

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) regulation violations carry 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 special WMA permits that allow for activities otherwise prohibited on WMAs, 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 with your Conservation ID number 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 | 5. Mad Horse Creek |
| 2. Assunpink | 6. Union Lake |
| 3. Dennis Creek | 7. Menantico Ponds |
| 4. Tuckahoe | 8. Prospertown Lake |

Dog Training, Exercising and Hunting

A person may exercise or train dogs only in designated dog training areas from May 1 to Aug. 31, inclusive, and only on the following select WMAs:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Assunpink | 8. Millville |
| 2. Black River | 9. Pequest |
| 3. Clinton | 10. Salem River |
| 4. Colliers Mills | 11. Stafford Forge |
| 5. Glassboro | 12. Tuckahoe |
| 6. Hainesville | 13. Whittingham |
| 7. Manasquan | 14. Winslow |

All dogs must be properly licensed. Dogs may be exercised or trained on any WMA from Sept. 1 to April 30.

Any person releasing partridge or pheasant for dog training must have a game bird receipt in their possession. Additional regulations involving 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 apply. **NEW!** For a link to maps showing the dog training areas on these select WMAs, go to www.NJFishandWildlife.com/dogtrain.htm. 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. 16, 2019.

Horseback Riding

Horseback riding is allowed on designated WMAs only by permit from the Division of Fish and Wildlife and only available online at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. Horseback riding permits should be displayed on outer clothing while riding. For more information on horseback riding group 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.

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. For mountain bike and paddleboard regulations, visit our website.

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. Centerfire to .30 caliber rifles are permitted at the Millville range only.

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. See *Drones*, page 26, for additional regulations.

Waterfowl Blinds

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

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

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

- ♦ 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 tips only. NO broadheads allowed on any WMA range, regardless of the target used.
- ♦ **Muzzleloading rifle range:** muzzleloading firearms, shotguns (rifled slug, buckshot), modern rimfire rifles (.177, .22 caliber) and air guns in calibers legal for hunting are allowed.
- ♦ No handguns or centerfire rifles permitted.

NOTICE: Range Renovations, Closures — Tentative Schedule Sept.–Dec. 2019 for northern ranges; March–July 2020 for central ranges. Muzzleloader ranges scheduled for renovation include Makepeace, Millville, Clinton, Flatbrook, Colliers Mills and Stafford Forge WMAs. Portions of these ranges may be open occasionally during the process. Shotgun ranges are open but cannot accommodate air guns, shotgun slugs, buckshot or rifles of any type. Plan ahead for sighting in and practice prior to the hunting seasons! The renovations—including *covered shooting stations, new benches and berm enhancements*—are based on NRA guidelines. Check our website for schedule updates and closures: NJFishandWildlife.com/ranges.htm.

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 are not affected by range 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)
- ♦ **Target requirements:** bottom of paper target in a frame must be at least 30 inches above the ground. Only place target frame on top of a mound at the 25, 50 or 100 yard lines. This minimum target height eliminates risk of ricochets, ensuring 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. Do not use these targets 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), Centerfire to .30 caliber rifle

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 9–12, 2020

Includes a Youth Division!
See page 73.

At the Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's Show, their 36th year!

Raritan Center
Edison, New Jersey



See New Jersey's most outstanding white-tailed deer from 2018–19

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

Applications must be received by Nov. 1, 2019 to enter a deer harvested during last year's 2018–19 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
Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's Show

Visit gsoss.com

Promises to be the show of the year!

Landowner-Hunter/Trapper Agreement Card

I agree to conduct myself safely, responsibly and lawfully, respecting the landowner, property, and others using it. I accept the responsibilities which are part of the activities which I pursue. I agree to comply with the instructions of the landowner while on this property.

I understand that the laws of New Jersey absolve the landowner from liability for non-paying recreationists engaged in hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, hiking, and certain other activities, except in the case of willful or malicious failure to guard or warn of hazards.

Signed (visitor) _____

Date ____/____/____



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



HUNT/TRAP SMART Courtesy Card

I hereby give permission to: (visitor's name) _____

to enter my property for the purpose listed on the reverse side of this card. He/she has agreed to act safely, responsibly, and lawfully and to accept responsibility for his/her actions.

