersey Apple Industry Advisory Council** at **(609) 292-8854** (ask for Bill Walker)

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 38.

For these general seasons, a deer Harvest Report 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 33.)

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 27.)

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 38. 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.

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 38.

- **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.**

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 that is part of your license or permit** (or a Harvest Report card found on page 31) with the exception of the Confirmation Number (a number automatically assigned by the system which replaces the metal possession seal). **Leave the Harvest Report attached to the license.** The Harvest Report is *not* used as a tag. See item 2 below for tagging details.
2. **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 31.**
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 41 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 or card.** Keep this report 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 Report Number from that season's antlerless Harvest Report for all other antlerless deer taken in this season. Since the license or permit report only has space for two Confirmation Numbers, use the Harvest Report Card in this *Digest* (page 31) 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 Reports from 2017 permits are valid for the entire length of the Permit Bow, Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun seasons, including January and February 2018, 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* on this page for tagging details. See page 31 for a Harvest Report Card for use when each of your license or permit Harvest Reports 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.

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.

Pack out what you pack in!

NO LITTERING!

Respect our natural resources and all landowners, whether public or private.

The hunter image depends on you; a little litter can make a huge difference.

2016–17 Total Deer Harvest by Season and Zone

DMZ	Fall Bow	Permit Bow	Six-day Firearm	Permit Muzzleloader	Permit Shotgun	Winter Bow	Youth Days	Total Harvest
1	130	121	121	97	7	21	8	**505**
2	610	342	239	271	208	69	19	**1,758**
3	139	122	66	90	10	34	5	**466**
4	109	59	135	145	14	9	5	**476**
5	951	556	426	297	527	68	26	**2,851**
6	344	240	108	75	37	49	5	**858**
7	576	331	212	214	439	71	11	**1,854**
8	1,193	655	359	260	522	206	19	**3,214**
9	294	177	38	41	57	76	2	**685**
10	804	491	287	287	556	153	11	**2,589**
11	495	260	151	161	311	76	10	**1,464**
12	1,064	679	271	319	819	231	9	**3,392**
13	509	280	48	75	249	122	2	**1,285**
14	760	456	192	102	530	220	8	**2,268**
15	402	264	112	80	408	98	8	**1,372**
16	408	290	162	74	173	58	4	**1,169**
17	394	221	179	127	578	52	16	**1,567**
18	98	87	104	40	6	41	5	**381**
19	543	393	283	117	500	83	8	**1,927**
21	58	64	223	33	8	22	8	**416**
22	56	48	43	18	2	18	7	**192**
23	77	90	251	66	9	33	26	**552**
24	23	32	88	20	4	15	6	**188**
25	467	287	173	129	393	47	11	**1,507**
26	194	159	328	105	29	71	28	**914**
27	246	214	70	137	120	45	15	**847**
28	351	263	87	148	182	58	11	**1,100**
29	217	146	79	141	150	27	17	**777**
30	62	87	46	69	32	27	11	**334**
31	90	85	29	45	51	28	3	**331**
34	62	77	80	68	22	39	18	**366**
35	351	324	88	228	220	77	17	**1,305**
36	432	301	31	31	141	140	1	**1,077**
37	50	63	17	43	1	33	1	**208**
38	0	0	0	8	18	0	0	**26**
39	42	71	15	60	24	8	0	**220**
41	321	194	98	81	283	53	2	**1,032**
42	111	94	85	48	74	33	1	**446**
43	30	19	119	15	5	9	3	**200**
45	40	42	172	39	13	23	5	**334**
46	35	44	135	30	6	23	9	**282**
47	160	70	33	32	73	38	5	**411**
48	299	233	139	162	583	42	11	**1,469**
49	260	205	24	11	83	90	3	**676**
50	795	648	122	77	394	246	2	**2,284**
51	297	196	78	21	152	75	2	**821**
53	11	9	2	8	6	4	0	**40**
54	18	10	5	2	6	1	0	**42**
55	28	18	9	7	6	11	1	**80**
56	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	**16**
57	0	2	0	1	6	0	0	**9**
58	1	9	0	1	15	0	0	**26**
61	0	7	4	4	5	1	0	**21**
63	27	45	26	28	15	13	1	**155**
64	0	0	15	0	25	0	0	**40**
65	56	58	68	38	4	8	1	**233**
66	4	2	2	0	16	3	0	**27**
67	0	0	0	96	0	4	0	**100**
68	11	5	7	12	20	2	0	**57**
70	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	**4**
Totals	15,105	10,247	6,284	4,935	9,164	3,104	407	49,246

NEW JERSEY DEER HUNTERS harvested 49,246 deer during the 2016–17 seasons between September 10, 2016 and February 18, 2017. The harvest for this year's deer season is 18.8 percent higher than the 41,439 deer taken in 2015–16. Harvest numbers were higher throughout the state, with the exception of a few zones with decreases. The antlerless portion of the 2016–17 harvest was 29,357 deer, up 12.3 percent from 2015–16. The antlered portion of the 2016–17 harvest was 19,889 deer, up 30.1 percent from 2015–16.

Deer Harvest Trends in New Jersey

Scan this code for additional deer harvest information from the 2016–17 hunting seasons or go to NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/trends.htm.

AMB DEER PROCESSING INC.

The problems:
- Poor quality–processing by amateurs
- High cost
- Are you getting the cuts you want?
- Are you getting all your meat back?
- Are you getting the same deer back?*

The AMB Deer processing solution:
- Reasonable price of $90.00**
- Skilled professional butchers
- Processed the way you request
- 90% boned out
- Properly wrapped and labeled for the freezer

Woodbridge (732) 750-5034

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

REGULATION SETS

Color-coded to Regulation Set Reference Chart and Zone Map (page 42)

Regulation Set	Regulation Set #0	Regulation Set #1	Regulation Set #2
Zones	21, 23, 24, 34*, 43, 45, 46	NO ZONES ASSIGNED	1, 3*, 4, 18, 22, 26
Info	* 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 any 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.	———	* 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 any 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 Season	**Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017** Season bag limit is one deer of either sex.	———	**Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017** Season bag limit is two deer—however, **hunters may NOT harvest two antlerless deer**—only ONE may be antlerless and ONE may be antlered.
Youth Deer Hunt Days	**Sept. 23, 2017—Bow Only** **Nov. 18, 2017—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. 23, 2017—Bow Only** **Nov. 18, 2017—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 Season	**Oct. 28–Nov. 18, 2017** 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. 28–Nov. 26, 2017** Season bag limit is two deer, however, **only ONE antlerless deer may be harvested**. ONE deer may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. (See **Note** above.)
Permit Muzzleloader Season	**Nov. 27–28, Dec. 16–23, 26–30, 2017** 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. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017** Season bag limit is two deer, however, **only ONE antlerless deer may be harvested**. ONE deer may be antlered if the Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit is purchased. (See **Note** above.)
Six-day Firearm Season	**Dec. 4–9, 2017** 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. 4–9, 2017** 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. 13–15, 2017** 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. 13–15, 2017** 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 Season	**Jan. 1–31, 2018** Season bag limit is one deer of either sex.	———	**Jan. 1–31, 2018** Season bag limit is two deer—however, **hunters may NOT harvest two antlerless deer**—only ONE may be antlerless and ONE may be antlered.

Color-coded to Regulation Set Reference Chart and Zone Map (page 42)

Regulation Set	Regulation Set #3	Regulation Set #4	Regulation Set #5
Zones	30*, 55, 63*,65	6	2, 16, 27*, 28*, 29*, 31*, 35*, 47*
Info	* Any antlered deer taken in Zone 30 or 63 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 any 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.	• 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 any 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.	* Any antlered deer taken in Zone 27, 28, 29, 31, 35 or 47 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 any 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 Season	**Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017** Season bag limit is two deer—only ONE may be antlered.	**First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 9–29, 2017** **Antlered or antlerless: Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017** Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer.	**First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 9–29, 2017** **Antlered or antlerless: Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017** Season bag limit is **five antlerless deer** and ONE antlered deer.
Youth Deer Hunt Days	**Sept. 23, 2017—Bow Only** **Nov. 18, 2017—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. 23, 2017—Bow Only** **Nov. 18, 2017—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.	**Sept. 23, 2017—Bow Only** **Nov. 18, 2017—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.
Permit Bow Season	**Oct. 28–Nov. 26, 2017** 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. 28–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2017** 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.)	**Oct. 28–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2017** Season bag limit is **five antlerless deer.** ONE antlered deer may be harvested 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 **five antlerless deer only.** (See **Note** above.)
Permit Muzzleloader Season	**Nov. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–5, 2018** 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. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–5, 2018** 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. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–5, 2018** Season bag limit is **five 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 **five antlerless deer only.** (See **Note** above.)
Six-day Firearm Season	**Dec. 4–9, 2017** 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. 4–9, 2017** 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. 4–9, 2017** 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. 13–15, 2017** 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.)	**Dec. 13–15, 2017** 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.)	**Dec. 13–15, 2017 and Jan. 13–20, 2018** Season bag limit is **five 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 **five antlerless deer only.** (See **Note** above.)
Winter Bow Season	**Jan. 1–31, 2018** Season bag limit is two deer—only ONE may be antlered.	**Jan. 1–31, 2018** Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer—only ONE may be antlered.	**Jan. 1–31, 2018** Season bag limit is **five antlerless deer** and ONE antlered deer.

REGULATION SETS

Color-coded to Regulation Set Reference Chart and Zone Map (page 42)

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	• 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 any 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.	* 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 any 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.	* 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 any 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 Season	**First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 9–29, 2017** **Antlered or antlerless: Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017** Season bag limit is **nine antlerless deer** and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.	**First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 9–29, 2017** **Antlered or antlerless: Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017** Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.	**First deer must be antlerless (not required for youth hunters): Sept. 9–29, 2017** **Antlered or antlerless: Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017** Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.
Youth Deer Hunt Days	**Sept. 23, 2017—Bow Only** **Nov. 18, 2017—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 Season.	**Sept. 23, 2017—Bow Only** **Nov. 18, 2017—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 Season.	**Sept. 23, 2017—Bow Only** **Nov. 18, 2017—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 Season.
Permit Bow Season	**Oct. 28–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2017** Season bag limit is **nine antlerless deer.** ONE antlered deer may also be harvested if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See **Note** above.)	**Oct. 28–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2017** Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may also be harvested if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See **Note** above.)	**Oct. 28–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2017** Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer. ONE antlered deer may also be harvested if the Antlered Buck Bow Permit is purchased. Two deer may be taken at a time. (See **Note** above.)
Permit Muzzleloader Season	**Antlered or Antlerless: Nov. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–31, 2018** Season bag limit is **nine 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 **nine antlerless deer only.** Two deer may be taken at a time. (See **Note** above.)	**Antlered or Antlerless: Nov. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–Feb. 10, 2018** **Antlerless deer only: Dec. 4–9, 2017** 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.)	**Antlered or Antlerless: Nov. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–Feb. 10, 2018** **Antlerless deer only: Nov. 20–22 and 24, and Dec. 4–9, 2017** 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.)
Six-day Firearm Season	**Dec. 4–9, 2017** 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. 4–9, 2017** 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. 4–9, 2017** 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	**Antlered or Antlerless: Dec. 13–15, 2017 and Jan. 6–31, 2018** Season bag limit is **nine 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 **nine antlerless deer only.** Two deer may be taken at a time. (See **Note** above.)	**Antlerless deer only: Dec. 4–9, 2017** **Antlered or Antlerless: Dec. 13–15, 2017 and Jan. 1–Feb. 10, 2018** 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.)	**Antlerless deer only: Nov. 20–22 and 24 and Dec. 4–9, 2017** **Antlered or Antlerless: Dec. 13–15, 2017 and Jan. 1–Feb. 10, 2018** 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.)
Winter Bow Season	**Jan. 1–31, 2018** Season bag limit is **nine antlerless deer** and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.	**Jan. 1–Feb. 17, 2018** Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.	**Jan. 1–Feb. 17, 2018** Season bag limit is unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at a time.

Be Sure of Your Target and Beyond

Be aware of all SAFETY ZONES.

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

Law Enforcement and Regulation Information

Contact a New Jersey Division of Fish and 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**

Mountain Trail Whitetails
Bowhunting Preserve

Hunt On 100 Wooded Acres In Warren County, Home To The Biggest Bucks In New Jersey!

Management Hunts (Eight (8) points or less, scoring less than 140")	$1450 trophy fee
Gold Hunt — Any Buck in the Preserve Over 200", Fully-Guided, Sept.–Jan.	$6400 trophy fee
Guided Turkey Hunts	$300 per day

Any Buck in the Preserve Under 200", Semi-Guided	
September	$4400 trophy fee
October	$3900 trophy fee
November	$3400 trophy fee
December	$2900 trophy fee
January	$2400 trophy fee

Hunts are $250 per day (2 day minimum). If successful, a trophy fee will be charged based on the type of hunt selected in addition to the daily fee.

