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 30), 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 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.

**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.

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.
Licenses and Permits

• See License, Permits and Stamps, page 7, 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, in zones where the Six-day Firearm Season overlaps with the Permit Bow Season, bowhunters with a valid Permit Bow Season zone permit 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 Hunting License

What Do I Need to Hunt Deer in New Jersey?

See page 33–34 for season dates and bag limits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Hunting License</th>
<th>Zone-Specific Antlerless Deer Permit</th>
<th>Antlered Buck Permit</th>
<th>Rifle Permit</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Bow</td>
<td>Archery or All-Around Sportsman</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Bow</td>
<td>Archery or All-Around Sportsman</td>
<td>Yes, valid only for harvesting antlerless deer</td>
<td>Yes, required only for harvesting antlered buck</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Antlered buck permit valid only when hunter also possesses a zone-specific antlerless permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit Bow</td>
<td>Archery or All-Around Sportsman</td>
<td>Yes, valid only for harvesting antlerless deer</td>
<td>Yes, required only for harvesting antlered buck</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Antlered buck permit valid only when hunter also possesses a zone-specific antlerless permit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Youth Days
See Youth Hunt Day regulations on page 18

| Permit Muzzleloader | Archery or All-Around Sportsman | Yes, valid only for harvesting antlerless deer | Yes, required only for harvesting antlered buck | Yes | Antlered buck permit valid only when hunter also possesses a zone-specific antlerless permit |

Six-Day Firearm

| Permit Shotgun | Archery, Firearm, or All-Around Sportsman | No | No | Yes, if using ML | License type depends on weapon used |

| Permit Shotgun | Archery or All-Around Sportsman | Yes, valid only for harvesting antlerless deer | Yes, required only for harvesting antlered buck | No | Antlered buck permit valid only when hunter also possesses a zone-specific antlerless permit |
** Firearms, Ammunition and Sights**

- See page 20 and the chart below 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 10.

**Antlered Buck Permit Deadline!**

REMINDER: See page 14 for deadlines to purchase Antlered Buck Permits.

** Firearms, Bows and Ammunition Legal for Deer Hunting**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season(s)</th>
<th>Weapon Type</th>
<th>Gauge, Caliber or Draw Weight</th>
<th>Projectile(s)</th>
<th>Firearm sights; Bow releases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Bow Permit Winter Bow</td>
<td>Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow.</td>
<td>35 pounds pull at archer’s draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow) or 75 pounds minimum draw weight (crossbow)</td>
<td>Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of ¾”</td>
<td>Handheld release devices are permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit Muzzleloader Season</td>
<td>Muzzleloader: rifle or smoothbore, single-barrel, single-shot. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted. Electronic ignitions are not legal. Double-barrel firearms prohibited.</td>
<td>Rifle: not less than .44 caliber Smoothbore: not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge</td>
<td>Must be loaded with a single projectile only</td>
<td>Telescopic sights permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six-day Firearm Season</td>
<td>Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow.</td>
<td>35 pounds pull at archer’s draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow) or 75 pounds minimum draw weight (crossbow)</td>
<td>Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of ¾”</td>
<td>NOTE: bowhunters must possess both a firearm and a bow and arrow license during this season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit Shotgun Season</td>
<td>Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore</td>
<td>Not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than three shells</td>
<td>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”)</td>
<td>Shotguns must have an adjustable open iron or peep sight or a scope affixed if hunter is hunting with or in possession of slugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Muzzleloading rifle: single projectile Smoothbore: buck shot not smaller than #4 (0.24”) nor larger than #000 (0.36”) or a single projectile</td>
<td>Telescopic sights permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore</td>
<td>Not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than three shells</td>
<td>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”)</td>
<td>Shotguns must have an adjustable open iron or peep sight or a scope affixed if hunter is hunting with or in possession of slugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Muzzleloader: single or double-barrel smoothbores only (no rifles.) Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted</td>
<td>Not smaller than 20 gauge and not larger than 10 gauge</td>
<td>Buck shot: sizes not smaller than #4 (0.24”) nor larger than #000 (0.36”) or a single projectile</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**WARNING:**