Signed (landowner, lessee, or operator) _____

Date ____/____/____



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



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 2019 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 2019 Garden State Deer Classic which **showcased outstanding deer taken during the 2017–18 deer hunting seasons, not the most recent 2018–19 hunting seasons.** These deer will be honored at the January 2020 Deer Classic and printed in next year's *2020 Hunting & Trapping Digest*. 🍖

2019 Garden State Deer Classic Winners*

	Rank	Name	Score/Weight	DMZ	Hometown
Youth Division	Youth - Typical Archery				
	1st	Nathan Van Wingerden	124 7/8	36	Lincoln Park
	Youth - Typical Crossbow				
	1st	Shaelyn Summers	119 4/8	36	Branchville
	2nd	Alexandra Margelis	115 1/8	14	Hillsborough
	Youth - Typical Shotgun				
	1st	Justin Tiver	125 2/8	19	Southampton
	Youth - Velvet Typical Crossbow				
	1st	Andrew Casto	124 7/8	35	Carney's Point
	Open Division	200 Pound Buck - Archery			
1st		Michael J. Beach	205 Pounds	13	Mount Arlington
200 Pound Buck - Crossbow					
1st		Keith Malespina	214 Pounds	14	Trenton
2nd		John Skitka	201 Pounds	14	Monmouth Junction
Typical Muzzleloader					
1st		Corwin Myers	161 5/8	7	Stockton
2nd		Nick Hill	149 4/8	63	Alloway
3rd		Steve Fontana	147 0/8	67	Hamburg
Non-typical Muzzleloader					
1st		Wes Kille	165 4/8	35	Swedesboro
2nd		Martin Morse, Jr	150 2/8	29	Greenwich
3rd		Gary M. Vail	140 5/8	25	Williamstown
Typical Shotgun					
1st		Dave Hultitt, Jr	149 3/8	31	Millville
2nd		Justin Stafford	138 2/8	27	Swedesboro
3rd		James Ziola	135 6/8	50	Parlin
Typical Crossbow					
1st		Anthony Tardibuono	147 7/8	3	Rutherford
2nd		Shannon Sullivan	147 4/8	51	Tinton Fall
3rd	David W. Hunter	145 6/8	28	Malaga	
Non-typical Crossbow					
1st	Joe Lista	167 3/8	9	Englishtown	
2nd	Bill Hadzichalis	151 7/8	15	North Brunswick	
3rd	Vincent J. Schaible	149 3/8	8	Hampton	
Velvet - Typical Archery					
1st	Jason DelPalazzo	163 6/8	49	Hainsport	
2nd	Patrick Stiles	134 2/8	50	Belford	
Velvet - Typical Crossbow					
1st	Keith Malespina	140 7/8	14	Trenton	
Typical Archery					
1st	Doug Zirkle	158 7/8	29	Bridgeton	
2nd	Robert Little	145 3/8	4	Newfoundland	
3rd	David J. Hemple	143 6/8	28	Bridgeton	
Non-typical Archery					
1st	Kevin Kinney	180 0/8	7	Oxford	
2nd	Shawn Doyle	152 0/8	51	Manasquan	
3rd	Stan Bieranowski	145 7/8	48	Levittown, PA	

* For deer harvested during the 2017–18 hunting seasons.