Tim Matthews
(908) 310-0369
Mountiantrailwhitetails@gmail.com

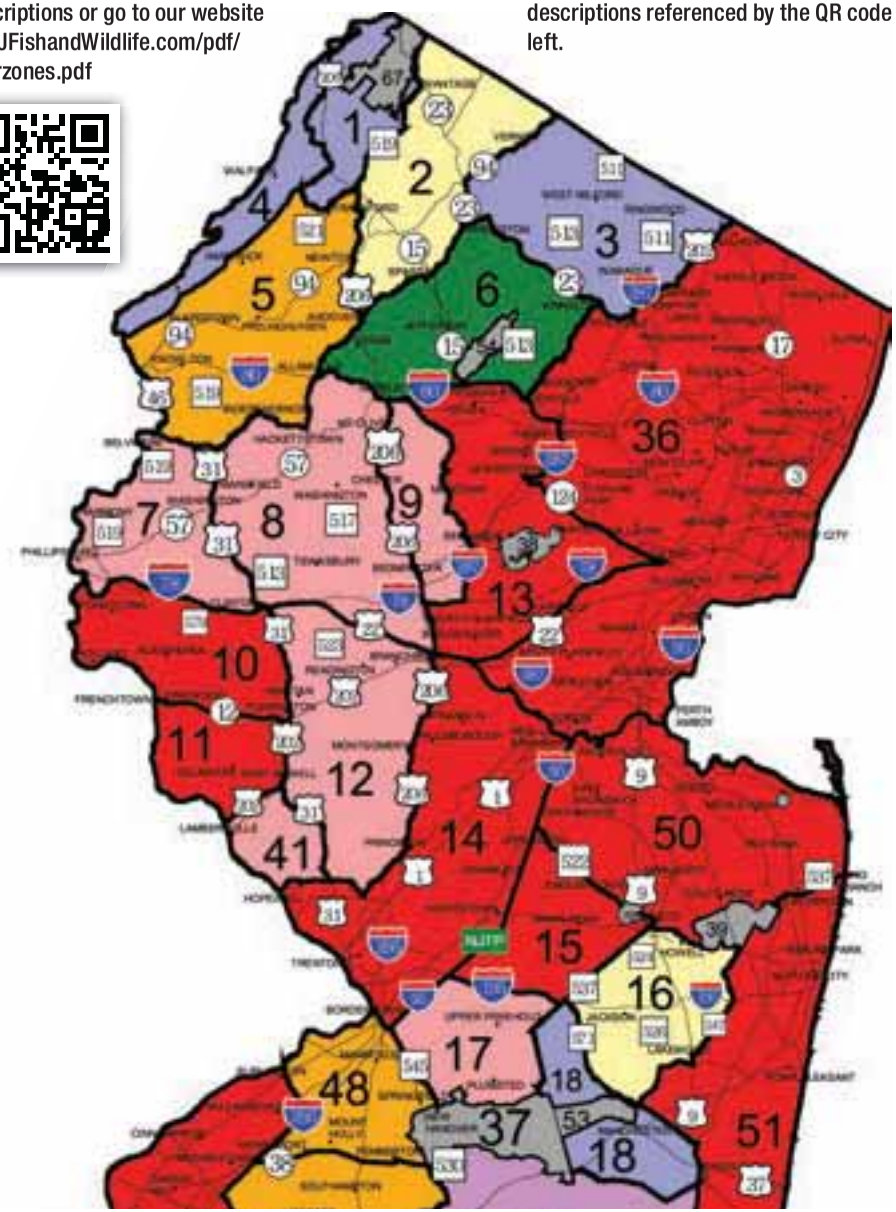
WWW.MTWHITETAILS.COM

Deer shot on a preserve are not eligible for Boone & Crockett, Pope & Young or New Jersey's Outstanding Deer Program.

New Jersey Deer Management Zones*

Scan this QR code with your mobile device for the detailed deer management zone boundary descriptions or go to our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/pdf/deerzones.pdf

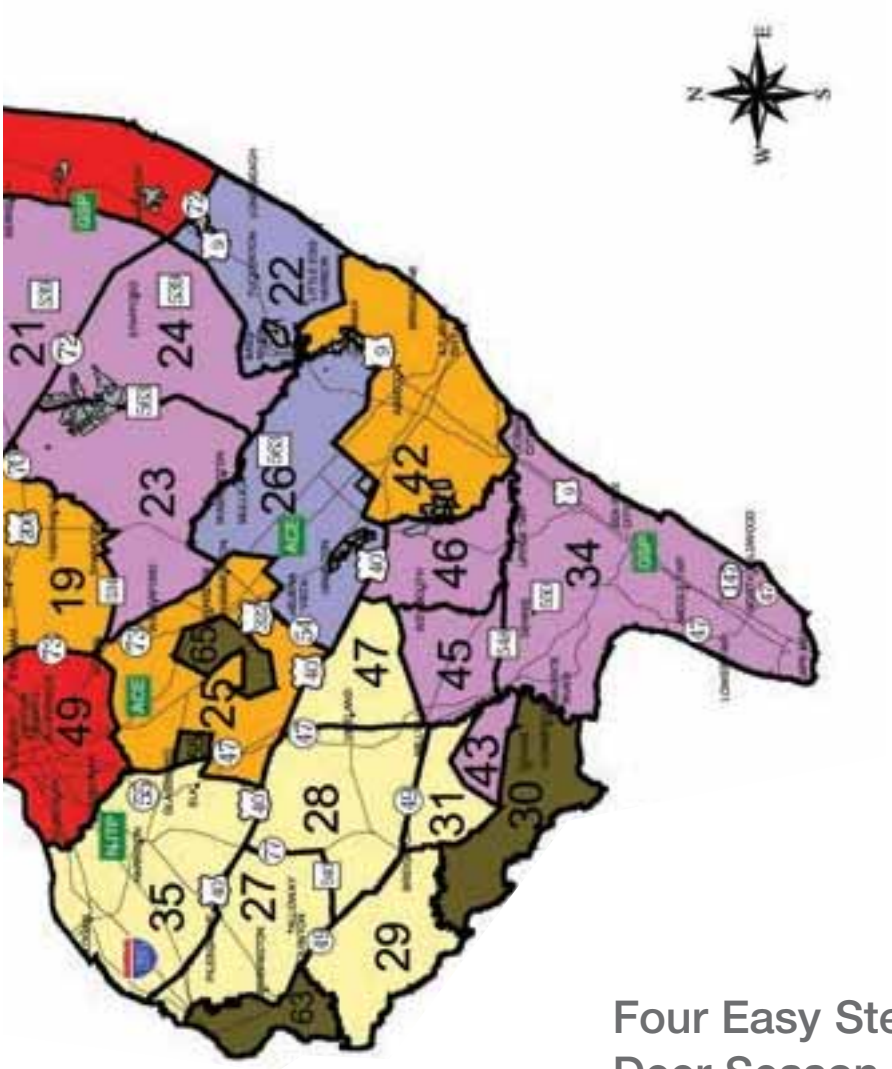
* Map is for reference only. Use a county map or see NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs_deer_viewer.htm while following zone boundary descriptions referenced by the QR code at left.



DEER ZONE MAP

2017–18 NJ Deer Season Regulation Sets Reference Chart

Zone	For seasons and bag limits, see details in *Regulation Sets* beginning on page 38.	Zone	For seasons and bag limits, see details in *Regulation Sets* beginning on page 38.
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 # 0
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 # 2	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 # 2	61	Special Area Hunting Season
27	Regulation Set # 5	62	Zone is not designated
28	Regulation Set # 5	63	Regulation Set # 3
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 # 0	70	Special Area Hunting Season
35	Regulation Set # 5		



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* as noted to the top left of this map 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 42 to learn in which regulation set your DMZ is located.

3. **Find** your actual regulation set (see page 38), 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 36 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 MONDAY, September 11, 2017. 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 SUNDAY, October 1, 2017. 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. 28–Dec. 23 and Dec. 26–30, 2017; **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. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017; Jan. 1–5, 2018; **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. 4–9, 2017; **Please note:** Hunting during the Six-day Firearm Season on Atlantic County Park property (Zone 61) is NOT open to all hunters. **ONLY** hunters with a valid 2017 Zone 61 Permit Shotgun Season permit may hunt the property during Six-day Firearm Season. **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. 4–9 and 13–15, 2017; **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, 2018; **Bag limit:** Unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. **Please note:** Hunting during the Winter Bow Season on Atlantic County Park property (Zone 61) is NOT open to all hunters. **ONLY** hunters with a valid 2017 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 18.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov.6–9 and 13–16, 2017; **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, 2018; **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@mercercounty.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, Oct. 29.** Permits will be available for sale at all license agents and online via 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, 2017.

Permit Shotgun Season: Dec. 4–9, 2017; **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. 4–9, 2017; **Bag limit:** two antlered deer. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 1–Feb. 17, 2018; **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.

Ocean County Parks Department

The Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation oversees the stewardship of the county's Natural Lands Trust properties. Currently under the Natural Lands Trust Program over 13,000 acres of land is open to hunting. A full list of properties that are open to hunting can be obtained via the interactive map at www.planning.co.ocean.nj.us/natlands.htm or by calling the Parks Department (732) 506-9090. A complete list of rules and regulations may be viewed or downloaded from the website. At this time, there is no registration process or permit necessary to hunt on any Ocean County Natural Lands Trust properties. Hunters are encouraged but not required to call or email to inform us what properties you are hunting. This information is valuable for numerous safety related reasons, including notification if a prescribed burn is scheduled to take place. For more information regarding hunting please contact Geoffrey Lohmeyer at glohmeyer@co.ocean.nj.us or 732-506-9090 x 5941; or Mark Villinger at mvillinger@co.ocean.nj.us or 732-929-2054 x3055.

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 18. 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. 9–Oct. 27, 2017; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. First deer must be antlerless from Sept. 9–29, 2017. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season (Zone 39): Oct. 28–Dec. 30, 2017; **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. 4–9, 2017; **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. 27–30 and Dec. 1, 2 and 11–30, 2017, and Jan. 1–Feb.10, 2018; **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. 2, 4–9, 16, 23, and 30, 2017 and Jan. 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2018; **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. 17, 2018; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

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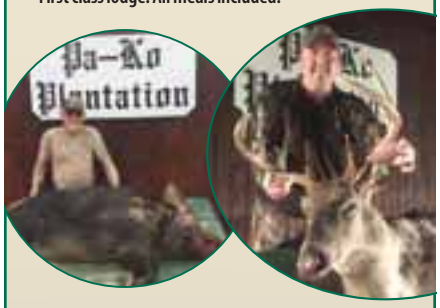

Visit us at www.pa-ko.com
To plan your hunt, call J. Paul Taylor at 877.539.5699

Regulations in red are new this year.

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, and the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs (NJSFSC). Membership in the NJSFSC 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 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. 9–Sept. 29, 2017; First deer must be antlerless. Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017; antlered or antlerless deer. **Bag limit**: unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 28–Dec. 23 and Dec. 26–30, 2017; **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. 25–Dec. 2 and Dec. 8, 9, 2017 and Jan. 6, 13, 2018; **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. 25–Dec. 2 and Dec. 8, 9, 2017 and Jan. 6, 13, 2018; **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, 2018; **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: Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 28–Dec. 23 and 26–30, 2017; **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. 4–9, 2017; **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. 27–30 and Dec. 1, 2, 11–13 and 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 2–6, 2018; **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. 23, 26 and 27, 2017; **Bag limit:** two deer, one may be antlered only for hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shot-gun 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. 17, 2018; **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 18. 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. 9–Oct. 27, 2017; **Bag limit:** unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. First deer must be antlerless from Sept. 9–29, 2017. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 28–Dec. 23 and 26–30, 2017; **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. 4–9, 2017; **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. 25 and 27–30 and Dec. 1, 2, 11–23, and 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–13, 2018; **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. 4–9 and 13–15, 2017 and Jan. 6–13, 2018; **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, 2018; **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 Jon Van De Venter at (973) 724-4691 for more information. Deer hunting is not permitted on Christmas Day in Zone 54. 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 18. 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: Sept. 30–Oct. 27, 2017; **Bag limit**: unlimited antlerless deer and one antlered

deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 28–Dec. 23, 26–30, 2017; **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. 4–9, 2017; **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. 27, 28 and Dec. 11–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–6, 2018; **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. 4–9 and 16, 2017 and Jan. 6 and 8–12, 2018; **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, 2018; **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 SUNDAY, Oct. 1.** 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.

Regulations in red are new this year.

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 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. 11–15, 2017; **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. 28–Dec. 23, 26–30, 2017; **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. 27, 28, Dec. 11, 12 16–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–5, 2018; **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. 4–9, 2017 are antlerless deer only. Antlered or antlerless: Dec. 13–15, 2017 and Jan. 6–31, 2018; **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. 28–Dec. 23, 26–30, 2017; **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. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–5, 2018; **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):** Nov. 29–Dec. 1 and 4–9 are antlerless deer only. Antlered or antlerless: Dec. 13–15, 2017 and Jan. 6–13, 2018; **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. 28–Dec. 23, 26–30, 2017; **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. 27–28, Dec. 11, 12, 16–23, 26–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–5, 2018; **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. 13–15, 2017 and Jan. 13–20, 2018; **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 SUNDAY, Oct. 1.** 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. Hunters must obtain a valid state hunting permit plus a refuge hunting permit. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge hunting permit fee is $26 ($13 for holders of a Senior, Golden Age, or Golden Access Passport and youths with a valid 2017 New Jersey Youth hunting license).

NOTE: Great Swamp hunting permits must be purchased through RecAccess online services. Go to https://RefugeHuntPermits.RecAccess.com, then create a RecAccess account to pay by credit card. The process is easy; user instructions are available via https://RefugeHuntPermits.RecAccess.com. For more information regarding the deer hunt, contact the refuge Visitor Services Manager, Jonathan Rosenberg at (973) 425-0215 ext. 115.

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

- **Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun Season (concurrent):** Nov. 4 and 8–11, 2017. On Nov. 4 (Saturday), hunting is only for youths who possess a valid 2017 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 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! Zone 63 Bow dates, bag limits and regulations apply. 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.

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.

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 18. **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.

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.

Abbotts Meadow WMA—Formerly Salem Country Club (Zone 63)

The section of Abbotts Meadow WMA—Formerly Salem Country Club, located in Elsinboro Twp., Salem County is open for Fall Bow, Youth Bow Day, Permit Bow and Winter Bow seasons ONLY! The use of firearms is prohibited on the section of Abbotts Meadow WMA—Formerly Salem Country Club. For more information, call (609) 748-2065.

Antler Point Restrictions apply. Antlered deer must have at least one antler with three or more antler points.

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 20,270 pounds of venison (more than 81,000 meals from 545 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 $30 (for deer under 50 lbs.) toward that processing fee. However, during the early season (Sept. 9 through Sept. 29), the hunter fee will be waived except for small deer (dressed weight under 50 pounds) where the hunter fee will remain at $30. 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
The Person Family, Lebanon (908) 735-4646

57 West Deer Processing
Phillipsburg (908) 619-0195

Hunterdon Deer Butcher (908) 797-2315
51 Old Franklin School Rd., Pittstown

Bishop's Market
Whitehouse Station (908) 534-9666

V. Roche & Son, LLC Meat Processing
9 High St., 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 *might* not accept donated deer during the Six-day Firearm Buck Season, decided by individual butchers on a day-to-day basis, from Dec. 4–9, 2017, so they can accommodate their regular customers. Hunters should contact the butcher in advance.

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

New Jersey's Black Bear Research Project

By Mike Madonia, Principal Biologist

The Division of Fish and Wildlife's Black Bear Research Project has been conducting research on black bears since 1980. Scientific data collected from New Jersey black bears for the past 37 years has resulted in an extensive database containing approximately 11,000 black bears that have been handled by Project personnel.

Trend data indicates that New Jersey black bears have a high reproductive and survival rate resulting in a healthy and viable bear population.