Tree Stand Hunters

Hunters are cautioned to avoid placing treestands in or near ash trees weakened by the Emerald Ash Borer beetle. First detected in New Jersey in 2014, beetle damage is not always evident although a tree’s structural integrity might already be seriously compromised. Evaluate any tree carefully but note that ash trees may die quickly, concealing their risky status. For more information and ash tree ID tips, visit [www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/emeraldashborer.html](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/emeraldashborer.html).

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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.
• 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 38 for details.

Blinds and Tree Stands
All firearm and bow and arrow deer hunters utilizing a ground blind when a bow and firearm deer season are 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 at NJParksandForests.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 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.
• Baglimits for the fall bow and winter bow seasons are as prescribed for each zone (see Archery Deer Hunting table, page 33) 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 regulations.
• 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 14.
• 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, in zones where the Permit Bow Season overlaps with the Six-day Firearm Season, bowhunters with a valid Permit Bow Season zone permit 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 14.
Upon retrieval, the deer is considered to be in the field for when you need to tag and 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 25) 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. Hunters are required to tag all deer upon harvest and before transporting the deer. The tag must include 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 25.

3. Report your harvest via the Automated Harvest Reporting System (by phone or online 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 12 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 25) 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 police officer within 48 hours after a deer harvest is reported.

Harvest Reports from 2020 permits are valid for the entire length of the Permit Bow, Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun seasons, including January and February 2021, 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 25 for a Harvest Report Card for use when each of your license or permit Harvest Reports have been filled. 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.

Deer Recovery with Tracking Dogs, Restricted
Dog handlers in possession of a New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife-issued Tracking Dog Permit may assist hunters to recover legally harvested deer during the day or night. For a list of authorized handlers with certified tracking dogs, go to www.NJFishandWildlife.com/deer_trackingdog.htm. For tracking dog permit information, see Tracking Dog Permits under Permits, Other, page 10.

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.
Who Let the Dogs Out?

Responsible hunters all strive to make that perfect shot. Afterwards, tracking conditions can sometimes be challenging.

To speed recovery of your harvest, call in the skills of a certified tracking dog. These trained dogs and their handlers have an impressive track record at finding difficult-to-recover deer while supporting the conservation ethic by which hunters live. Don’t hesitate to utilize this option if the need arises!

To locate a tracking dog and to read more about Who Let the Dogs Out by Senior Biologist Keith Griglak, visit www.NJFishandWildlife.com/artdogtrack20.htm.

Another of many successful tracks by Mac handled by Casey Florek.
Updates to the 2020 Pheasant Hunting Season

By Carole Stanko, Chief, Bureau of Wildlife Management

This year’s pheasant hunting season promises to be outstanding!

The Division of Fish and Wildlife will be providing additional opportunities for this year’s pheasant hunting season, as part of its Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation (R3) program. See page 50 for stocking details or click for the pheasant and quail stocking maps: www.njfishandwildlife.com/pheasmaps.htm.

Buy your Pheasant & Quail Stamp now!
## Archery Deer Hunting by Season and Zone • 2020–21

**New Format for Deer Hunting Regulations!**  
Deer hunting regulations are now easier to read and understand. The nine Regulation Sets have been reformatted into two tables — one each for archery and firearm hunting.  