Outstanding Deer Program Minimum Requirements

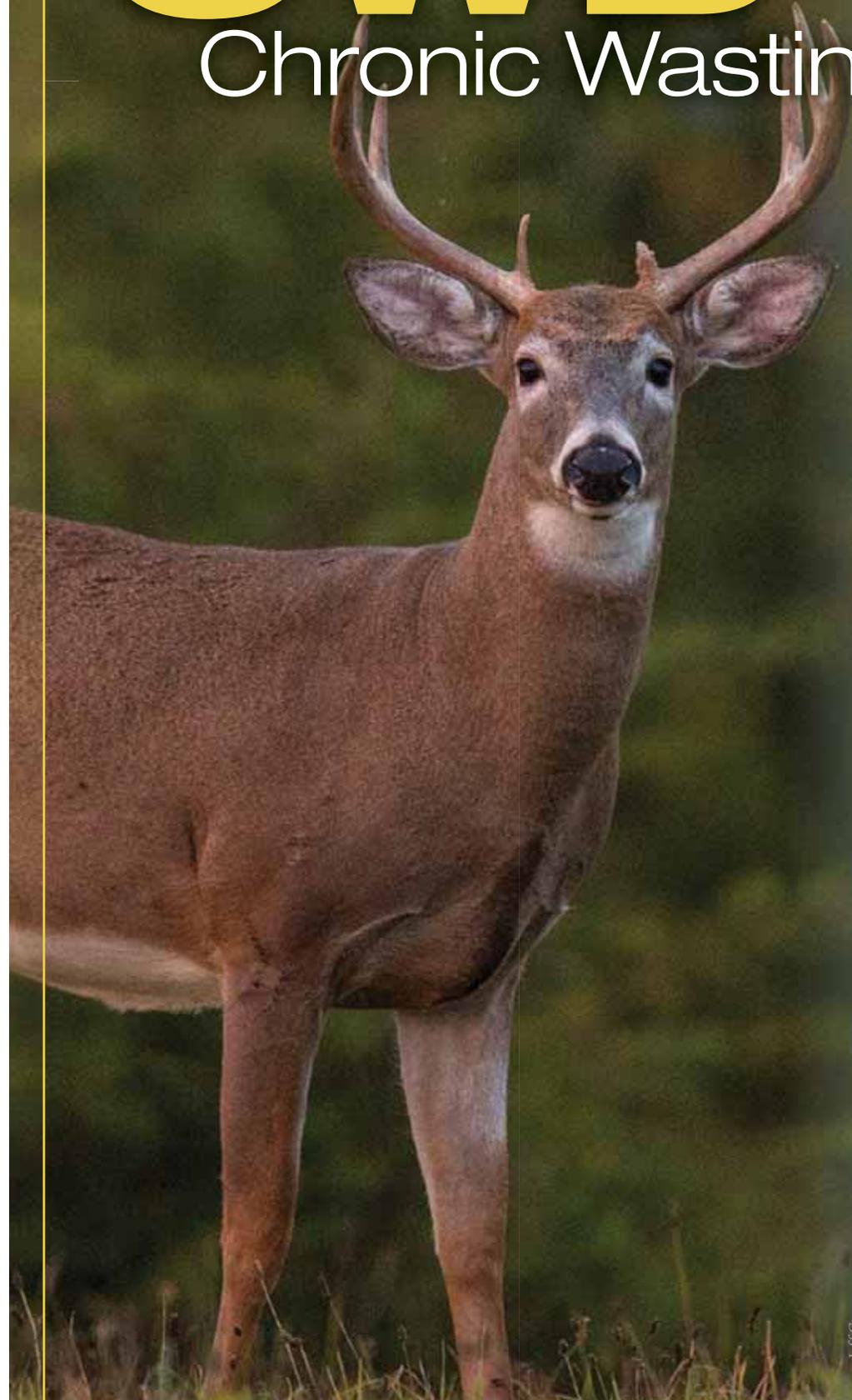
Antler Category	Open Division Minimum	Youth Division Minimum
Typical Shotgun, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader, Velvet	125	115
Non-typical Shotgun, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader, Velvet	135	125
Weight Category		
Buck: Shotgun, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader	200 lbs.	180 lbs.
Doe: Shotgun, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader	135 lbs.	125 lbs.

† See entry form. Visit our website (https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/scale_list.pdf) for a partial list of certified scales or contact your county weights and measures office. Be sure to locate a scale *before* the hunting season begins!

** A truck scale is not acceptable as the increments are too large.

CWD

Chronic Wasting Disease



What is CWD?

- ♦ Belongs to a family of neurological diseases called *transmissible spongiform encephalopathies* which include scrapie in sheep, mad cow disease in cattle and Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease in humans. *There is no evidence that CWD is transmissible to humans;* however the CDC advises against consuming any animal that appears ill.
- ♦ All members of the *Cervid* family (white-tailed deer, black-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, moose, 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 four 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 8,030 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.

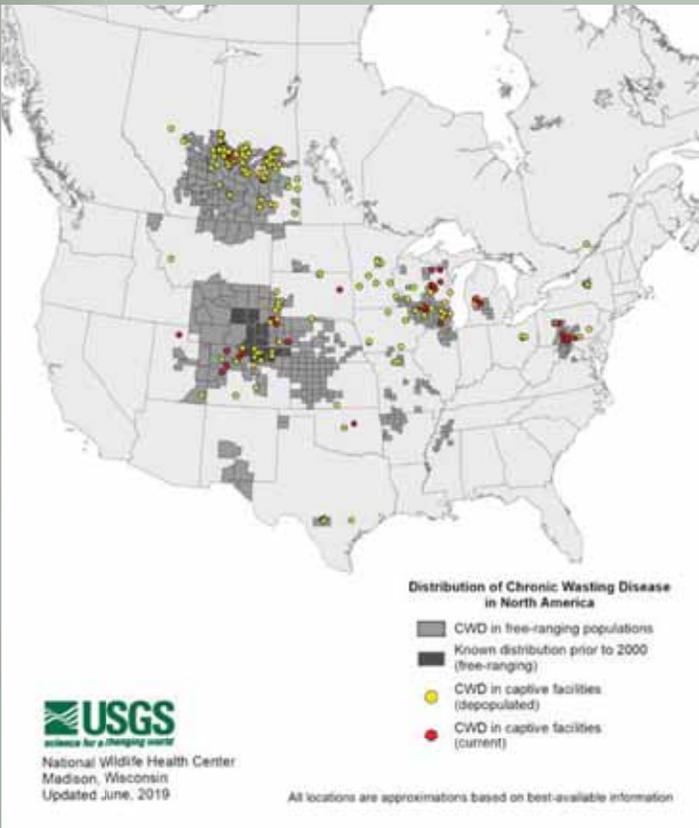
Jeff Crawn

Attention!