Research data acquired through the use of our intensive bear surveillance and monitoring program provides valuable information pertinent to bear behavior, habitat usage, home range, sex ratios, litter size, and mortality. Biological samples, such as blood and tissue, are routinely collected from captured bears during research tagging efforts and den work. Blood samples provide information on the general health of the bear population as well as revealing what diseases might also affect human or animal health.

DNA from tissue samples is used to determine genetic diversity among bears, population estimation and forensic investigation. Scientific data collected from these research studies provide a basis for sound management decisions and reflects the overall health of the bear population.

The following photos feature several impressive animals that Project personnel have encountered while performing annual research work. Also shown is a bear afflicted with a skin disease not yet encountered in the New Jersey black bear population.

For more information on black bears, visit NJFishandWildlife.com/bearfacts.htm.

Black Bear Project Leader Mike Madonia holds a 736.5 lb. bear while conducting den work for research purposes in Morris County in February 2015. This male bear (currently 11 years old) is the largest that Bear Project personnel has handled, and according to Division records, still roams the woods of New Jersey today.

Dan McDonald

While conducting den work in March of 2016, N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife Black Bear Project staff encountered six cubs that were born underneath an occupied residence in Butler Borough, Morris County. Although the average number of cubs per female is three in New Jersey, this is the second time that Bear Project personnel have handled a bear that had given birth to six cubs.

Amy DeCheser/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Sarcoptic mange is a contagious skin disease that is caused by a parasitic, microscopic mite that burrows underneath the skin of the animal to feed and deposit its eggs. Although it is commonly found in mammals, it has not been documented in New Jersey black bears. However, neighboring states have reported numerous cases of mange in recent years, so black bears with extreme hair loss, lesions, or scabs should be reported to 1-877-WARNDEP.

PA Game Commission

Regulations in red are new this year.

THE BLACK BEAR hunting season consists of two separate segments, A and B. Segment A is October 9–14, 2017. Segment B is December 4–9, 2017. The bag limit is one bear per hunter during Segment A, and each hunter may purchase two permits, which must be for two *different* zones. If no bear is taken during Segment A, the permit(s) is still valid for hunting in Segment B. If a hunter harvests a bear during Segment A, that permit is no longer valid, though the hunter may purchase a replacement permit for that same zone to use during Segment B, if available when permit sales re-open on November 1.

Following commencement of the black bear season, the Fish and Wildlife Director may announce closure of the entire season or extension of Segment B 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 Segment B season extension, if announced, will be Wednesday, December 13 through Saturday, December 16, 2017. Hunting regulations for the Segment B season extension will be the same as those during the regular part of Segment B. Only those permit holders with a valid permit(s) for Segment B who did not harvest a bear during the regular part of Segment B may hunt during the Segment B 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.

Don't Wait to Buy Bear Permits!

The lottery for bear permits has been eliminated. All hunters (especially hunters who plan to hunt only in Segment B) are **strongly encouraged to purchase their permit(s) during the September—October sales period** rather than wait until permit sales re-open on November 1 since bear permits **may sell out** in some zones before the Segment A hunting period ends. See page 12.

Black Bear Hunting Season

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

2017 Black Bear Season Hunting Dates

Hunting Segment	Legal Sporting Arms	Dates
A	Archery	Mon., Oct. 9–Sat., Oct. 14, 2017
A	Archery / Muzzleloader	Thurs., Oct. 12–Sat., Oct. 14, 2017
B	Shotgun / Muzzleloader	Mon., Dec. 4–Sat., Dec. 9, 2017
B Extension (if authorized)	Shotgun / Muzzleloader	Wed., Dec. 13–Sat., Dec. 16, 2017

Apprentice License holders are not eligible to hunt black bear. The skills necessary to hunt black bear are not commensurate with an introductory hunting experience as the apprentice license program is intended to provide.

Bag Limit: One bear of either sex and any age may be harvested per permit, but only one bear may be harvested per segment, regardless of the number of permits the hunter holds. A total of two bears may be harvested per hunter—one bear in segment A and one bear in segment B, with valid permits. 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 archery or firearm or all-around sportsman hunting license and a special Black Bear Hunting Permit issued by Fish and Wildlife. See *Black Bear Management Zones* page 52; see also *Black Bear Hunting Permits*, page 12.

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 October 8, 2017 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.

Essential Black Bear Bowhunting Strategies

Improve your black bear hunting success while showing respect for the wild game you pursue. Be prepared to make a quick, clean harvest.

- All hunters must ***take only high percentage shots.***
- Keep all shots ***within 20 yards***.
- Bear must either be standing ***broadside or slightly quartering away*** for a good shot.
- The ***front leg must be extended forward*** in order to open up access to the vital zone.
- The length of hair and thickness of fat on a bear's belly make it more difficult to determine the vital zone location than on a deer.

See Black Bear Hunting Tips — Including Bowhunter Info! on page 53. Other important black bear hunting FAQs are answered on our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/bearseason_faq.htm.

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Firearms, Bows and Ammunition Legal for Bear Hunting

Shotgun (Segment B only): not smaller than 20 gauge nor larger than 10 gauge with rifled slugs and capable of holding not more than three rounds. Lead, lead alloy or copper rifled slug or sabot slug. Buckshot is prohibited.

Muzzleloader Rifle (only during the last three days of Segment A plus all of Segment B): 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.

Archery Equipment: (Segment A only) Bows used for bear hunting (long, recurve, compound or crossbow) must have a minimum draw pull weight of 35 pounds at the archers draw length (long and recurve bow) or peak weight (compound bow), or 75 pounds minimum draw weight for a crossbow. Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of 3/4 inch.

Additional Black Bear Hunting Regulations

- Firearm 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 **all** bear hunters must follow the fluorescent orange requirements pertaining to hunting from a ground blind as specified under *Hunter Orange*, page 27. During the last three days of Segment A, bowhunters in treestands should consider wearing hunter orange.
- It shall be illegal to use dogs to pursue or run black bears .
- No person shall attempt to take or kill a black bear or have in their possession or control any firearm, bow 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 muzzleloading rifles) and also on crossbows.
- 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 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).

2016 Black Bear Harvest by Zone and County

2016 Harvest			
BMZ	Hunting Segment A	Hunting Segment B	Total
1	121	23	144
2	199	28	227
3	183	14	197
4	57	9	66
5	2	0	2
Total	**562**	**74**	**636**

2016 Harvest			
County	Hunting Segment A	Hunting Segment B	Total
Sussex	296	48	344
Warren	96	10	106
Morris	98	6	104
Passaic	56	8	64
Hunterdon	13	2	15
Bergen	3	0	3
Total	**562**	**74**	**636**

No bears were harvested in the portions of Mercer and Somerset counties open to bear hunting in 2016.

Black Bear Management Zones

Map for general reference only.

For a complete description of the Black Bear Management Zones, scan this QR code or see Fish and Wildlife's bear management zone webpage at NJFishandWildlife.com//bearzonemap.htm.

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. **A harvested black bear may be quartered and brought out of the field in sections, provided all parts are brought to the check station at the same time.**

Successful hunters must take the black bear to a designated check station on the day of the kill by 9 p.m. during Segment A or by 7 p.m. during Segment B. 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 the check station closing time on the date of the kill must be reported immediately by telephone to

the Northern Region Office, 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. To protect the meat from spoilage, the hunter may bring only the head and hide to the check station the next day. Note: within 48 hours after a bear is checked, a hunter may be required to produce the meat of the bear or produce records relating to the location of the meat, such as a butcher shop, upon request of a conservation officer. After check stations have closed on Saturday during the regular season segments 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

Segment A: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Segment B: noon to 7 p.m.

Warren County

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

Morris County

- **Black River Wildlife Management Area***
  (Segment A only)
  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 during Segment A **only.**

** Operating all week during Segment A plus operating only on Opening Day and Saturday during Segment B.

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.

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. **Note: Black bear management zones are different than deer management zones. Choose carefully when purchasing a black bear permit. For the 2017 season, only zones 1–5 are open for hunting.**

Black Bear Hunting Tips — Including Bowhunting Info!

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

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 26 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 57 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 56 plus *Semi-wild and Commercial Shooting Preserves* for exceptions.

Season Dates and Bag Limits: The *Small Game Hunting Seasons* table on page 57 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 26.

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 26. **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 27.

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.

Firearm Ammunition Legal for Hunting Coyote and Fox in New Jersey

Scan this QR code or visit us at NJFishandWildlife.com/coyote-fox_ammo.htm for a reference chart useful for coyote-fox hunting during seasons that overlap other game species.

Coyote / Fox Season

Dates	**Bow Only Season:** Sept. 30–Nov. 10 (except Sundays)	**General Season Firearm or Bow:** Nov. 11–Mar. 15 (except Sundays)	**Special Permit Season: Jan. 1 – March 15 (except Sundays*)** (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. 12	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 ***General Small Game Hunting Methods***, column two above.	**Bow**: long, recurve, compound or crossbow. See ***General Small Game Hunting Methods***, 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 larger than #4 fine. **Rifles Prohibited** during the general season, including centerfire, rimfire and muzzleloading types.	**Bow**: long, recurve, compound or crossbow See ***General Small Game Hunting Methods***, 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. **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. A modern rifle magazine need not be pinned (plugged), but may be loaded with no more than three cartridges.	**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	**Manner**: Call, stalk or stand **Method**: Ground, elevated or other structure **Bait**: 300 ft when hunter elevated or in other structure **Predator Call**: Allowed (manual/electronic) **Decoys**: Allowed (no live decoys) **Dogs**: Use prohibited **Hunter Orange**: Optional **Daily Bag**: Unlimited	**Manner**: Call, hound, stalk or stand **Method**: Ground, elevated or other structure **Bait**: not closer than 300 ft when hunter elevated or in other structure **Predator Call**: Allowed (manual/electronic) **Decoys**: Allowed (no live decoys) **Dogs**: Allowed (except Dec. 4-9, 13) **Hunter Orange**: Required **Daily Bag**: Unlimited	**Note: Apprentice license holders prohibited from using any rifle and from nighttime hunting during the Special Permit Season.** **Manner**: Call or stand **Method**: Ground, elevated or other structure **Bait**: Use prohibited **Predator Call**: Required (manual/electronic) **Decoys**: Allowed (no live decoys) **Dogs**: Use prohibited **Hunter Orange**: Optional **Daily Bag**: Unlimited *** Hunting must cease at 11:59 p.m. Saturday evening.**	

Coyote and Fox, General and Special Permit Seasons

See chart on page 54 for the bow only, general and special permit season regulations for coyote and fox. **NOTE:** All successful coyote hunters must report any coyote harvested to the nearest Division Regional Law Enforcement Office [**North**–(908) 735-8240; **Central**–(609) 259-2120; **South**–(856) 629-0555] 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 table on page 54, 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 34.

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.

Coyote and fox hunting are allowed on WMAs including all legal sporting arms listed in the table on page 54.

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 table, page 54) of the Special 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 Permit: $2, available at any license agent or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site (NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) beginning December 4. A 2018 hunting license must be purchased prior to or in conjunction with the purchase of a Special Season Coyote/Fox Permit. Apprentice license holders may not use any rifle or hunt coyote/fox at night during the Special Permit Season.

Pheasant

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 57 for season dates and bag limits. See exceptions page 56 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 firearm small game hunters on wildlife management areas stocked with pheasant or quail.

Pheasant Stocking Schedule 2017

(Birds stocked the evening prior to the hunting dates listed.)

		Sat 11/11	Tues 11/14	Thurs 11/16	Sat 11/18	Tues 11/21	Thurs 11/23	Sat 11/25	Thurs 11/30	Sat 12/2	Sat 12/16	Tues 12/19	Thurs 12/21	Sat 12/23	Thurs 12/28	Sat 12/30	Season Total
Northern Region	Berkshire Valley	70	40	40	60	40	70	40	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	30	620
	Black River	270	130	130	220	130	240	130	110	110	110	110	110	160	130	110	2,200
	Clinton	310	150	150	260	150	280	150	130	130	130	130	130	180	150	130	2,560
	Delaware Water Gap N.R.A.	640	320	320	530	320	590	320	270	270	270	270	270	370	320	270	5,350
	Flatbrook	320	160	160	270	160	290	160	130	130	130	130	130	190	160	130	2,650
	Pequest	260	130	130	220	130	240	130	110	110	110	110	110	150	130	110	2,180
	Walpack	70	40	40	60	40	70	40	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	30	620
	Whittingham	250	130	130	210	130	230	130	110	110	110	110	110	150	130	110	2,150
Central Region	Assunpink	490	250	250	410	250	450	250	200	200	200	200	200	290	250	200	4,090
	Colliers Mills	300	150	150	250	150	280	150	130	130	130	130	130	180	150	130	2,540
	Greenwood-Howardsville Section	80	40	40	60	40	70	40	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	30	630
	Manahawkin	70	40	40	60	40	70	40	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	30	620
	Manasquan	170	90	90	140	90	160	90	70	70	70	70	70	100	90	70	1,440
	Medford	130	60	60	110	60	120	60	50	50	50	50	50	70	60	50	1,030
	Stafford Forge	220	110	110	190	110	210	110	90	90	90	90	90	130	110	90	1,840
	Fort Dix	60	0	0	50	50	70	60	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	350
Southern Region	Dix	190	100	100	160	100	180	100	80	80	80	80	80	110	100	80	1,620
	Glassboro	150	80	80	130	80	140	80	60	60	60	60	60	90	80	60	1,270
	Heislerville	70	40	40	60	40	70	40	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	30	620
	Mad Horse	140	70	70	120	70	130	70	60	60	60	60	60	80	70	60	1,180
	Millville	530	260	260	440	260	480	260	220	220	220	220	220	310	260	220	4,380
	Nantuxent	170	90	90	140	90	160	90	70	70	70	70	70	100	90	70	1,440
	Port Republic	70	40	40	60	40	70	40	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	30	620
	Tuckahoe	160	80	80	140	80	150	80	70	70	70	70	70	90	80	70	1,360
	Winslow	210	100	100	170	100	190	100	90	90	90	90	90	120	100	90	1,730
Statewide Totals		5,400	2,700	2,700	4,520	2,750	5,010	2,760	2,290	2,230	2,230	2,230	2,230	3,110	2,700	2,230	45,090

Quail Stocking Schedule 2017

(Birds stocked the evening prior to the hunting dates listed.)

