

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

How New Jersey Is Responding

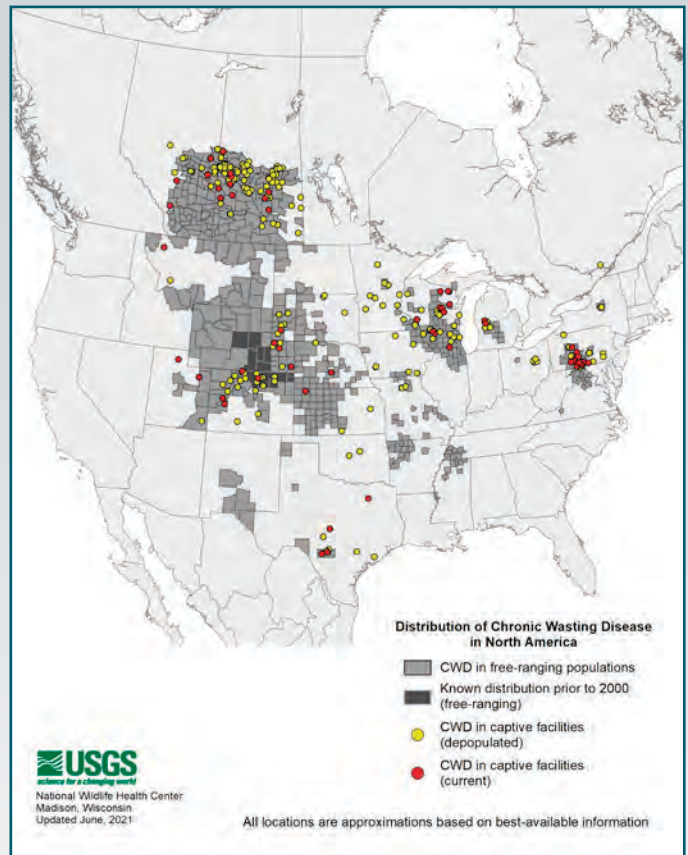
- ♦ Tested for CWD in symptomatic captive cervids and wild deer, and hunter-harvested wild deer since 1997. To date 9,842 wild deer have been tested with **no CWD-positive results**.
- ♦ **Banned the importation of all live members of the cervid family.**
- ♦ **Banned the importation of any cervid whole carcasses and intact heads into New Jersey.**
- ♦ **Banned the sale, possession, and use of hunting lures derived from cervid urine or glandular secretions. Synthetic lures and lures made from species other than cervids are allowed.**
- ♦ Updated the NJ 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 cervid herds.

Attention!

Deer-Derived Lures Ban

The use of all deer-derived urine and glandular secretion lures is banned. The infectious prions which cause CWD are found in urine, and any exposure has the potential of spreading the disease. Urine is collected from captive deer in catch pens that contaminate urine with feces and saliva and also contain prions. Currently, there is no reliable means to ensure that urine-based lures are free of CWD prions. CWD continues to be found at captive cervid facilities in increasing numbers.

▶▶ Chronic Wasting Disease in North America



See NJFishandWildlife.com/cwdinfo.htm for more information on CWD in New Jersey.

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