**Regulation Sets:** groups of deer management zones with the same season length and bag limits still exist in the Game Code and are used by wildlife managers to develop deer management strategies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Zones**</th>
<th>Bag Limits</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall Bow</strong></td>
<td>Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2020</td>
<td>2, 16, 27*, 28*, 29*, 31*, 35*, 47*</td>
<td>5 antlerless and 1 antlered</td>
<td>a - First deer must be antlerless during this period (not required for Youth hunters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 3–30, 2020</td>
<td>5, 19, 25, 42, 48</td>
<td>9 antlerless and 1 antlered</td>
<td>b - Either sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6, 7, 8, 9*, 10, 11, 12, 13*, 14, 15, 17, 36, 41, 49, 50, 51</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken except for Zone 6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth Day Archery</strong></td>
<td>Sept. 26, 2020</td>
<td>ALL Zones Listed Above</td>
<td>1 deer, either sex</td>
<td>Must be accompanied by licensed, non-hunting adult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permit Bow</strong></td>
<td>Oct. 31–Nov. 29, 2020</td>
<td>21, 23, 24, 34*, 43, 45, 46</td>
<td>1 deer, either sex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2020</td>
<td>1, 3*, 4, 18, 22, 26</td>
<td>2 deer, 1 antlered and 1 antlerless</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30*, 55, 63*, 65</td>
<td>2 deer, 1 antlered and 1 antlerless</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2, 16, 27*, 28*, 29*, 31*, 35*, 47*</td>
<td>5 antlerless and 1 antlered</td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>5, 19, 25, 42, 48</td>
<td>9 antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6, 7, 8, 9*, 10, 11, 12, 13*, 14, 15, 17, 36, 41, 49, 50, 51</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken except for Zone 6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winter Bow</strong></td>
<td>Jan. 1–31, 2021</td>
<td>21, 23, 24, 34*, 43, 45, 46</td>
<td>1 deer, either sex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1, 3*, 4, 18, 22, 26</td>
<td>2 deer, 1 antlered and 1 antlerless</td>
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<td>30*, 55, 63*, 65</td>
<td>2 deer, 1 antlered and 1 antlerless</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>5, 19, 25, 42, 48</td>
<td>9 antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2021</td>
<td>7, 8, 9*, 10, 11, 12, 13*, 14, 15, 17, 36, 41, 49, 50, 51</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Any antlered deer taken must have at least three anter points on one side of rack  
** See page 38 for Special Areas deer regulations — Zones 37, 38, 39, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 64, 66, 67, 68 and 70  

**NOTE:** Archery deer hunting on Sunday is legal ONLY on WMAs and private property.  
**Youth Day** — see page 18 for details.
### Firearm Deer Hunting by Season and Zone • 2020–21

**New Format for Deer Hunting Regulations!**

Deer hunting regulations are now easier to read and understand. The nine Regulation Sets have been reformatted into two tables — one each for archery and firearm hunting.

**Regulation Sets**: groups of deer management zones with the same season length and bag limits still exist in the Game Code and are used by wildlife managers to develop deer management strategies.

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#### Season Zones** Dates Bag Limits Notes