Statewide	Sat 11/11	Tues 11/14	Thurs 11/16	Sat 11/18	Tues 11/21	Thurs 11/23	Sat 11/25	Thurs 11/30	Sat 12/2	Sat 12/16	Tues 12/19	Thurs 12/21	Sat 12/23	Thurs 12/28	Sat 12/30	Season Total
Greenwood	600	270	270	400	270	270	400	270	610	400	400	400	400	270	270	5,500
Peaslee	600	270	270	400	270	270	400	270	610	400	400	400	400	270	270	5,500

For maps showing the areas to be stocked with pheasants during the small game season, visit NJFishandWildlife.com/smgame_info.htm.

Quail Season Closed

In an effort to reverse the decline of quail 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 falconers the opportunity to hunt for quail.

No person may release quail for dog training purposes on the following WMAs: Buckshutem, Dix, Egg Island, Fortescue, Millville (Bevans), Nantuxent, New Sweden and Stafford Forge.

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 57 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.

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.

Squirrel Muzzleloading Rifle Season Zones

For a complete description of the squirrel hunting areas, scan this QR code with your mobile device or go to NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/squirrelzones.htm.

Fish and Wildlife anticipates pheasant and quail releases to follow as shown in the table on page 55. However, the stocking schedule is not finalized until approved by the Fish and Game Council in October when it will be published on our website at the link below. Also, the schedule is subject to pheasant production issues and may change due to rain or emergency weather conditions. For these unplanned stocking schedule changes or other necessary adjustments, visit our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/smgame_info.htm.

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

Your questions about recent changes to the pheasant allocation are sure to be answered in *Pheasant Allocation Formula: Maximizing Hunter Safety and Satisfaction* on page 16.

Quail, Northern Bobwhite

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.

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 27 and *General Small Game Hunting Methods*, page 54.

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 57 for season dates and bag limits.

Raccoon, Opossum & Skunk

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 57 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. Persons may hunt raccoon and opossum on Sunday mornings only between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and one hour before sunrise during the prescribed season. Special Permit Coyote and Fox hunters may harvest opossum, raccoon and skunk incidentally.

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. Apprentice License holder are not permitted to hunt at night.

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 15. South of Rt. 70 the season will begin Nov. 12 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 57 for season dates and bag limits.

Semi-Wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting

Hunting for pheasant, quail and partridge is allowed from Nov. 11 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. 4—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.

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 27 and *General Small Game Hunting Methods*, page 54. See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 57.

Squirrel, Muzzleloading Rifle Season

Persons holding a current and valid firearm license and rifle permit may hunt for squirrels from sunrise to ½ hour after sunset with a muzzleloading rifle (.36 caliber or smaller loaded with a single projectile) during the periods Sept. 30–Nov. 10, 2017 and Jan. 6–Feb. 24, 2018. See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 57.

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

Continued on page 58.

2017–18 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. 11–Dec. 2; Dec. 11, 12, 14–30, 2017 and Jan. 1–31, 2018 (except Sundays)	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	4	8 a.m. start on Nov. 11 **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 *Semi-Wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting*, page 56.)**
Coyote* and Fox, General All coyote must be reported within 24 hrs.	**Bow and Arrow only:** Sept. 30–Nov. 10 **Firearm or Bow and Arrow:** Nov. 11–Mar. 15 (except Sundays)	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 11 Deer hunters may harvest coyote and fox during all open deer seasons with restrictions as specified under Small Game Hunting, ***Coyote and Fox***, page 54. **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 (except Sundays) (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, ***Coyote and Fox***, page 55. Calling and standing hunting only. Predator calling device must be in possession. See ***Coyote/Fox Season*** table, page 54, 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 10–20 gauge shotguns are permitted. See pellet restrictions in table on page 54. **Coyote/fox Permit required.**
Crow** (Mon., Thurs., Fri., Sat.)	Aug. 14–Dec. 2** and Dec. 11, 2017–Mar. 17, 2018 (See **Notes**.)	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 11 Maximum shot size is #4
Grouse, Ruffed**	**North of Rt. 70**: Oct. 21–Dec. 2; Dec. 11, 12, 14–30 **South of Rt. 70**: Nov. 11–Dec. 2; Dec. 11, 12, 14–30 (except Sundays)	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	2	8 a.m. start on Nov. 11
Opossum, Raccoon & Skunk	Oct. 2–Mar. 1 (except Sunday evenings)	1 hour after sunset to 1 hour before sunrise	No limit	**Rifle Permit required when hunting with rifle.** 7:39 p.m. start on Oct. 2. Closed Dec. 4–9 and Dec. 13
Pheasant & Partridge	Nov. 11–Dec. 2; Dec. 11, 12, 14–30, 2017; Jan. 1–Feb. 19, 2018	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Partridge — 7 Pheasant — 2	8 a.m. start on Nov. 11 Pheasant and Quail Stamp required on designated areas (see ***Small Game Hunting*** page 55).
Rabbit, Hare & Jackrabbit**	Sept. 30–Dec. 2; Dec. 11, 12, 14–30, 2017; Jan. 1–Feb. 24, 2018	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Cottontail — 4 Hare — 1 Jackrabbit — 1	8 a.m. start on Nov. 11. Air guns are legal to harvest rabbits, hare and jackrabbit. See ***Rabbit and Hare***, page 56.
Squirrel, Gray**	Sept. 30–Dec. 2; Dec. 11, 12, 14–30, 2017; Jan. 1–Feb. 24, 2018	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	8 a.m. start on Nov. 11. Air guns are legal to harvest squirrel. See ***Squirrel, Regular Season*** page 56.
Squirrel, Gray: Muzzleloading Rifle (.36 caliber or smaller)	Sept. 30–Nov. 10, 2017 and Jan. 6–Feb. 24, 2018	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	**Rifle permit required.** Designated areas only (see ***Squirrel, ML Rifle Season*** page 56).
Turkey (Fall, Either-Sex)	(Period N) Oct. 28–Nov. 4, 2017	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 23–May 25, 2018	½ hour before sunrise to noon; starting May 14, hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset	1 Male Turkey per permit	Permit required. See turkey hunting regulation, page 58.
Turkey (Spring Gobbler, Youth)	(Period Y) April 21–May 25, 2018	½ hour before sunrise to noon; starting May 14, hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset	1 Male Turkey per permit	Permit required. See turkey hunting regulation, page 58.
Woodchuck: Bow, Rifle or Shotgun	Mar. 1–Sept. 27, 2017 Mar. 1–Sept. 26, 2018	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	**Rifle Permit required when hunting with rifle.** Rifle hunting prohibited on state property (see ***General Hunting Regulations***, page 26 and ***Woodchuck***, page 58).
Woodchuck:** Bow or Shotgun	Sept. 30–Dec. 2; Dec. 11, 12, 14–30, 2017; Jan. 1–Feb. 19, 2018	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 11
Woodcock**	**North of Rt. 70**: Oct. 21–Nov. 25 **South of Rt. 70**: Nov. 11–Dec. 2; Dec. 16–29	Sunrise to sunset	3 daily; 6 possession	**HIP number required (see page 65).** 8 a.m. start on Nov. 11
Youth Turkey Day	April 21, 2018	½ hour before sunrise to noon	1 Male Wild Turkey	**Permit required.**
Youth Upland Bird Days	Nov. 4 and 6–10	8 a.m. to sunset	Pheasant — 2 Quail — 4	Selected WMAs and licensed semi-wilds (see page 25).

* 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. 11 only on those WMAs designated as Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas shall be 8 a.m. See list of areas, page 55.

Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 Turkey Hunting Regulations

- **Bag Limit:** During the fall season, turkeys of either sex may be taken. During the spring season, only male turkey may be taken; bearded hens may not be taken in the spring. During both seasons, the bag limit is one turkey per permit, *but* only **one** bird may be taken in a given day, regardless of the number of permits a hunter holds.
- The fall lottery for turkey permits has been eliminated. A permit is still required (see page 14) and may be purchased at license agents or online at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com.
- Artificial decoys may be used while turkey hunting, except the use of electronically-operated decoys is prohibited. Dogs may be used for turkey hunting **only** during the fall season. 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.**
- Hunting methods during the spring gobbler season are restricted to calling or stand hunting.
- 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, during the fall season only, hunters may rush 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. Shotguns must be plugged to be capable of holding no more than three shells.
- Fluorescent hunter orange is not required to hunt turkeys.
- Properly licensed hunters may use archery tackle to hunt turkeys. Bows used for turkey hunting (long, recurve, compound or crossbow) must have a minimum draw pull weight of 35 pounds at the archer's draw length (long and recurve bow), 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 inch.
- While turkey hunting, a weapon may not be in possession within 300 feet of any baited area.

Mandatory Turkey Check Requirement

All harvested turkeys must be tagged **immediately** with a completed transportation tag. A turkey must be taken by the person who killed it, on the day killed, to the nearest turkey check station where personnel will issue a legal possession tag. See page 60 for a list of official turkey check stations to locate one closest to your hunting area.

NOTE: During Youth Turkey Hunting Day, hunting periods A, B, C and the first three Saturdays of hunting period E, the turkey must be taken to the nearest check station by 3 p.m. During hunting period D and the last Saturday of hunting period E, the turkey must be taken to the nearest check station by 9 p.m. During the Fall Turkey Season, the turkey must be taken to the nearest check station by 7 p.m. In the event a turkey is killed too late to register at a check station, call the nearest Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement Office (see page 41) and leave a message including your name, phone number, CID number and the Turkey Hunting Area where the bird was taken. The bird must be checked the next day. If it was butchered, bring all remaining parts (beard, head, legs, etc.) to the check station.

In the future turkey hunters will be able to report their turkeys via the Electronic License System. Once this is active, complete instructions will be available on Fish and Wildlife's website at NJFishandWildlife.com and printed in the next hunting Digest. Subscribe to our email lists at NJFishandWildlife.com/lstsub.htm to be notified of Fish and Wildlife updates and events, including any changes to the harvest reporting system.

Turkey Season Dates and Hunting Hours

The 2017 fall turkey season will consist of one seven day hunting segment, N, (excluding Sunday) from Saturday, Oct. 28 through Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017. Fall hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.

Hunting hours for the spring season are one-half hour before sunrise until noon daily, except 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 one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. These expanded hunting hours during the last two weeks of the season allow opportunities for working and youth hunters.

Coyotes may be harvested incidentally while turkey hunting. See page 55.

Continued from page 56.

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 ½ hour after sunset. See chart above for woodchuck hunting details.

Woodchuck Season

Dates	Weapon Type Permitted	Gauge, Caliber or Weight	Projectile(s)
March 1 to Sept. 27, 2017 March 1 to Sept. 26, 2018	Center-fire rifle	.25 caliber or less	Hollow point, soft point or expanding lead core bullets of any weight.
		Larger than .25 caliber	Hollow point, soft point or expanding lead core bullets of any weight not exceeding 80 grains in weight.
	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.
	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 ¾"
	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. 30–Dec. 2 and Dec. 11, 12, 14–30, 2017 Jan. 1–Feb. 19, 2018	**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 ¾"
	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

2018 Spring Gobbler Hunting Season Dates

Hunting Period	Dates
Youth Turkey Hunting Day (10–16 years of age) Hunting Period Y	Sat., April 21 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 A	Mon., April 23–Fri., April 27
Hunting Period B	Mon., April 30–Fri., May 4
Hunting Period C	Mon., May 7– Fri., May 11
Hunting Period D	Mon., May 14– Fri., May 18; Mon., May 21–Fri., May 25
Hunting Period E	All Saturdays, April 28, May 5, May 12 and May 19

Turkey Hunting Areas

Map for general reference only. For a complete description of the Turkey Hunting Area boundaries, scan this QR code with your mobile device or visit our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/turkeyareas.htm.

Spring Turkey Hunting Supplement and Permit Information

Printing a separate Spring Turkey Hunting Supplement booklet has been discontinued. All regulation and permit information are contained in this *Digest*. See page 14 for information on applying for spring turkey hunting permits.

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 our website for the seminars scheduled during March or April.

Youth Turkey Hunt Day

April 21, 2018 (See page 25)

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 25).

All youth turkey hunters 10 to 16 years of age must possess a valid **spring turkey hunting permit** in addition to their **youth** hunting license.

Youth hunters must be accompanied by a properly licensed, non-hunting adult age 21 or older who may not shoot on this youth day.

This season is considered an **extension** of the regular season permit held by the youth.

If youth hunter harvests a turkey on this youth hunting day, the "Y" Period permit is no longer valid for future hunting.

Non-hunting adults accompanying youth turkey hunters need only have in possession a valid hunting license. Spring and fall turkey hunting are by permit only. See *Turkey Hunting Permits, General,* page 12. For farmers, see *Farmer Turkey Permits*, page 30.

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.

Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 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
Mighty Joe's Texaco, 1231 Rt. 206 S., Shamong. . (609) 268-0303
Sportsman's Center, Rt. 130, Bordentown . . . . (609) 298-5300

CAMDEN
Atco Sports Center, 177 Atco Ave., Atco. . . . . (856) 767-9446

CAPE MAY
Belle Plain Supply,
346 Handisville Ave., Belle Plain . . . . . (609) 861-2345

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
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

MONMOUTH
Ken's Taxidermy, 389 Rt. 79, Morganville . . . . . (908) 670-9497
Cream Ridge Sports Shop,
445 Rt. 539, Cream Ridge. . . . . (609) 758-0616
L&H Woods and Water, 2045 Rt. 35, Wall. . . . . (732) 282-1812

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

OCEAN
Tips Hardware, 218 Main Street, West Creek . . (609) 296-3192

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

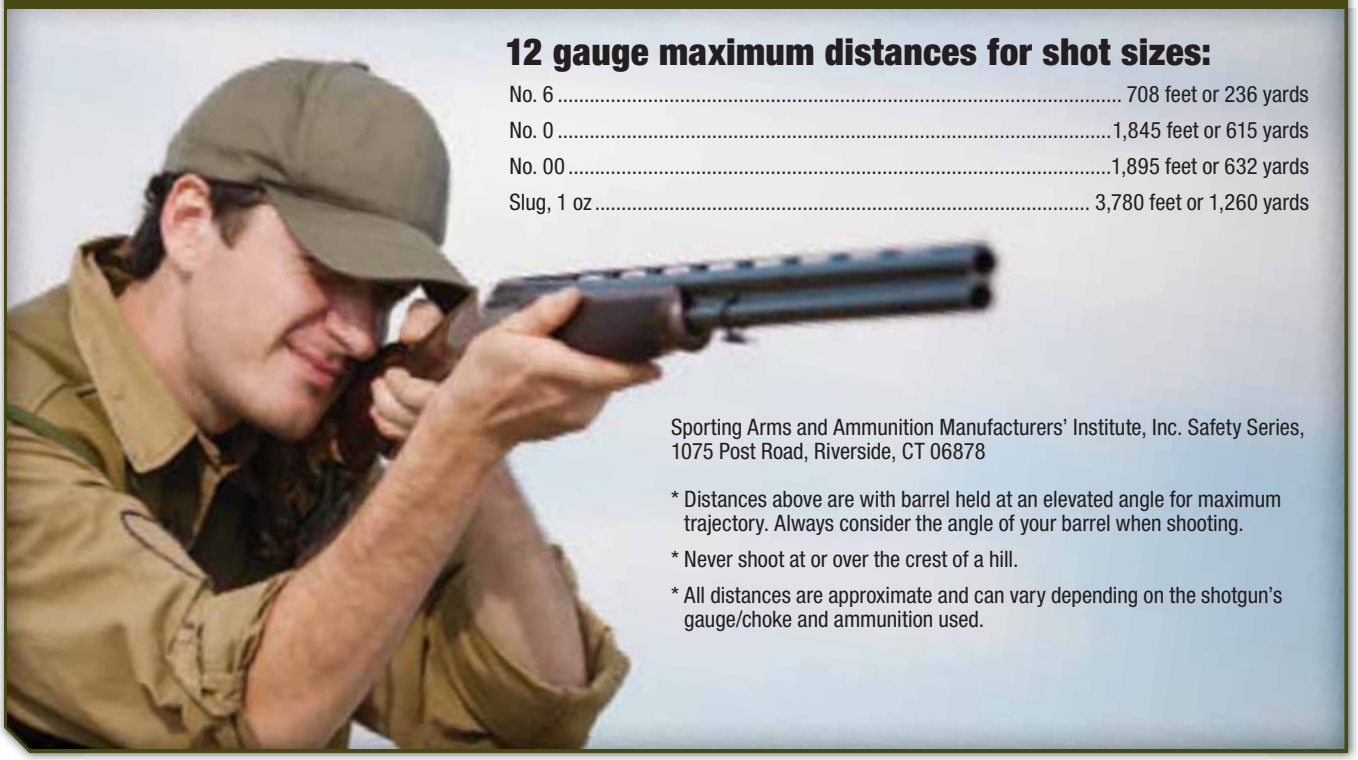
SALEM
Salem Boat Exchange,
1163 South Broadway, Pennsville . . . . . (856) 935-2515
Sam's Super Service, 290 Rt. 40, Elmer . . . . . (856) 358-3488

SOMERSET
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) 383-5470

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

How Far Can Your Firearm Shoot?



12 gauge maximum distances for shot sizes:

No. 6 ..... 708 feet or 236 yards
No. 0 ..... 1,845 feet or 615 yards
No. 00 ..... 1,895 feet or 632 yards
Slug, 1 oz ..... 3,780 feet or 1,260 yards

Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute, Inc. Safety Series, 1075 Post Road, Riverside, CT 06878

* 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.

Public Turkey Hunting Land in New Jersey

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 1
- Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area
- Flatbrook-Roy WMA
- Hainesville WMA
- Stokes State Forest

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 2
- Bear Swamp WMA
- Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area
- Flatbrook-Roy WMA
- Paulinskill WMA
- Stokes State Forest
- Swartswood State Park
- Trout Brook WMA
- Walpack WMA
- White Lake WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 3
- Columbia WMA (partial)
- Delaware Water Gap Nat'l Recreation Area
- Worthington State Forest

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 4
- Allamuchy Mountain State Park
- Beaver Brook WMA
- Columbia WMA (partial)
- Honey Run WMA
- Jenny Jump State Forest
- Stephens State Park
- Whittingham WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 5
- Kittatinny Valley State Park
- Paulinskill WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 6
- Abram Hewitt State Forest
- Hamburg Mountain WMA
- Long Pond Ironworks State Park
- Norvin Green State Forest
- Ramapo Mountain State Forest
- Ringwood State Park
- Wawayanda State Park

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 7
- Berkshire Valley WMA
- Farny State Park
- Rockaway River WMA
- Sparta Mountain WMA
- Weldon Brook WMA
- Wildcat Ridge WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 8
- Buckhorn Creek WMA
- Clinton WMA
- Musconetcong River WMA
- Pequest WMA
- Pohatcong Creek WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 9
- Black River WMA
- Hacklebarney State Park
- Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
- Musconetcong River WMA
- Pequest WMA
- Rockport WMA
- South Branch WMA
- Voorhees State Park

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 10
- Black River WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 11
- Alexauken Creek WMA
- Lockatong WMA
- Six Mile Run Reservoir State Park (bow only)

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 12
- Assunpink WMA
- Turkey Swamp WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 14
- Brendan T. Byrne State Forest
- Colliers Mills WMA
- Double Trouble State Park
- Forked River Mountain WMA
- Greenwood Forest WMA
- Manahawkin WMA
- Manasquan WMA
- Manchester WMA
- Medford WMA
- Pleasant Run WMA
- Whiting WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 15
- Wharton State Forest

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 16
- Bass River State Forest
- Hammonton Creek WMA
- Penn State Forest
- Port Republic WMA
- Stafford Forge WMA
- Swan Bay WMA
- Warren Grove Recreation Area
- Wharton State Forest

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 20
- Abbotts Meadow WMA
- Cohansey River MWA
- DOD Ponds WMA
- Elmer Lake WMA
- Gum Tree Corner WMA
- Harrisonville Lake WMA
- Mad Horse Creek WMA
- Maskells Mill Pond WMA
- Salem River WMA
- Thundergut Pond WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 21
- Buckshutem WMA
- Cedar Lake WMA
- Cedarville Pond WMA
- Cohansey River WMA
- Dix WMA
- Egg Island WMA
- Fortescue WMA
- Glassboro WMA
- Nantuxent WMA
- New Sweden WMA
- Millville WMA
- Parvin State Park
- Union Lake WMA
- White Oak Branch WMA
- Winslow WMA

TURKEY HUNTING AREA 22
- Beaver Swamp WMA
- Belleplain State Forest
- Cape May Wetlands WMA
- Dennis Creek WMA
- Gibson Creek WMA
- Great Egg Harbor WMA
- Heislerville WMA
- Higbee Beach WMA
- Makepeace Lake WMA
- Maple Lake WMA
- Menantico Ponds WMA
- Peaslee WMA
- Tuckahoe WMA

REGULATIONS

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 a previous 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 6:00 a.m. on the first day of any open trapping season indicated in this section.
- **No trapper may set cable restraint traps prior to 6 a.m. on Jan. 1 on any wildlife management area where pheasants or quail are released.** Areas include Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Bevans (Millville), Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Flatbrook-Roy, Glassboro, Greenwood Forest (incl. Howardsville), Heislerville, MacNamara (Tuckahoe), Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Stafford Forge, Walpack, Winslow and Whittingham WMAs. **ONLY cage and foot-encapsulating traps may be set on the above WMA between Nov. 15 and Dec. 31.** Trapping is prohibited at all times on the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.
- All traps must be checked and tended at least once every 24 hours, preferably in the morning except traps set for semi-aquatic species in tidal waters **only** must be checked once per calendar day.
- 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.
- Any person (including a farmer) who traps a coyote must report their harvest to the nearest Division Regional Law Enforcement Office [**North**—(908) 735-8240; **Central**—(609) 259-2120; **South**— (856) 629-0555] within 24 hours. Callers must identify themselves by name, CID# and daytime phone number.
- Licensed trappers may use an air gun (not smaller than .177 caliber nor larger than .22 caliber) or a center- or rim-fire rifle (not larger than .22 caliber) using only .22 caliber short ammunition to dispatch legally trapped animal other than muskrat. Youth trappers (ages 12–13) using any firearm to dispatch must be accompanied by—and under the direct supervision of—a properly licensed adult (at least 21 years of age). A Rifle Permit is required when using center- or rim-fire rifles, but is not required when using an air gun. Firearms may not be loaded with more than three rounds. See page 29 for safety zone information that also applied to trappers. While trapping is legal within a safety zone, one cannot possess a loaded firearm within a safety zone unless having written permission, in possession, from the property owner or lessee.

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 damage control 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.

Fish and Wildlife's 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 received 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:

- **Season Dates:** Dec. 26–Feb. 9
- **Bag Limits:** 8 beaver per permit; 1 otter per season.
- Recreational permit holders may use up to five traps daily per zone for beaver and up to three traps daily for otter. Damage control beaver permit holders may use up to 10 traps daily per site. Holders of both recreational and damage control beaver permits in the same zone may use a maximum of 10 traps daily. All traps must be checked and tended at least once per every 24 hours unless in tidal waters.
- **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.
- 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 (tentative) on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018 (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. 16 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 and are widely distributed across the state's northern counties. Fishers have returned naturally—thanks to reintroduction efforts in NY and PA—to their historic range and have been documented in several northern and southern counties.

There is no open season for either bobcat or fisher. Possession is restricted to those animals legally harvested in other U.S. states or Canadian provinces with proper documentation.

Trappers finding a bobcat on their trapline are required to report the occurrence within 24 hours by calling 1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337), but are strongly encouraged to call IMMEDIATELY upon discovery of a bobcat (or fisher) in any trap. If the bobcat is alive, call 1-877-WARN-DEP. A Fish and Wildlife Trapper Response Team technician will go to the site to safely release the bobcat. Data will be collected from the animal and ear tags will be inserted for future identification.

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

- **Season Dates:** Nov. 15–Mar. 15* (Exception: fisher—no open season. Call 1-877-927-6337 to report any fisher capture.)
- **Bag Limits:** No daily or seasonal bag limit for any of these species.
- No trap may set prior to 6 a.m. Nov. 15. All traps must be tended once every 24 hours, preferably in the morning.

***The following state wildlife management areas are closed to trapping with *cable restraints* until 6 a.m. Jan. 1:** Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Bevans (Millville), Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Flatbrook-Roy, Glassboro, Greenwood Forest (incl. Howardsville tract), Heislerville, MacNamara (Tuckahoe), Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Stafford Forge, Walpack, Winslow and Whittingham. Cage and foot-encapsulating traps may be set on these WMAs beginning 6 a.m. Nov. 15. **Trapping is prohibited at all times on the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.**

Mink, Muskrat and Nutria Trapping

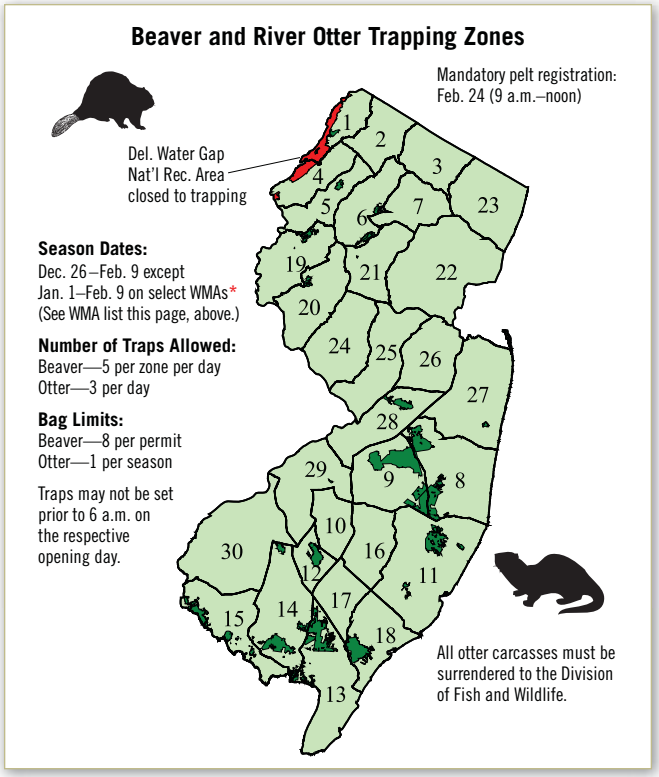
- **Season Dates:** *(North Zone)* Nov. 15–Mar. 15 in those portions of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties lying north and west beginning at the intersection of U.S. Rt. 1 and the Delaware River at Trenton; then north along 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.
- **Season Dates:** *(South Zone)* Dec. 1–Mar. 15 in those portions of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem counties lying south and east of the aforementioned line above.
- **Bag Limits:** No daily or seasonal bag limits for any of these species.
- Traps may not be set prior to 6 a.m. on the respective opening day. All traps set for these semi-aquatic species in tidal waters **only** must be checked once per calendar day. Non-tidal water sets must be checked once every 24 hours, preferably in the morning
- **Trapping is prohibited at all times on the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.**

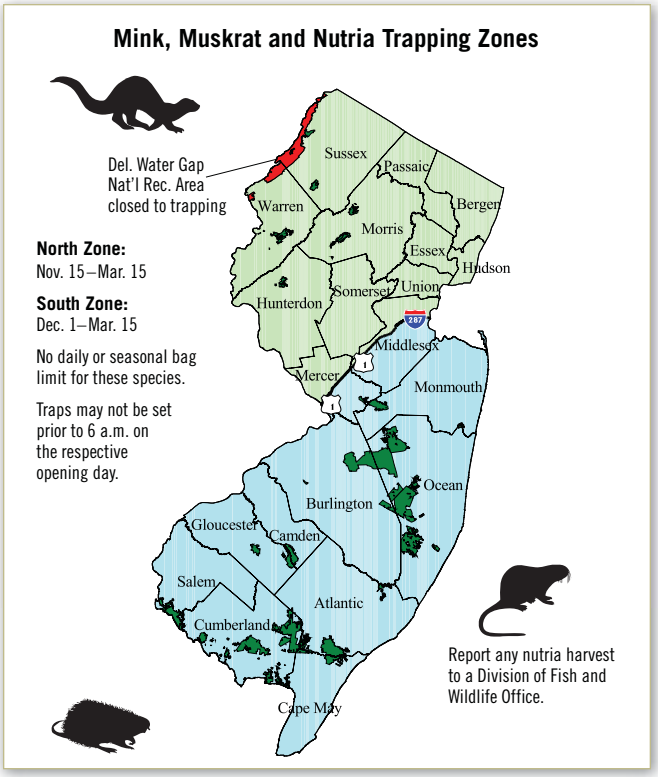
Traps, Body-gripping or Killer-type

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.





Joe Garris/ NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Traps, Leg-hold

It is illegal to possess or use any steel-jawed leg-hold type trap (i.e., any coil-spring or longspring trap) anywhere in New Jersey. Foot-encapsulating traps which do not fall under this trap category may be possessed and used.