Urine-Based Deer Lures Advisory

The DEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife recommends the use of synthetic, non-urine-based scents or lures for deer hunting. The infectious prions which cause Chronic Wasting Disease can be spread through urine-based lures. Studies have shown the prions can survive for years in contaminated soils and the environment. Urine-based scents and lures are not treated to kill the prions as heat or chemical treatments would also reduce the desired scent characteristics. Hunters using urine-based scents should place them in areas out of contact with deer, the ground or vegetation.

▶▶ Chronic Wasting Disease in North America



See NJFishandWildlife.com/cwdinfo.htm for more information on CWD in New Jersey and the New Jersey CWD Response Plan.

Visit cwd-info.org for more comprehensive CWD information.



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

Contact Jack Spoto, President
(973) 820-3364
Email: jack.spoto@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.

For clubs and organizations, contact UBNJ for details.

_____ Life Membership: \$400 single payment. Includes all benefits of Individual Membership.

Check One:
New Member: _____
Renewal: _____

_____ Sponsoring Membership: \$100/yr.

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

Signature: _____

Mail to: UBNJ Membership, P.O. 57, Spotswood, NJ 08884.
Please allow 6 – 8 weeks to receive membership ID.



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,

Membership:

_____ \$40 Includes monthly e-newsletter and \$1 million excess liability insurance covering your sporting activities throughout the U.S. and Canada.

_____ \$25 Monthly e-newsletter only

Name _____

County _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

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

www.njsfsc.org

What Has Happened to Eastern Mallards and How Does This Affect Atlantic Flyway Duck Seasons?

By Ted Nichols, Wildlife Biologist



Craig Lemon

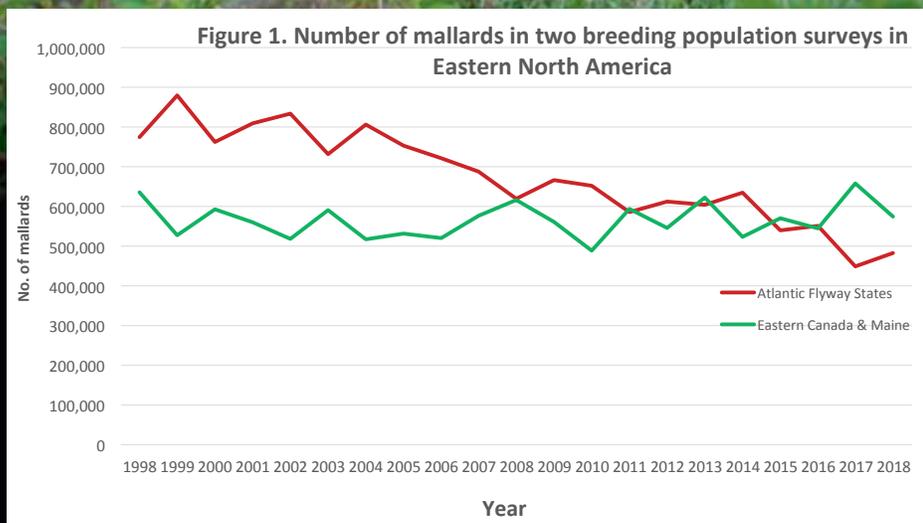
April 1994. A young New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife waterfowl biologist, soaked in sweat, climbs out of his kayak and tallies up the waterfowl observed on the randomly-located, 1 square-kilometer survey plot that is partially situated on a tidal freshwater marsh in Gloucester County. The tally: 23 Canada geese, four pairs of wood ducks and six pairs of mallards.

April 2019. Twenty-five years later, the same waterfowl biologist, now mostly gray-haired and 10 pounds heavier, climbs out of the same kayak, at the same survey plot, to tally the findings after completing the 2019 survey. The results: similar numbers of Canada geese and wood ducks, but **only half the number of mallard pairs** when compared with the 1994 survey.

I am that biologist.

A lot has changed over those years. The Internet now dominates daily activities, nearly everyone has a cell phone and the Philadelphia Eagles have (finally!) won a Super Bowl. During those 25 years in New Jersey, the resident Canada goose population grew in the 1990s, peaked in 2000 and then subsided. The wood duck population has remained stable. However, over that same time, I have witnessed a slow, chronic decline of mallards in New Jersey and the proof is in the numbers.