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<th>Season</th>
<th>Zones**</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Bag Limits</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Six-Day Firearm</strong></td>
<td>ALL zones listed below</td>
<td>Dec. 7–12, 2020</td>
<td>2 antlered deer (only one buck at a time may be taken)</td>
<td>If 2 antlered deer are harvested, the opportunity to take an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season is forfeited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth Day Firearm</strong></td>
<td>ALL zones listed below</td>
<td>Nov. 21, 2020</td>
<td>1 deer, either sex</td>
<td>Must be accompanied by a licensed, non-hunting adult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permit Muzzleloader</strong></td>
<td>21, 23, 24, 34*, 43, 45, 46</td>
<td>Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 19–24, 26–31, 2020</td>
<td>1 deer, either sex</td>
<td>Antlered deer may be taken only when the hunter possesses both an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit and a valid zone-specific antlerless deer permit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1, 3*, 4, 18, 22, 26</td>
<td>Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2020</td>
<td>2 deer; 1 antlered and 1 antlerless</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6, 30*, 55, 63*, 65</td>
<td>Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2020; Jan. 1–9, 2021</td>
<td>2 deer; (1 antlered and 1 antlerless, or 2 antlerless)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5, 19, 25, 42, 48</td>
<td>Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2020; Jan. 1–30, 2021</td>
<td>9 antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permit Shotgun</strong></td>
<td><strong>Antlerless only</strong>: Dec. 7–12, 2020</td>
<td><strong>Either sex</strong>: Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2020; Jan. 1–Feb. 13, 2021</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7, 8, 9*, 12, 17, 41</td>
<td><strong>Antlerless only</strong>: Nov. 23–25, 27, and Dec. 7–12, 2020</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10, 11, 13*, 14, 15, 36, 49, 50, 51</td>
<td><strong>Antlerless only</strong>: Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2020; Jan. 1–Feb. 13, 2021</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permit Shotgun</strong></td>
<td>1, 3*, 4, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 34*, 43, 45, 46</td>
<td>Dec. 16–18, 2020</td>
<td>1 deer, either sex</td>
<td>Antlered deer may be taken only when the hunter possesses both an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit and a valid zone-specific antlerless deer permit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6, 30*, 55, 63*, 65</td>
<td>Dec. 16–18, 2020</td>
<td>2 deer; (1 antlered and 1 antlerless, or 2 antlerless)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5, 19, 25, 42, 48</td>
<td>Dec. 16–18, 2020; Jan. 2–30, 2021</td>
<td>9 antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td>If 2 antlered deer are harvested in the Six-day Firearm Season, the opportunity to take an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season is forfeited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7, 8, 9*, 12, 17, 41</td>
<td><strong>Antlerless only</strong>: Dec. 7–12, 2020</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10, 11, 13*, 14, 15, 36, 49, 50, 51</td>
<td><strong>Antlerless only</strong>: Nov. 23–25, 27 and Dec. 7–12, 2020</td>
<td>unlimited antlerless and 1 antlered (2 deer at a time may be taken)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Any antlered deer taken must have at least 3 antler points on one side of rack.

** See page 38 for Special Areas deer regulations — Zones 37, 38, 39, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 64, 66, 67, 68 and 70

**NOTE:** Firearm deer hunting is not open on Sundays.

**Youth Day** — see page 18 for details.
Retired Fish and Wildlife fisheries biologist Hugh Carberry hunted this "white leg" buck in Voorhees, Camden County for two years. The buck was harvested with a crossbow in mid-November moments after the big guy finished sparring with a lesser buck.
Due to COVID-19, before hunting these lands, visit the website of the property owner/manager to confirm that access is open.

**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 Monday, September 30, 2020. 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.

**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 (732) 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 14.

**Permit Muzzleloader Season:** Nov. 2–5 and 9–12, 2020; 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, 2021; 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.

**Huntermont County Park System**

Parks within the Huntermont County Park System that are open to deer hunting require a park access permit. Applications are available at the Huntermont 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 deer management programs at several parkland properties. Hunters must obtain a county-issued permit to hunt on county parkland.

**Baldpate Mountain (DMZ 41) in Hopewell Township**

Is open on select days during the Fall Bow, Permit Bow, Permit Muzzleloader, Permit Shotgun, Six-day Firearm and Winter Bow Seasons. Call (609) 377-3299 for more information.

**Howell Living History Farm (DMZ 41)**

Is open for select days during the Permit Muzzleloader, Permit Shotgun and Winter Bow Seasons. Call (609) 737-3299 for more information.

**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 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. 26. 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, 2020.

**Permit Shotgun Season:** Dec. 7–12, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 100 permits are available.

**Six-day Firearm Season:** Dec. 7–12, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 100 permits are available.

**Winter Bow Season:** Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2021; 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 732-506-9090 x 5941; or via Fish and Wildlife’s Internet license sales site.

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, Winter Bow and limited firearm seasons. Deer Management Zone 14 regulations apply. A free parking access permit is required for all seasons in addition to any applicable NJ Fish and Wildlife hunting permit(s). The park is closed to deer hunting at all other times. To obtain parking pass permits, hunters must contact the park office at (609) 924-5705 or on the park website at www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/drcanal.html.