Traps, Live-capture Cable Restraints

- 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.
- A relaxing lock is defined as one that stops tightening when the animal stops pulling against the cable restraint. Cam-locks and spring-assisted locking systems are prohibited.
- 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 and skunk 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, 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.

Be a Conservation-Minded Trapper

If an accidental bobcat trapping occurs, it is **mandatory** that you immediately call NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife's Trapper Response Team at **(877) WARN-DEP (877-927-6337)** while the bobcat is held in the trap so that we may obtain genetic samples.

For tips to avoid the accidental capture of bobcat or to prevent injury if one is trapped, scan the QR code, to the right.

Scan this code for Trapping Tips to Prevent the Accidental Capture of —and Injury to — Bobcat or visit NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/traptips.htm

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:
  www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/ensp/rprtform.htm. *Data from south Jersey is of particular interest.*
- **Dead on the road**—call 1-877-WARN-DEP (877-927-6337) to report the carcass location.

© George Cevera

It is illegal to possess incidentally trapped or road-killed bobcat from New Jersey.

New Jersey Migratory Bird Regulations

Major Changes for the 2017–18 Season

- The black duck daily bag limit has increased to two birds.
- The pintail daily bag limit is reduced to one bird.
- Barnegat Inlet is closed to all migratory bird hunting. See page 67 for details.
- Brant season will be concurrent with duck season in each zone with a bag limit of 2 brant.
- The Special Sea Duck Area was changed to include only waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

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 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) are required for all waterfowl hunters 16 years and older and must be signed in ink. New Jersey Stamp Certifications 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/birds/get-involved/duck-stamp/buy-duck-stamp.php.

Harvest Information Program (HIP)

All hunters must obtain an HIP certification **before** hunting ducks, geese, brant, coot, woodcock, rails, snipe or gallinules. Hunters may purchase an HIP certification in three ways:

1. **From a License Agent**
2. **Online at NJ.WildlifeLicense.com**
3. **By calling the toll-free NJ Telephone Sales Line at (888) 277-2015**

All three methods allow hunters to go hunting immediately after registering. Online and license agent HIP certifications cost $2 while telephone HIP certifications will include a shipping/handling fee and cost $5.13. Internet HIP certifications can be printed on a home computer. Telephone HIP certifications will be received in about one week; however, hunters can begin hunting immediately by recording their HIP certification number.

HIP certification should be carried in the hunter's license holder and are valid from Sept. 1 to April 15 the following year. Information collected for HIP is confidential and used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for conducting migratory bird harvest surveys.

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 two ways to report bands:

1. **Online:** reportband.gov
2. **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.

Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

Youth hunters must possess a valid Youth Firearms License—OR be less than 16 years of age and qualified to hunt without a license under the farmer license exemption (see page 30)—to hunt the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days as detailed on page 24.

All youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a licensed, non-hunting adult 21 years of age or older.

Summary of Federal Regulations

The following is a synopsis of Federal Regulations that pertain to the hunting of migratory game birds. More information can be found at: NJFishandWildlife.com/pdf/waterfowl_federal_regs.pdf or by calling the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Office at (908) 787-1321.

No persons shall take migratory game birds:

- By the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. **Baiting** means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them. **Baited area** means any area on which salt, grain, or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered, if that salt, grain, or other feed could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for ten days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed.
- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machinegun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance;
- With a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three shells. **Exceptions: In New Jersey, shotguns capable of holding no more than 7 shells are permitted during the September Canada goose season and the Light Goose Conservation Order.**
- From or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox or any other type of low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water;
- From or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind, except that paraplegics and persons missing one or both legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance;
- From or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress there from has ceased. Exception: crippled birds may be shot from craft under power in the Special Sea Duck Area.
- By the use or aid of live birds as decoys; although not limited to, it shall be a violation of this paragraph for any person to take migratory waterfowl on an area where tame or captive live ducks or geese are present unless such birds are and have been for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to such taking, confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of wild migratory waterfowl;
- By the use or aid of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds. **Exceptions: In New Jersey, hunters can use electronic calls during: crow season, September Canada goose season and the Light Goose Conservation Order.**
- By means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird.

Tagging requirement—No person shall put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than at his personal abode), or in the custody of another person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, or storage (including temporary storage), or for the purpose of having taxidermy services performed, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter, stating his address, the total number and species of birds, and the date such birds were killed. Migratory game birds being transported in any vehicle as the personal baggage of the possessor shall not be considered as being in storage or temporary storage.

Custody of birds of another—No person shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

Species identification requirement—No person shall transport within the United States any migratory game birds, except doves and band-tailed pigeons, unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to each such bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

New Jersey State Regulations

State laws and regulations may be more stringent but not more lenient than those prescribed in federal regulations (50 CFR Part 20).

Restrictions:

a. **Migratory bird hunting is not permitted on Sunday in New Jersey.**
b. No person may take rails or snipe while possessing shot other than non-toxic shot.
c. The starting time to hunt waterfowl on opening day of pheasant season (Nov. 11, 2017) is 8 a.m. on wildlife management areas stocked with pheasant and quail except the tidal waters or marshes of those WMAs. See page 55 for pheasant and quail stocked WMAs. The starting time to hunt waterfowl on opening day of the pheasant season conforms to the regular start time (e.g. 1/2 hr. before sunrise) on private

Nontoxic Shot Regulations

In New Jersey, no person may take ducks, geese, brant, coots, rails, snipe or moorhens while possessing shot other than approved non-toxic shot which includes: steel, tungsten-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-nickel-iron, tungsten-iron-nickel-tin, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-iron-polymer, bismuth-tin, copper-clad iron, tungsten-iron-copper-nickel, tungsten-tin-iron and tungsten-tin-bismuth shot types. Shot size may not exceed Size T (0.200 inch) for waterfowl. See http://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/hunting/nontoxic.php for more information. For crows and woodcock, shot size may not exceed Size #4 and although lead shot is permitted, hunters are encouraged to use non-toxic shot.

Hunting Hours

See page 81 for sunrise/sunset table.

- Duck, goose, brant, coot, rail, moorhen, snipe—**1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset**. For example, if sunrise is 6:30 a.m. and sunset is 5:00 p.m., hunting hours for these species are 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Woodcock—**sunrise to sunset**.
- Crow—**sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset**.
- September Canada Goose and the Spring Light Goose Conservation Order—**1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset**.

Waterfowl Blinds

No permanent waterfowl blinds, including pit blinds, shall be constructed, hunted from or used in any manner on these WMAs:

1. Assunpink
2. Black River
3. Colliers Mills
4. Hainesville
5. Tuckahoe
6. Manahawkin
7. Stafford Forge
8. Whittingham
9. Beaver Swamp
10. Sedge Island
11. Salem River
12. Prospertown
13. Paulinskill

Any blind used on these WMAs must be portable and completely removed by day's end. Blinds remaining on WMAs are subject to confiscation and disposal by Fish and Wildlife.

land, tidal marshes, WMAs not stocked with pheasant and quail, and the tidal marsh portions of pheasant and quail stocked WMAs.

d. There shall be **no open season** for hunting any game birds or animals including migratory waterfowl:
   - » In or on the shores of the Shark River in Monmouth County.
   - » In that portion of the Manasquan River from the ocean inlet upstream to Route 70 bridge.
   - » On Herring Island and that portion of Barnegat Bay lying between northern and southern tips of Herring Island easterly to adjacent shoreline of Mantoloking Boro, Ocean County.
   - » On Parker Creek and Oceanport Creek, Monmouth County, or the shores thereof, southwest or upstream of the Conrail R.R. bridge.
   - » On the **non-tidal portions** of Cox Hall Creek WMA in Cape May County.
   - » In the waters or shoreline of Barnegat Inlet westward from the COLREGS Demarcation Line; to the north end of Broadway in Barnegat Light; then northwest to Red Buoy 14 in the channel (39.763783 N; 074.109283 W); then northeast to the westernmost section of rock jetty at Island Beach State Park. See map below.

e. It is unlawful for any person to leave the edible portions (defined as the breast meat) of migratory birds (excepting crows) to waste. Edible portions (see illustration, page 28) do not include 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.

f. Waterfowl hunting on Delaware River is governed by state boundaries and restricted to respective state seasons.

g. Permanent blinds may not be constructed on some state wildlife management areas.

h. Arrows with flu-flu type fletching are required for taking *flying* game birds. Arrows with edged heads are prohibited for taking *flying* game birds.

2018 Spring Light Goose Conservation Order — Feb. 16–Apr. 7, 2018

1. Electronic calls are permitted.
2. Shotguns capable of holding no more than 7 shells (including magazine and chamber) are permitted.
3. Shooting hours: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
4. A valid hunting license, federal and state duck stamps, HIP certification and NJ Light Goose Conservation Order (CO) Permit ($2) are required.
5. The NJ Light Goose CO Permit is available ONLY from the Division's web site or by mailing: Light Goose Permit, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420. A request for mailed permits must include:
   - a) Photocopy of 2018 Hunting or All-around Sportsman license that clearly shows the Conservation ID Number and DOB
   - b) Check or money order for $2 payable to NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
   - c) Self-addressed, stamped envelope
   - d) Daytime telephone number

The light goose permit will not be available until January 2018. As part of the permit process, hunters will be required to report their activity and harvest as requested on the permit. Check the Division's web site in late winter for more details.

Falconry—Special season dates and bag limits apply. Contact NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife at (908) 735-8793.

Barnegat Light Inlet Waterfowl Hunting Closure Area

Attention Waterfowl Hunters

Special Regulations Permitted During September Canada Goose Season, Sept. 1–30, 2017 Only

Special regulations designed to help curb the growth of resident population Canada geese.

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.

Migratory Bird Zoned Hunting Seasons, 2017-18

Migratory Bird Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits[1]
North Zone		
Ducks, Brant, Mergansers and Coot	Oct. 14–Oct. 21 Nov. 11–Jan. 11	**Ducks:** 6 in aggregate from Duck Limits* below; **Mergansers**[2]: 5 **Coot:** 15 **Brant:** 2
Canada Geese (Regular Season) — Singly or in aggregate to include Cackling and White-fronted Goose	Nov. 11–Nov. 25 Dec. 9–Jan. 20	3
Youth Waterfowl Days	Oct. 7 and Feb. 3	Same limits for ducks, Canada geese, brant and light geese within each zone
South Zone		
Ducks, Brant, Mergansers and Coot	Oct. 21–Oct. 28 Nov. 18–Jan. 18	**Ducks:** 6 in aggregate from Duck Limits* below; **Mergansers**[2]: 5 **Coot:** 15 **Brant:** 2
Canada Geese (Regular Season) — Singly or in aggregate to include Cackling and White-fronted Goose	Nov. 18–Dec. 2 Dec. 9–Jan. 20	3
Youth Waterfowl Days	Oct. 14 and Feb. 3	Same limits for ducks, Canada geese, brant and light geese within each zone
Coastal Zone		
Ducks, Brant, Mergansers and Coot	Nov. 9–Nov. 11 Nov. 23–Jan. 27	**Ducks:** 6 in aggregate from Duck Limits* below; **Mergansers**[2]: 5 **Coot:** 15 **Brant:** 2
Canada Geese (Regular Season) — Singly or in aggregate to include Cackling and White-fronted Goose	Nov. 9–Nov. 11 Nov. 18–Feb. 15	5
Youth Waterfowl Days	Nov. 4 and Feb. 10	Same limits for ducks, Canada geese, brant and light geese within each zone

Migratory Bird Statewide Hunting Seasons

Migratory Bird Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits[1]
Canada Geese (September Season[3])	Sept. 1–Sept. 30	15
Light Geese - Regular Season[4]	Oct. 17–Feb. 15	25, singly or in aggregate
Light Geese - Conservation Order[4]	Feb. 16–Apr. 7	No limit
Rail (Sora, Clapper and Virginia) and Gallinule	Sept. 1–Nov. 9	Sora & Virginia rail: 25 total or aggregate; Gallinule and Clapper rail: 10
Common Snipe	Sept. 16–Dec. 30	8
Crow	Aug. 14–Dec. 2 Dec. 11–Mar. 17 Mon., Thur., Fri., Sat. Only	No limit

Other Migratory Bird Seasons

Migratory Bird Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits[1]
Woodcock - North Zone	Oct. 21–Nov. 25	3
Woodcock - South Zone	Nov. 11–Dec. 2 and Dec. 16–Dec. 29	3
Sea Ducks in Special Sea Duck Area Only[5] (Black, Surf and White-winged Scoter; Long-tailed Duck and Eider only)	Nov. 4–Jan. 12	5, but no more than 4 scoters in aggregate, 4 long-tailed ducks or 4 eiders
Sea Ducks Outside Special Sea Duck Area	Same as ducks by zone	Count toward the bag limit of 6 ducks
Canada Geese (Special Winter Season Zones) — Singly or in aggregate to include Cackling and White-fronted Goose	Jan. 22–Feb. 15	5
Swans, harlequin duck, king rail and mourning dove	Closed	No Season

***Ducks Limits** – 6 ducks in aggregate and may not include more than:

Black duck - 2	Canvasback - 2	Long-tailed duck - 4	Ring-necked duck - 6	Wigeon - 6
Black-bellied whistling duck - 6	Eider - 4	Mallard - 4 (including no more than 2 hens)	Ruddy duck - 6	Wood duck - 3
Blue-winged teal - 6	Gadwall - 6	Pintail - 1	Scaup - 2	
Bufflehead - 6	Goldeneye - 6	Redhead - 2	Scoter - 4	
	Green-winged teal - 6		Shoveler - 6	

[1] **Possession Limits:** three times the daily limit for all species during each of the corresponding seasons. Exceptions: light geese and crows have no possession limit.

[2] **Mergansers** including common, red breasted and hooded, in aggregate of which only 2 may be hooded. Merganser limits are in addition to duck limits. See ***Duck Limits***, above.

[3] See special regulations only for **September Canada goose** hunting, page 67.

[4] Light geese include greater and lesser snow geese and Ross's geese

[5] **Special Sea Duck Area:** All New Jersey coastal waters seaward from the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) Demarcation Lines shown on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Nautical Charts and further described in 33 CFR 80 Districts 1 and 5.

Migratory Bird Zones

All migratory bird zones are described in detail at NJFishandWildlife.com/migbirdzones.htm

Waterfowl Zones

Applies to hunting duck, coot, merganser, regular season Canada goose, brant, regular season light goose and Youth Waterfowl Days.