Mallards have declined about 40 percent since the 1990s (Figure 1, red line) in the Atlantic Flyway Breeding Waterfowl Survey which is a ground-based survey conducted each spring from New Hampshire to Virginia. A closer examination of the data reveals that the decline is not unique to New Jersey but occurring across nearly all Atlantic Flyway states and across all landscape types—rural, suburban, urban. Similarly, mallard harvest in the U.S. Atlantic Flyway has declined 40 percent since the late 1990s despite that the number of hunters has remained stable plus the duck season length and mallard bag limit has remained unchanged. Two independent surveys yield the same grim story about eastern mallards.



While mallards in the eastern U.S. have declined, mallards breeding in eastern Canada and Maine have remained stable (Figure 1, green line), fluctuating around a mean of just over a half million birds. If the U.S. population of mallards were declining while the population in Canada were simultaneously increasing, it would be easy to postulate that the breeding population was just shifting northward.

Unfortunately, that is not the case. Given that mallards in the U.S. portion of the breeding range were historically more numerous, they have more “weight” when considering the overall population trend of all mallards in eastern North America. The total population of eastern mallards has declined about 25 percent, with a rate of decline of -1.4 percent per year.

Red-hot Questions Need Answers

These circumstances lead to two burning questions:

1. Since mallards are used to set duck hunting seasons, where does this decline lead us?
2. What is happening to eastern mallards?

Let’s answer the first question. Annual duck hunting regulations are based on biological population assessments using the Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) process developed cooperatively by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and states agencies. Adaptive Harvest Management is an objective, science-based, regulation-setting process. For over 20 years, duck seasons in each flyway have been based on the status of the mallard population most abundant within each flyway. Mallards have been used since they are the most common species with the most survey and banding data.

Adaptive Harvest Management strives to provide maximum harvest opportunity into the future by weighing current mallard population levels and harvest while projecting future mallard population changes. As the mallard population grows, there is more harvest opportunity; if mallards decline, harvest opportunity declines as well. While eastern mallards have declined over the past 20 years, the majority of the other 20+ duck species that call the Atlantic Flyway home, have had stable populations. Consequently, eastern mallards are no longer reasonable surrogates for setting overall duck seasons in the Atlantic Flyway.

Since 2011, the Atlantic Flyway has been developing a new harvest strategy for ducks referred to as “Multi-Stock Adaptive Harvest Management” that is being implemented this year. Multi-Stock Adaptive Harvest Management considers the collective population status of American green-winged teal, wood ducks, ring-necked ducks and common goldeneyes when rendering a decision for annual regulations. These four species comprise 60 percent of the Atlantic Flyway duck harvest, represent a wide-range of species’ life histories and have expansive breeding and wintering populations distributed across the Atlantic Flyway. Multi-Stock Adaptive Harvest Management modeling considers the allowable annual harvest based on productivity and the carrying capacity



Craig Lemon

Mallard drake (mature male, left) and hen.

of the flyway habitat for each species. For setting duck hunting regulations in the Atlantic Flyway, the switch from eastern mallard Adaptive Harvest Management to Multi-Stock Adaptive Harvest Management is a fundamental science and policy change.

Mallards will not be part of Multi-Stock Adaptive Harvest Management but will have their own harvest strategy similar to the way canvasback or pintail seasons are set. Given the decline in eastern mallard abundance, beginning in 2019, all Atlantic Flyway states will see a bag limit reduction to two mallards with no more than one hen.

Why Are Eastern Mallards Declining?

The short answer is, we do not know. There are numerous theories. Wildlife populations are primarily driven by annual survival of adults and reproduction. A long-term mallard decline suggests that one or both parameters are lagging. It is troubling that mallard banding data suggests survival rates over the past 20 years have not changed appreciably from the early 1990s when the population was stable. Further, the annual number of young birds produced, as measured in harvest surveys, also has not changed. The fact that mallards are declining, while estimates of survival and young production seem reasonable, suggests there could be a bias in one or both of the data streams.

In wildlife science, population changes are rarely driven by one issue but frequently by multiple

factors, some of which may act together. Some biologists speculate that the recommended decline of winter feeding by the public (e.g. in parks), a widespread practice prior to the 1990s, may have had a subtle effect on survival or production.

Another element is that eastern mallards have a significant component of “game-farm” mallard genetics, documented with new genetic techniques, perhaps leaving these birds less fit for survival in the wild. The actual mechanism on how this “reduced fitness theory” might function is lacking.

Historically, mallards were breeding ducks of the prairies and did not occur as breeding ducks in the east until they moved here during the 1960s. These populations were bolstered by the game farm mallard releases. In the wildlife literature, there are many examples of new species “invading” or being purposefully introduced into new geographic areas. Often these new species initially thrive and grow, then decline to a lower equilibrium population. Examples include cattle egrets coming to North America from Africa in the 1950s and the reintroduction of wild turkeys in the east. Could mallards be suffering this same fate?