Spruce Run Recreation Area (Zone 7)
Designated portions of the area are open to bowhunting 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 14. 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.


Six-Day Firearm Season (Zone 39): Dec. 7–12, 2020; Bag limit: two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader (Zone 39): Nov. 30 and Dec. 1–5 and 14–31, 2020, and Jan. 1–Feb. 13, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 100 permits are available.

Permit Shotgun Season (Zone 39): Dec. 5, 7–12, 19, and 26, 2020 and Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 and Feb. 6 and 13, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 160 permits are available.

Winter Bow Season (Zone 39): Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season (Zone 39): Oct. 31–Dec. 31, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 190 permits are available. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Six-Day Firearm Season (Zone 39): Dec. 7–12, 2020; Bag limit: two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader (Zone 39): Nov. 30 and Dec. 1–5 and 14–31, 2020, and Jan. 1–Feb. 13, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 100 permits are available.

Permit Shotgun Season (Zone 39): Dec. 5, 7–12, 19, and 26, 2020 and Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 and Feb. 6 and 13, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. However, for hunters who harvest two deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to unlimited antlerless deer only. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 160 permits are available.

Winter Bow Season (Zone 39): Jan. 1–Feb. 20, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.
Deer Hunting Season

SPECIAL AREAS INFORMATION

Due to COVID-19, before hunting these lands, visit the website of the property owner/manager to confirm that access is open.

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) 485-4928 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 Dix-McGuire prior to purchasing a permit. Purchasing a deer permit for Zone 66 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. 12–Oct. 30, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. First deer must be antlerless from Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2020. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 31–Dec. 24 and 26–31, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 330 permits are available for Zone 37. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Six-day Firearm Season: Dec. 7–12, 2020; Bag limit: two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 28, 2020; Dec. 1–5, 14–24, 26–31, 2020 and Jan. 1–9, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 480 permits are available for Zone 37.

Permit Shotgun Season: Dec. 26, 28, and 29, 2020; Bag limit: two deer, one may be antlered only for hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit. However, for hunters who harvest two antlered deer during the Six-day Firearm Season, the bag limit in the Permit Shotgun Season is restricted to two antlerless deer only. A total of 100 permits are available for Zone 37.

Winter Bow Season: Jan. 2–Feb. 20, 2021; 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 14. The hunter is responsible to confirm they have current authorization for access to the Lakehurst section prior to purchasing a permit. Purchasing a deer permit for Zone 53 does NOT guarantee access to the Lakehurst section. Only those individuals who have authorization for hunting privileges and corresponding gate access on the installation are allowed to hunt. There are no refunds or exchanges for permits that cannot be used.

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

Fall Bow Season: Sept. 12–Oct. 30, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer and ONE antlered deer. First deer must be antlerless from Sept. 12–Oct. 2, 2020. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 31–Dec. 26 and 28–31, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 100 permits are available. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Six-day Firearm Season: Dec. 7–12, 2020; Bag limit: two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 28, 30 and Dec. 1–5, 14–24, 26–31, 2020 and Jan. 1–9, 2021; 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. Two deer may be taken at one time.

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 Brad Garie at (973) 724-3594 or Conservation Law Enforcement Officer James Opalecky at (973) 724-8647 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 14. 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.

Officer James Opalecky at (973) 724-8647 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 14. The hunter is responsible to confirm they have current authorization for access to Picatinny Arsenal prior to purchasing a permit. Purchasing a Zone 54 permit does NOT guarantee access to Picatinny Arsenal. Only those individuals who have authorization for hunting privileges and corresponding gate access on the installation are allowed to hunt. There are no refunds or exchanges for permits that can not be used.
Fall Bow Season: Oct. 3–30, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer and one antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Permit Bow Season: Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 60 permits are available. Two deer may be taken at one time.