Coastal Zone: That portion of the State seaward of a line beginning at the New York State line in Raritan Bay and extending west along the New York State line to NJ 440 at Perth Amboy; west on NJ 440 to the Garden State Parkway; south on the Garden State Parkway to NJ 109; south on NJ 109 to Cape May County Rt. 633 (Lafayette St.); south on Lafayette St. to Jackson St.; south on Jackson St. to the shoreline at Cape May; west along the shoreline of Cape May beach to COLREGS Demarcation Line 80.503 at Cape May Point; south along COLREGS Demarcation Line 80.503 to the Delaware state line in Delaware Bay.

North Zone: That portion of the State west of the Coastal Zone and north of a line extending west from the Garden State Parkway on NJ 70 to the NJ Turnpike, north on the turnpike to U.S. 206, north on U.S. 206 to U.S. 1 at Trenton, west on U.S. 1 to the Pennsylvania State line in the Delaware River.

South Zone: Portion of the State not within the North Zone or the Coastal Zone.

Special Sea Duck Zone

The area defined as all New Jersey coastal waters seaward from the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) Demarcation Lines shown on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Nautical Charts and further described in 33 CFR 80 Districts 1 and 5.

Woodcock Zones

North Zone—North of Rt. 70 from Point Pleasant to Camden.

South Zone—South of Rt. 70 from Point Pleasant to Camden.

Special Winter Canada Goose Season Hunting Areas

The two hatched areas are open to hunting. Scan this QR code with your mobile device or visit NJFishandWildlife.com/qr/migbirdzones.htm for detailed Special Winter Canada Goose Season hunting areas and all migratory bird hunting zone boundaries.

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!

Forty 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 youths, 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. 1, 2017
- **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!

35th Annual
Ocean County Decoy & Gunning Show
September 23 & 24, 2017
TIME: SAT: 7AM – 5PM
SUN: 7AM – 4PM
WHERE: TUCKERTON, NJ
ADMISSION: FREE Rain or Shine!
FOR FREE SHUTTLE BUS PARKING, PARK AT:
Pinelands Regional High School,
Tuckerton Seaport
Freedom Fields County Park
VISIT BOTH TUCKERTON LOCATIONS:
Tip Seaman County Park,
Lakeside Drive & Route 9
Tuckerton Seaport, Route 9
FEATURING
New & Antique Decoys • Hunting & Fishing Gear
Collectables • Duck Boats
Hunting Guide Services
Demonstrations
Music & Food
CONTESTS
Decoy Carving • Decorative Carving
Boat Building • Model Boats
Archery • Duck & Goose Calling
Dock Dogs • Hunting Retriever
Art & Photo • Youth Contests
Skeetshoot from a Sneakbox
Contest rules are on our website!
Bird of the Year: GADWALL
SPONSORED BY:
Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders
John C. Bartlett, Jr., Chairman of Parks & Recreation
Joseph H. Vicari - Director, Gerry P. Little - Deputy Director
John P. Kelly, Virginia E. Haines
Ocean County Department of Parks & Recreation
For more information call Wells Mills County Park: 609-971-3085
www.OceanCountyParks.org

Wildlife Management Area

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, metal detecting, swimming, picnicking and the use of unmanned aerial vehicles known as drones.

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.**

For information on WMA regulations and permit applications, write 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 (for the waterbodies listed below), or a photocopy of a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. Your Conservation ID number is clearly displayed; for privacy all other personal information may be blacked out. The boat ramp maintenance permit fee is $15, available from license agents or at Fish and Wildlife's Internet sales site. For more information see: NJFishandWildlife.com/wmaregs.htm.

Persons 70 years and older do not need a boat ramp maintenance permit or a 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
2. Assunpink
3. Dennis Creek
4. Tuckahoe
5. Mad Horse Creek
6. Union Lake
7. Menantico Ponds
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
2. Black River
3. Clinton
4. Colliers Mills
5. Glassboro
6. Hainesville
7. Manasquan
8. Millville
9. Pequest
10. Salem River
11. Stafford Forge
12. Tuckahoe
13. Whittingham
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. 11, 2017.

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

Firearm hunting on wildlife management areas on the day prior to the opening of the regular small game season for pheasants and quail is allowed. 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 *Quail Season Closed*, page 56.

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 .177 and .22 caliber rimfire or .177 through .25 caliber centerfire rifle ammo is allowed on WMAs. See Coyote/Fox ammo chart on page 54 for additional restrictions.

The use of air guns to hunt rabbit and squirrel is allowed on WMAs. See *Air Guns* page 27, and *Squirrel, Regular Season* on page 56.

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. A boat license and New Jersey boat safety certificate are required to operate a power vessel on non-tidal waters of New Jersey. A boat license is not required for non-powered vessels.

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.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles or Drones

The use of an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) or drone is prohibited on WMAs. A UAV is computer-controlled for nearly their entire flight either autonomously or by remote control by a pilot and has the capacity for autonomous flight and navigation.

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
2. Black River
3. Colliers Mills
4. Hainesville
5. Tuckahoe
6. Manahawkin
7. Stafford Forge
8. Whittingham
9. Beaver Swamp
10. Sedge Island
11. Salem River
12. Prospertown
13. Paulinskill

Any blind used in these WMAs must be portable and shall be completely removed at the day's end. Blinds remaining in WMAs are subject to confiscation and disposal by Fish and Wildlife.

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 are allowed on any WMA range, whether practicing at the provided backstop or shooting into your own target brought to the range.
- **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 base to 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 eliminates the risk of ricochet to ensure all projectiles are collected in the berm behind the 100 yard target.
- Spinner type targets for **.177** and .22 caliber **firearms** MUST be placed directly at the base of the 25 yard berm to direct all bullets 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)
- All target frames must measure a minimum 30 inches from base to 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 eliminates the risk of ricochet to ensure all projectiles are collected in the berm behind the 100 yard target.
- Spinner type targets for **.177** and .22 caliber **firearms** MUST be placed directly at the base of the 25 yard berm to direct all bullets into the berm. These targets are not to be used at other yardage or target mound placements.

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 11–14, 2018

At the Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's Show, their 35th year!

Raritan Center
Edison, New Jersey

Includes a Youth Division!
See page 73.

See New Jersey's most outstanding white-tailed deer for 2016–17

Awards ceremony on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Applications must be received by Nov. 1, 2017 to enter a deer harvested during last year's 2016–17 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 _____/_____/_____

ASK PERMISSION SEE LANDOWNER

This card provided by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish and Wildlife

HUNT/TRAP SMART

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 _____/_____/_____

ASK PERMISSION SEE LANDOWNER

Outdoor Recreation on Private Property is a Privilege — NOT A RIGHT

HUNT/TRAP SMART

Youth Division

New Jersey's Outstanding White-tailed Deer Program has a **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 **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

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.

Applications are due Nov. 1 — NO EXCEPTIONS.

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 2016–17 hunting seasons will be recognized at the 2018 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 2017 Garden State Deer Classic which **showcased outstanding deer taken during the 2015–16 deer hunting seasons, *not* the most recent 2016–17 hunting seasons**. These deer will be honored at the January 2018 Deer Classic and printed in next year's *Digest*.

2017 Garden State Deer Classic Winners*

Rank	Name	Score / Weight	County Harvested	DM Zone
200 Pound Buck				
1st	Ken Whitehead	201	Warren	5
Non-typical Archery				
1st	Lou Cornine	167 4/8	Monmouth	51
2nd	Kevin Pettit	165 6/8	Cumberland	31
3rd	Ken Whitehead	136 3/8	Warren	5
Non-typical Crossbow				
1st	Nicholas A. Bergamo	163 4/8	Cumberland	47
2nd	Christopher Viereck	155 2/8	Gloucester	35
3rd	Dale Cline	153 4/8	Salem	27
Non-typical Shotgun				
1st	John Beecher	139 2/8	Middlesex	15
2nd	Michael Fett	139 1/8	Warren	8
3rd	Kris Mayer	136 4/8	Warren	5
Typical Archery				
1st	Barrett Miller	160 0/8	Monmouth	17
2nd	Stephen D. Fox	157 5/8	Camden	49
3rd	Mark Spoto	149 0/8	Morris	36
Typical Crossbow				
1st	Jeffrey N. Lee	147 0/8	Warren	7
2nd	Chris Nelson	143 7/8	Mercer	14
3rd	Jeffrey Kramarz	143 2/8	Mercer	14
Typical Muzzleloader				
1st	Chris Mesogianes	139 2/8	Salem	27
2nd	Ferdinand Van Strander	131 7/8	Sussex	3
Typical Shotgun				
1st	Michael J. Tenuto	149 0/8	Gloucester	49
2nd	Jerry Meyerhoff	136 0/8	Somerset	8
3rd	R.J. Krajcsovics	131 1/8	Monmouth	17
Youth - Typical Archery				
1st	Matthew Mesogianes	122 3/8	Salem	63
2nd	Jack Bycsek	119 4/8	Somerset	12
Youth - Typical Crossbow				
1st	John S. Simone, III	147 6/8	Sussex	5
Youth - Typical Shotgun				
1st	Andrew Casto	125 1/8	Gloucester	35
2nd	Dominic Sayres	124 5/8	Cumberland	29

* For deer harvested during the 2015 –16 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.

* 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

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

© JeffCrawn.com

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, reindeer) 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 26 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), and free-ranging deer and elk in Arkansas (2015) and in free-ranging reindeer in Norway (2016).

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 6,700 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

Areas with CWD infected Cervid populations

States/Provinces where CWD has been found in captive populations

Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance (www.cwd-info.org)

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.

United Bowhunters of New Jersey

Working to protect the environment through renewable and natural resource conservation.

Contact John Erndl, President
(732) 616-5137 or
email: john.erndl@ubnj.org
Visit our website: www.ubnj.org

Please Print Clearly

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____ Date: _____

____Individual Membership:* $25/yr. Includes membership card, four issues of *Tracks & Trails*, decal and eligibility for contests, trophies and prizes.
*Required for UBNJ special hunts

____Family Membership: $40/yr. Includes all benefits of Individual Membership for the member, spouse and each child under the age of 16.
List names of family members: _____

____Junior Membership: $15/yr. Includes all benefits of Individual Membership for youth up to age 16.

____Life Membership: $400 single payment. Includes all benefits of Individual Membership.

____Sponsoring Membership: $100/yr.

For clubs and organizations, contact UBNJ for details.

Check One:
New Member:____
Renewal____

I wish to make a donation of $_____ to the UBNJ Protect our Rights Fund.

Signature: _____

Mail to: UBNJ Membership, P.O. Box 11, Ringwood, NJ 07456-0011.
Please allow 6 – 8 weeks to receive membership ID.

New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

If you care about:
- Wise management of fish and wildlife populations
- Protection and enhancement of natural lands and waters
- Preservation of traditional outdoor sports

Then get involved!
- Stay informed on issues affecting NJ sportsmen and sportswomen
- Make an impact on outdoor issues
- Meet others who share similar sporting interests
- Have fun and participate in Federation-sponsored activities: jamborees, clay target shoots, tournaments, dinners, conventions, and more!

Membership:

____$40 Includes monthly newspaper and $1 million excess liability insurance covering your sporting activities throughout the U.S. and Canada.

____$25 Monthly newspaper only

Name _____

County _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

❒ GO GREEN! Check here if you prefer to receive an e-mail-only newsletter.

Send with your check or money order to:
NJSFSC • PO Box: 10173 • Trenton, NJ 08650
Join online at
www.njsfsc.org

New Jersey to Increase American Black Duck Bag Limit

NJDFW

Data from banded black ducks (pictured) are critical for waterfowl management. Hunters can do their part by reporting banded waterfowl that they harvest.

By Ted Nichols, Wildlife Biologist

A New Jersey hunter shivers in his Barnegat Bay sneak box as a raw nor'easterly wind rips around the edge of his boat's spray curtain and down the back of his neck. *A lone duck in the distance, nothing but a silhouette against the slate gray December clouds, turns and cups its wings toward his decoys. His Labrador retriever—ice balls forming on her neck and chest fur, eyes fixed on the approaching duck—whines and trembles with anticipation. When the duck is 40 yards distant, the hunter sits up, mounts his gun, pushes the shotgun bead through the bird and is met with the metallic click of a firing pin falling on an empty chamber. Remembering that he had forgotten to reload his gun's chamber when he set it down to retrieve hot coffee just minutes before, the hunter makes a great recovery by racking the action then making a spot-on shot. Hearing her name, the Lab leaps into the tidal water to retrieve their prize—an American black duck.*

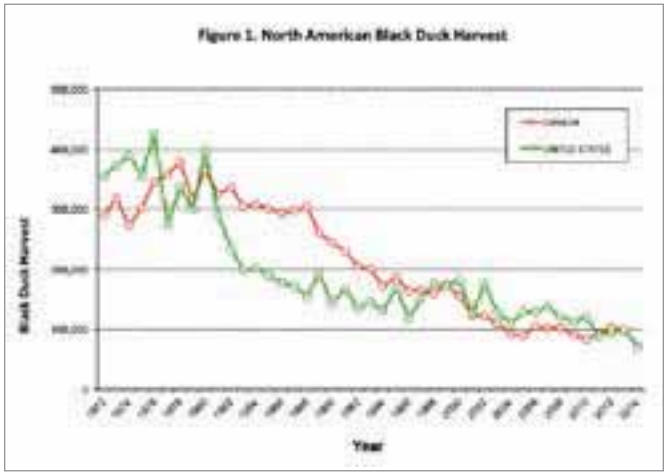
New Jersey has always been a key migration and wintering area for American black ducks in the Atlantic Flyway. In fact, over one-third of the black ducks in the U.S. portion of the Atlantic Flyway winter in New Jersey. Second only to mallards, black ducks comprise 17 percent of the annual duck harvest for Garden State hunters and are often referred to as the "bread and butter" duck of the salt marsh hunter.

For the first time since 1982, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will allow states to give their waterfowl hunters the opportunity to harvest two black ducks per day during the 2017-18 season as part of their daily bag limit of six total ducks. Three key elements have led to this change.

First, the number of duck hunters in both eastern Canada and the eastern U.S. has declined since the 1980s. So too has the harvest of black ducks, dropping by more than one-third since the late 1990s (Figure 1). However, during the same period, the black duck population has remained stable.