Although mallards have declined, they remain one of the most abundant ducks in the Atlantic Flyway. Notwithstanding, Atlantic Flyway biologists are working with federal, academic and non-government partners conducting research to identify, and hopefully resolve, factors that are limiting “greenheads” in the east. Still, I can’t help but wonder—what will New Jersey’s annual waterfowl survey show us 25 years from now?



Josh Sciller

Eastern mallard pair.

Non-lead Ammo — Give it a Shot

By Nathan Figley, State Administrator, Hunter Education

Hunters are always searching to find the *next-best-thing*, whether it be learning a new technique, increasing efficiency or adding another option to their tool bag. Since steel shot was first introduced in the late 1980s for waterfowl hunting, advancements in technology have increased the effectiveness of non-lead ammunition. Fast-forward 30 years and hunters can readily find a multitude of non-lead shot options for all hunting situations, comparable in price to premium lead ammunition.

Ammunition manufacturers have developed a variety of non-lead shot for turkey, small game and waterfowl from metals such as bismuth, tungsten, zinc, tin, steel and several alloys of these metals. Big game hunters can expect to find bullets made of copper, copper alloy or bismuth-tin alloy, all of which expand rapidly and leave large wound channels for a quick, clean kill.

Most of these metals are harder and denser than lead. These properties increase down-range accuracy, bullet penetration and promote a consistent shot pattern. An unseen benefit of using these non-lead ammunition types is reducing the risk of exposing non-target animals to lead fragments that may be inadvertently ingested when left in gut piles.

The next time you head to the range, pick-up a few boxes of non-lead ammo and give it a try. Practice shooting at different distances, with various choke types until the best match is found for your firearm. Prior to shooting this ammunition, hunters should verify that their firearm and choke tube are rated for these shot types. After seeing the results on the range, you will be convinced to load up with non-lead ammo this hunting season.

For more information, visit www.Hunting-WithNonLead.org

Nate Figley/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife



Your Dollars Support Wildlife Conservation

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.

Craig Lemon/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

Your Dollars Make a Difference!

How it Works:

1. Hunters and target shooters purchase guns and ammunition.
2. Manufacturers pay federal excise taxes on guns and ammunition.
3. Revenue from these excise taxes is distributed to state wildlife agencies.
4. State wildlife agencies use these funds to purchase land for wildlife habitat and to manage wildlife populations.
5. Results: Millions of acres of important habitat have been set aside to help ensure the future the diversity and healthy abundance of wildlife populations.

SHOOTERS & HUNTERS: HELP PREVENT WILDFIRES.

The target shooting and hunting community prides itself on being safe and responsible with firearms in all situations—from using them outdoors to storing them safely at home. Sometimes, however, unusual conditions such as extremely dry environments require an extra level of awareness and safety on the part of shooters.

Wildfires have many possible causes. The National Shooting Sports Foundation, the trade association for the firearms and ammunition industry, reminds all shooters that during dry and hot weather conditions their use of certain ammunition and targets could accidentally ignite a wildfire. NSSF reminds all target shooters and hunters, as well as other outdoor enthusiasts, to consider the potential consequences of their activities in fire-prone environments.

- **Make it a point to know the regulations and rules related to shooting in areas experiencing dry and hot conditions, whether on public or private land or at shooting ranges. Many national forests, for example, do not allow recreational shooting when fire restrictions are in effect.**
- **Consider the type of ammunition and targets you are using. Minimize the risk of fires by not using steel-jacketed ammunition, ammunition with steel-core components, tracer rounds or exploding targets in fire-prone areas.**
- **Remember that equipment, such as cars and ATVs, can have extremely hot exhaust systems that could ignite dry vegetation, so park only in designated areas.**
- **Extinguish and dispose of smoking materials safely.**
- **Follow guidelines to extinguish campfires.**
- **Warn others of potential dangers and behaviors for starting wildfires.**
- **Report any wildfire you see to authorities.**
- **Spread this message to other target shooters, hunters and outdoor enthusiasts.**



NSSF.ORG



Join us for the 29th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament!

May 17, 2020

Island Beach State Park, Seaside Park, NJ

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—congratulate John Kolacy of Flanders, NJ who took the grand prize and NJ Governor's Cup by catching a 37 1/2" striped bass.



John Kolacy of Flanders was awarded the Governor's Cup for landing a 37 1/2-inch striped bass.

Mr. Kolacy received two-rod and reel combinations and a plaque and will have his name engraved on the Governor's Cup.

Also, congratulations to Toms River High School South for winning first place in the High School Team Category with a 26 1/4"-inch bluefish. Toms River High School South had their name engraved on the new High School Team Cup and received a 1st place plaque.