Six-day Firearm Season: Dec. 7–12, 2020; Bag limit: two antlered deer. However, if a hunter harvests two antlered deer, they forfeit the opportunity to harvest an antlered deer during the Permit Shotgun Season. Only one buck may be taken at a time.

Permit Muzzleloader Season: Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 14–31, 2020 and Jan. 1–9, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. Two deer may be taken at one time. A total of 50 permits are available.

Permit Shotgun Season: Dec. 7–12 and 19, 2020 and Jan. 2 and 4–8, 2021; 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, 2021; 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 200 square inches of solid fluorescent orange while deer hunting on any refuge.
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 stand, 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 MONDAY, Sept. 30. There are NO exceptions. Permits will be available for sale at all License Agents and online.

Only designated sections of the Edwin B. Forsythe NWR are open for deer hunting. All other areas are closed. The refuge only allows deer hunting by permit. While the Permit Bow, Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader seasons may overlap the Six-Day Firearm season dates, refuge hunting is only conducted under applicable permit regulations, not Six-day Firearm Season regulations.

In addition to the appropriate DMZ permit, hunters must purchase an Annual Refuge Permit at https://forsythe.recaccess.com/#. Parking tags will be issued with the refuge permit. Maps and...
Deer Hunting Season

Due to COVID-19, before hunting these lands, visit the website of the property owner/manager to confirm that access is open.

Regulations in red are new this year.

hunter information are also available 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. 14–18, 2020; 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 25 permits are available for Zone 56.

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

- Permit Bow Season (Zone 57): Oct. 31–Dec. 24, 26–31, 2020; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Bow Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 40 permits are available for Zone 57.
- Permit Muzzleloader (Zone 57): Nov. 30–Dec. 1, 14, 15, 19–24, 26–31, 2020 and Jan. 1–9, 2021; Bag limit: unlimited antlerless deer. In addition, hunters who purchase an Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit may harvest ONE antlered deer. A total of 40 permits are available for Zone 57.
- Permit Shotgun Season (Zone 57): Dec. 16–18, 2020 and Jan. 9–16, 2021; 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 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 30 permits are available for Zone 57.

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

Great Swamp NWR (Zone 38)
To hunt Great Swamp NWR, hunters must possess a Zone 38 permit. Permits will be available for sale until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 30. There are NO exceptions. Permits will be available for sale at all license agents and online over the Internet. The refuge is open only for Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun season hunting and closed to deer hunting at all other times. Hunters may only apply for a Permit Muzzleloader or a Permit Shotgun permit, not both. Hunters must own 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. Youth Hunters with a valid New Jersey Youth Hunting License are free.).

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 www.njconservation.org/deer-management/ 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 Evesham Township, Salem County is open for Fall Bow, Youth Bow Day, Permit Bow and Winter Bow seasons ONLY. The use of firearms is prohibited on this 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.

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**Hunters Helping the Hungry Needs Help with Meat-processing Costs**

Hunters Helping the Hungry, an organization that has enabled hunters to provide over two 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 25,307 pounds of venison (more than 101,228 servings from 731 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 $75 to process the donated deer. **Due to recommendations from our friends at the NJ Farm Bureau working with the NJ Dept. of Agriculture, HHH was awarded a grant that allows us to waive the hunter’s portion of the processing fees for hunter-donated deer weighing 50 lbs or more (dressed hanging weight) for the entire 2020–21 season.** The hunter’s fee for deer weighing under 50 lbs (dressed hanging weight) remains at $40. 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
- 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
- Farmer’s Butcher Shop
- 91 Titus Mill Rd., Pennington (609) 737-0514
- The Buck Stop, Stanley Mihalecz (856) 794-1281
- 989 Alvine Rd., Pittsgrove, Salem Co.

For upcoming fundraising events such as sporting clay shoots, a golf outing and a 3-D archery shoot, visit HuntersHelpingTheHungry.org.