Second, waterfowl biologists have much better biological information on black ducks than they had during the first 20 years of restrictive black duck bag limits. During the early 1990s, breeding population surveys for black ducks were developed in eastern Canada and the U.S. and have been

Kyle Wintersteen/Delta Waterfowl



L. Clark

conducted annually since that time. This time series is long enough to provide reliable information on the trend and year-to-year fluctuations of the population (Figure 2). This survey indicates that the population is currently stable. In addition, an ongoing black duck banding program, coupled with band reporting from hunters, has provided annual estimates of harvest and survival rates. This information has enabled managers to evaluate how harvest affects black duck population dynamics.

Finally, this improved biological data described above has enabled biologists to construct a black duck population model that forms the basis for an International Black Duck Harvest Strategy. The Harvest Strategy, adopted in 2012, prescribes annual black duck hunting regulations in the U.S. and Canada. The three objectives of the Harvest Strategy are:

1. Maintain a sustainable black duck population;
2. Maintain a robust black duck hunting tradition;
3. Maintain the historical and equal proportion of the black duck harvest between Canada and the United States.

These developments have allowed biologists to gain better insight into one of the most debated questions in waterfowl management over the past half century: "What effect does hunting have on the population?" If survival rates of banded ducks are lower during years when harvest rates are high—and conversely, increase when harvest rates decline—then this would suggest that harvest has a significant effect on duck survival and perhaps population size. On the other hand, if there is little relationship between harvest rates and survival rates, this suggests that harvest has a limited effect on population size. The most recent results from the black duck population model indicate that at the current levels of hunting, harvest is not affecting annual black duck survival at the population scale. Accordingly, the Harvest Strategy allows for a more liberal black duck hunting regulations in 2017.

If liberalization of hunting regulations causes black duck survival to decrease and the population to decline, those signals will be detected through the annual monitoring programs and the appropriate regulation changes can be made to ensure that black duck harvest is sustainable over the long term.

Celebrating 80 Years of Support for Wildlife Conservation

By Bob Longcor, Federal Aid Coordinator

In 1937, the U.S. Congress passed what is arguably *the most effective conservation law in history*, the Pittman-Robertson (PR) Wildlife Restoration Act. The Act established an excise tax on firearms, ammunition and archery equipment that is apportioned back to states through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife Restoration Program to support the conservation mission of fish and wildlife agencies.

The Wildlife Restoration Program funds up to 75 percent of conservation project costs, with state fish and wildlife agencies typically matching the remaining 25 percent through hunting and fishing license revenues. Since the program's inception, **New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has received over $100 million in Pittman-Robertson funds**, matching it with approximately $33 million in license revenues and other sources. Combined, these funds have provided for conservation actions such as the preservation of over 35,000 acres of wildlife habitat, the restoration of white-tailed deer and wild turkey populations along with research and monitoring of an endangered shore bird, the red knot, among many other valuable wildlife projects.

The logo above serves not only to identify the federal program providing critical conservation dollars to the Division of Fish and Wildlife, it symbolizes the committed, 80-year partnership between the hunting and shooting-sports industries, millions of hunters plus state and federal wildlife agencies whose efforts have contributed to the restoration of many wildlife populations, generating a wide variety of hunting- and wildlife-associated recreation opportunities for the New Jersey public.

Craig Lemon/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Craig Lemon/NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife

Be The First To Know! Get on the List

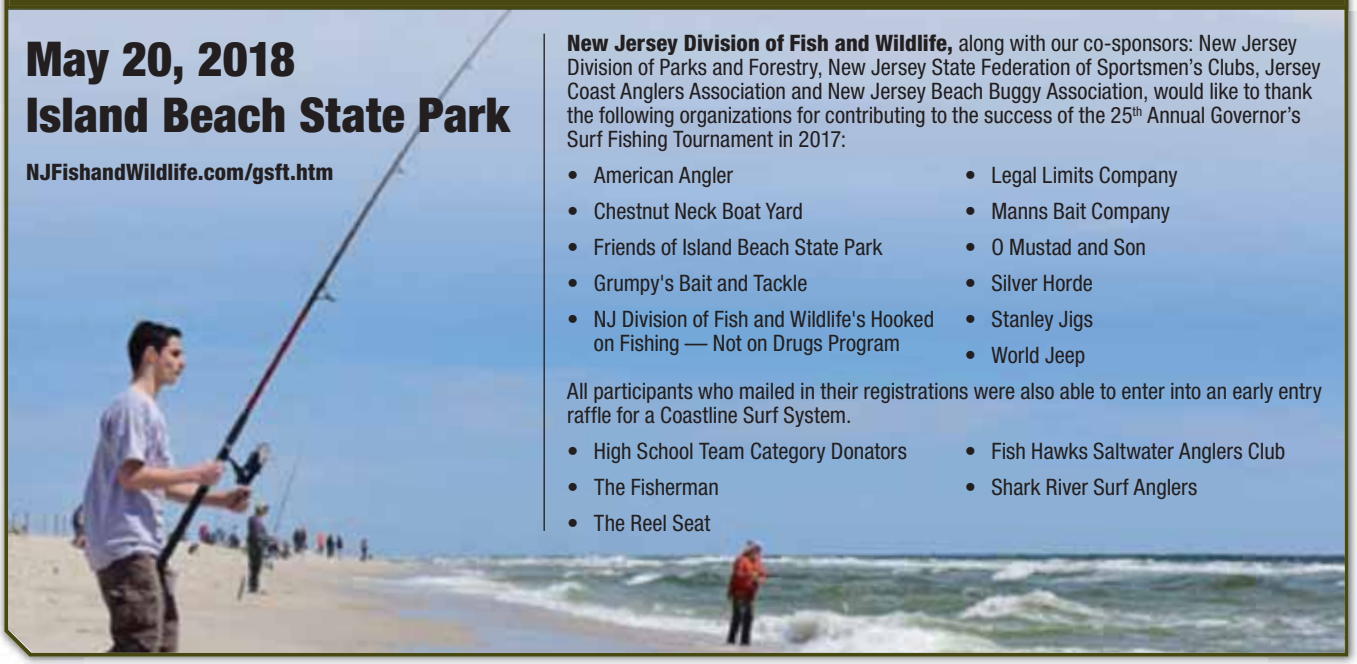
The Hunting & Trapping e-mail list, that is.

This *FREE* service provides the latest information about Fish and Wildlife events, public hearings and other wildlife-related news. And there are eight other lists to help you get the most out of New Jersey's fish and wildlife resources.

Sign up today.

Visit Fish and Wildlife's website: **NJFishandWildlife.com/lstsub.htm**

Join us for the 26th annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament!



Jonathan Carlucci/NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife

May 20, 2018
Island Beach State Park

NJFishandWildlife.com/gsft.htm

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 25th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament in 2017:

- American Angler
- Chestnut Neck Boat Yard
- Friends of Island Beach State Park
- Grumpy's Bait and Tackle
- NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife's Hooked on Fishing — Not on Drugs Program
- Legal Limits Company
- Manns Bait Company
- O Mustad and Son
- Silver Horde
- Stanley Jigs
- World Jeep

All participants who mailed in their registrations were also able to enter into an early entry raffle for a Coastline Surf System.

- High School Team Category Donators
- The Fisherman
- The Reel Seat
- Fish Hawks Saltwater Anglers Club
- Shark River Surf Anglers

Continue the Tradition

Become an instructor with Fish and Wildlife's Hunter Education Program.

Our Hunter Education Unit is looking for New Jersey's best sportsmen and sportswomen to become instructors at locations where students take the test and field course after first having completed the home study portion. A minimum of six weekend days each year are required.

Call (856) 629-0552

Leave your name and address to receive an application.

Or complete the application form at:
NJFishandWildlife.com/pdf/hunted/hntedinstr.pdf.

Operation Game Thief

Report Abuse of our Outdoor Heritage!

1-855-OGT-TIPS

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.

Perpetual Sunrise & Sunset

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

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	6:41	7:25	5:57	7:56	5:31	8:23	5:34	8:32	5:58	8:12	6:28	7:29	6:57	6:39	7:30	5:55	7:04	4:33
03	7:22	4:45	7:07	5:19	6:29	5:53	6:39	7:26	5:56	7:57	5:31	8:24	5:34	8:32	5:59	8:11	6:29	7:27	6:58	6:37	7:31	5:54	7:05	4:33
04	7:22	4:46	7:06	5:21	6:27	5:54	6:38	7:27	5:55	7:58	5:30	8:25	5:35	8:32	6:00	8:09	6:30	7:25	6:59	6:36	7:32	5:52	7:06	4:33
05	7:22	4:47	7:05	5:22	6:26	5:56	6:36	7:28	5:53	7:59	5:30	8:25	5:36	8:32	6:01	8:08	6:31	7:24	7:00	6:34	6:34	4:51	7:07	4:33
06	7:22	4:48	7:04	5:23	6:24	5:57	6:34	7:29	5:52	8:00	5:30	8:26	5:36	8:31	6:02	8:07	6:32	7:22	7:01	6:33	6:35	4:50	7:07	4:33
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31	7:09	5:16			6:44	7:23			5:32	8:22			5:56	8:14	6:26	7:32			7:28	5:57			7:22	4:43

Eastern Standard **AND Eastern Daylight Savings** Times • U. S. Naval Observatory, Washington, DC 20392-5420
Times listed are ACTUAL times with Daylight Savings Time already shown.

Hunter Access

PUBLIC DEER HUNTING LAND IN NEW JERSEY

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 44 or contact the appropriate authority for details. See page 83 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
• Farny 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 • **Butterfly Bogs WMA**
• 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 River 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 Coastal 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 • Abbotts 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.
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

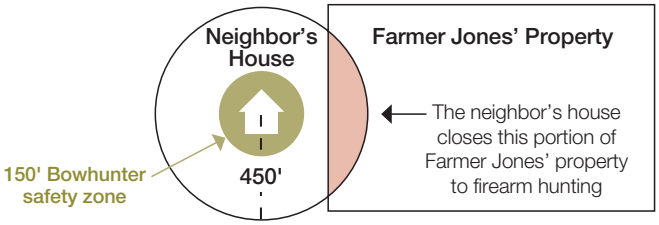
State Parks and Forests Maps
Free download. Find a state park, forest, recreation area or marina by location.
www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/parkindex.html. Maps and information on lands administered by the Division of Parks and Forestry. Specify which park or forest. Free.
NJ DEP, Division 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 28.
- 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: 2017–18 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 47.**
- **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) 425-0215 ext. 115; www.fws.gov/refuge/great_swamp/

- **Deer—Special Areas Hunting Season Information; see page 48.**

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 47.**
- **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 44.**
- **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 49.**
- **Migratory Birds except crow**
- **Spring and Fall Turkey (Zone 5)**
- **Black bear—Segment A and Segment B**
- **Small game—squirrel and rabbit only**

Note: the refuge is closed to Sunday hunting.

In addition to required state licenses, hunters must purchase a Refuge hunt permit(s) at https://wallkillriver.recaccess.com (Discounts for Senior, Golden Age, Access, or Golden Access pass and youths with a valid New Jersey youth hunting license).

- **Additional hunting opportunities**
  - » **Hunters with Disabling Conditions:** A Disabled Hunter Area exists at 119 Owens Station Rd. Sussex, NJ (see refuge hunt map). Hunters must possess a valid NJ Permit to Hunt or Shoot from a Stationary Vehicle in addition to the Disabled Refuge Hunt Permit.
  - » **Mentored Hunts:** The refuge partners with the National Wild Turkey Federation to offer mentored hunts for youth, women and disabled hunters. Registration is required and space is limited. Contact the refuge for dates and details.

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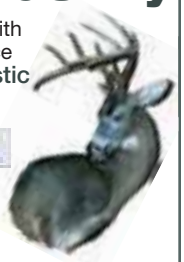

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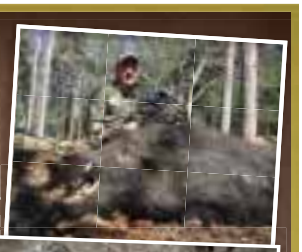

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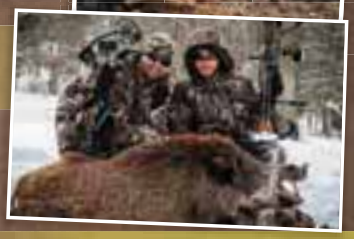

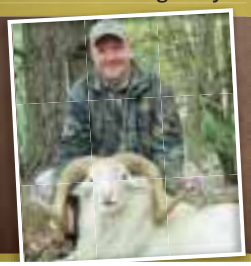

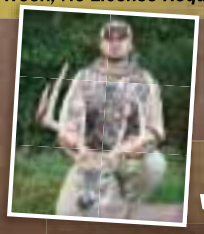

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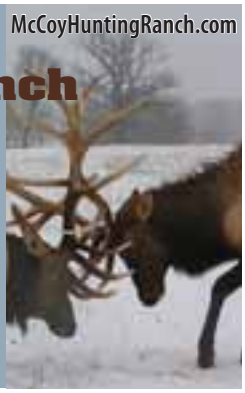

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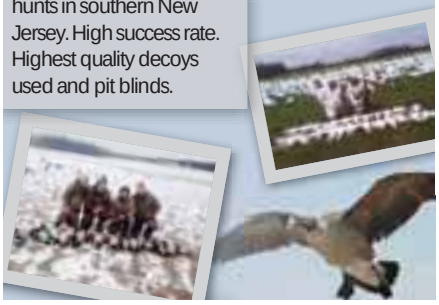

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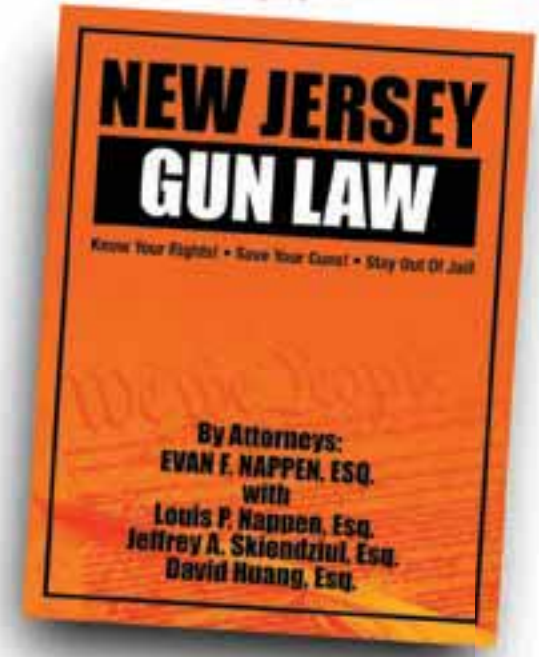

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