All participants who **mailed** their registration were entered into an **early entry raffle** for a rod and reel combo.

Prizes are awarded in different species and age categories. For more information and to register, visit NJFishandWildlife.com/gsft.htm

A special thanks to our 2019 donors:

- Betty and Nick's Bait and Tackle
- Jersey Coast Surfcasters
- Chestnut Neck Boat Yard
- Legal Limits
- Grumpy's Bait and Tackle
- World Jeep

A special thanks to our 2019 High School Team Category donors:

- The Fisherman
- Shark River Surf Anglers
- The Reel Seat

Mark your calendars for the 29th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament to be held on May 17, 2020

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.

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.

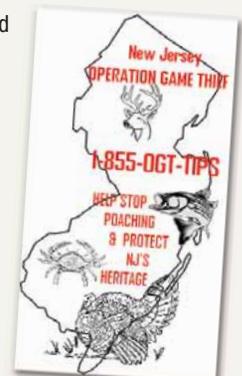
Call OGT to report:

- 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.																						
01	7:22	4:43	7:09	5:17	6:32	5:51	6:42	7:24	5:58	7:55	5:31	8:23	5:33	8:32	5:57	8:13	6:27	7:30	6:56	6:41	7:29	5:56	7:03	4:34
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	6:31	4:54	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	6:32	4:52	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
07	7:22	4:49	7:02	5:24	6:23	5:58	6:33	7:30	5:51	8:01	5:30	8:27	5:37	8:31	6:03	8:06	6:33	7:20	7:02	6:31	6:36	4:49	7:08	4:33
08	7:22	4:50	7:01	5:26	6:21	6:59	6:31	7:31	5:50	8:02	5:29	8:27	5:37	8:31	6:04	8:05	6:34	7:19	7:03	6:29	6:37	4:48	7:09	4:33
09	7:21	4:51	7:00	5:27	6:20	7:00	6:30	7:32	5:49	8:03	5:29	8:28	5:38	8:30	6:05	8:03	6:35	7:17	7:04	6:28	6:38	4:47	7:10	4:33
10	7:21	4:52	6:59	5:28	6:18	7:01	6:28	7:33	5:48	8:04	5:29	8:28	5:39	8:30	6:06	8:02	6:35	7:15	7:05	6:26	6:39	4:46	7:11	4:33
11	7:21	4:53	6:58	5:29	6:16	7:02	6:27	7:34	5:47	8:05	5:29	8:29	5:40	8:29	6:07	8:01	6:36	7:14	7:06	6:25	6:41	4:45	7:12	4:33
12	7:21	4:54	6:57	5:30	6:15	7:03	6:25	7:35	5:46	8:06	5:29	8:29	5:40	8:29	6:08	8:00	6:37	7:12	7:07	6:23	6:42	4:44	7:12	4:33
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25	7:14	5:09	6:39	5:46	6:54	7:17	6:06	7:48	5:35	8:17	5:31	8:33	5:51	8:20	6:20	7:41	6:50	6:51	7:21	6:05	6:56	4:36	7:20	4:39
26	7:14	5:10	6:38	5:47	6:52	7:18	6:05	7:49	5:35	8:18	5:31	8:33	5:52	8:19	6:21	7:39	6:51	6:49	7:22	6:03	6:57	4:35	7:20	4:40
27	7:13	5:11	6:36	5:48	6:50	7:19	6:03	7:50	5:34	8:19	5:32	8:33	5:53	8:18	6:22	7:38	6:52	6:47	7:23	6:02	6:59	4:35	7:21	4:40
28	7:12	5:12	6:35	5:49	6:49	7:20	6:02	7:52	5:33	8:20	5:32	8:33	5:54	8:17	6:23	7:36	6:53	6:46	7:24	6:01	7:00	4:35	7:21	4:41
29	7:11	5:13	6:34	5:50	6:47	7:21	6:01	7:53	5:33	8:21	5:32	8:33	5:54	8:16	6:24	7:35	6:54	6:44	7:26	5:59	7:01	4:34	7:21	4:42
30	7:10	5:15			6:46	7:22	5:59	7:54	5:32	8:21	5:33	8:32	5:55	8:15	6:25	7:33	6:55	6:42	7:27	5:58	7:02	4:34	7:21	4:42
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.



OVER 60 YEARS OF HUNTING EXPERIENCE * LEAGUES * INDOOR RANGE * LESSONS * BAIT * REPAIRS
COMPOUND BOWS * CROSSBOWS * RECURVES * LONG BOWS
AUTHORIZED DEALER FOR ** MATHEWS * SITKA * HOYT * BOWTECH * ELITE
TENPOINT * RAVIN * EXCALIBUR * EASTON * CARBON EXPRESS * RAMBO BIKES



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
• Walkkill River National Wildlife Refuge (see *Special Areas*)
• Wawayanda State Park
- 3 • Abram Hewitt State Forest
• Hamburg Mountain WMA
• Long Pond Ironworks State Park
• Newark Watershed (see *Special Areas*)
• Norvin Green State Forest
• Ramapo Mountain State Forest
• Ringwood State Park
• Wawayanda State Park
- 4 • Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area
• Flatbrook—Roy WMA
• Stokes State Forest
• Walpack WMA
• Worthington State Forest
- 5 • Beaver Brook WMA
• Columbia WMA
• Honey Run WMA
• Jenny Jump State Forest
• Paulinskill WMA
• Swartswood State Park
• Trout Brook WMA
• White Lake WMA
• Whittingham WMA
- 6 • Allamuchy Mountain State Park
• Berkshire Valley WMA
• Fanny State Park
• Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
• Newark Watershed (see *Special Areas*)
• Rockaway River WMA
• Sparta Mountain WMA
• Weldon Brook WMA
• Wildcat Ridge WMA
- 7 • Buckhorn Creek WMA
• Clinton WMA
• Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Union Forge Preserve, Tower Hill Reserve (see *Special Areas*)
• Musconetcong River WMA
• Spruce Run Recreation Area
- 8 • Allamuchy Mountain State Park
• Black River WMA
• Hacklebarney State Park
• Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Cold Brook Preserve, Teetertown Ravine Nature Preserve, Point Mountain Preserve (see *Special Areas*)
• Ken Lockwood Gorge WMA
• Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
• Musconetcong River WMA
• Pequest WMA
• Rockport WMA
• South Branch WMA
• Voorhees State Park
- 9 • Black River WMA
• Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
- 10 • Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Musconetcong Gorge, the Drag Strip Property, Hoffman Park, Schick Reserve, South Branch Reservation, Uplands Reserve (see *Special Areas*)
• Musconetcong River WMA
- 11 • Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Lockatong Nature Preserve, the Case Farm, Wescott Nature Preserve (see *Special Areas*)
• Lockatong WMA
- 12 • Hunterdon County Parks Dept.—Cushetunk Mountain Park, Sourland Mountain Nature Preserve, Deer Path Park, South Branch Reservation (see *Special Areas*)
• Mercer County Parks—Pole Farm Section
• Round Valley Recreation Area
• South Branch WMA
- 13 • Morris County Park System (see *Special Areas*)
- 14 • Assunpink WMA (Robbinsville Twp section only)
• Pigeon Swamp State Park
• Six Mile Run Reservoir State Park (see *Special Areas*)
- 15 • Assunpink WMA
• Monmouth County Park System—Charleston Springs Golf Course, Perrineville Lake Park (see *Special Areas*)
- 16 • 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
• **Upper Great Egg Harbor Greenway**
- 26 • Great Egg Harbor River WMA
• Hamonton 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*)
• Cohansy 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 • Cheesecake 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 (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 (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

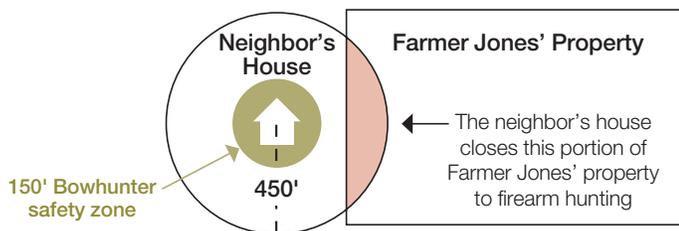
Free download. Find a state park, forest, recreation area or marina by location. www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/parkindex.html. Maps and information on lands administered by the Division of Parks and Forestry. Specify which park or forest. Free. NJ DEP, Division of Parks and Forestry MC 501-04, P.O. 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: 2019–20 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/refuge/cape_may/

- ♦ 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

32 Pleasant Plains Rd., Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
(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; youths are free 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
- ♦ Turkey (spring only) and squirrel hunting in select areas only.
Information can be obtained at the refuge, at dispensers, at the headquarters, on the refuge website, or through the mail. An Annual Refuge Hunting Permit is required to hunt all seasons. Go to <https://forsythe.recaccess.com/#> to buy a permit. Interactive and hard copy maps and information can be obtained on the refuge website.

Supawna Meadows NWR

c/o Cape May NWR, 24 Kimbles Beach Rd., Cape May Court House, NJ 08210, (609) 463-0994; www.fws.gov/refuge/supawna_meadows/

- ♦ 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/

- ♦ Deer—Special Areas Hunting Season Information; see page 48.
- ♦ Migratory Birds except crow
- ♦ Turkey, spring and fall (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. ♪