

# Highlights of Important Changes in the 2001–2002 Hunting Regulations

**I**n addition to the very successful youth pheasant hunting day which will be November 3 this fall, the Fish and Game Council has initiated a youth deer hunting day to be held on November 17, 2001 and a youth turkey hunting day on April 13, 2002.

Properly licensed youth hunters and qualified farmer youth may harvest one deer of either sex on November 17, 2001 when accompanied and supervised by a licensed adult over 21 years old acting as a mentor. Youth may use a shotgun or muzzleloader provided the youth has taken the necessary safety course and the mentoring adult, who may not hunt on that day, is also trained with the appropriate firearm. Restrictions on earn-a-buck or QDM antler points do not apply.

Youth hunters who have obtained a turkey permit may begin their spring turkey season on the special youth turkey hunting day, April 13, 2002. Youth must be accompanied and supervised by an adult 21 years or older that has a valid New Jersey hunting license.

**I**n order to better serve its constituents, the Fish and Game Council and the Division of Fish and Wildlife are instituting a trial over-the-counter deer permit sales program for the 2001–2002 season. Therefore, most zones will be available for sale at participating license agents.

In order to reduce the deer population in certain zones, permit quotas in most zones have been greatly increased over the past several years. Based on the quota numbers and total amounts of permits sold in these zones during the last deer season, the Division does not anticipate that these zones will sell out. However, there will be a lottery for the following zones: 3, 4, 18, 23, 24, 37, 38, 43, 46, 52, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 64 and 67 ONLY. Applications are found in the Deer Permit Supplement already available at license agents. Application period is June 1 through August 31.

To purchase a permit at a license agent, a hunter must present their valid 2001 hunting license and \$28.00 for each permit. A youth hunter must present their valid youth hunting license and \$12.00 for each permit. A hunter may purchase as many permits as (s)he would like. Hunters must purchase permits in person. The only exception is that an adult may purchase a permit for a youth or a nonresident who is not present at the time of purchase. The adult will need to present the youth's or the nonresident's valid hunting license—no copies accepted. In order to avoid long lines, we do not advise purchasing your permit on the first day of permit sales or the day before a particular season opens.

A list of license agents selling deer permits (p. 21), zone descriptions (p. 47), season dates and bag limits (p. 34) for zones being sold at license agents is found on page 21 and on the Division's website ([www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com)). Information on lottery zones is available in the Deer Permit Supplement, also found on our web site.

Bow permit sales will begin on Saturday, September 1, 2001. Shotgun and muzzleloader permit sales will begin on Saturday, October 13, 2001. All permit sales at license agents will end on December 31, 2001. If a hunter wishes to purchase a permit from January 1, 2002 through the end of the deer season, (s)he may do so only at the Pequest Trout Hatchery and the Division's office in Trenton.

**T**he private land and general turkey permits have been eliminated. All turkey permits will again be valid for both private and public land. An additional weekly segment added to the beginning of the season and increased permit quotas will help satisfy demand for permits.

Hunters will be allowed to pursue coyotes at night with the aid of portable lights during the special coyote season, February 1–18, 2002. However, muzzleloaders and bows and arrows will not be legal during nighttime hunting. In order to gauge participation in this new season, the permit requirement for the February season is re-instituted.

Hunters can anticipate another outstanding deer season as the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife continues to modify and improve its white-tailed deer management program. With favorable weather on popular hunting days, a deer harvest similar to last year's record harvest of 77,444 is anticipated.

Last year's regulation changes have proven to be very successful in achieving antlerless harvest goals. To standardize deer hunting regulations and further enhance antlerless deer harvest objectives, many important changes in the hunting regulations have been made for the 2001–02 deer seasons.

- The fall bow season will open on September 8, 2001 in deer management zones 5, 7–14, 36, 41, 42, 49, 50 and 51. Only antlerless deer may be taken from September 8 through 28, 2001 in these zones. Hunters who harvest an antlerless deer during this period in zones 5, 7–14, 36, 41, 50 and 51 will be eligible to harvest an antlered buck starting on September 29, 2001. They will have satisfied the earn-a-buck requirement for the regular fall bow season.
- The permit bow season is October 27, 2001 through November 24, 2001 in most zones. However, the permit bow season in zones 5, 7–14, 36, 41, 42, 49, 50 and 51 has been extended until the end of December.
- The use of smokeless powder in muzzleloader rifles, now possible due to new technology, is prohibited while hunting in New Jersey.
- The duration of the muzzleloader permit season in Zones 15, 25, 35 and 48 is increased to include December 3–8, 2001 and will continue until the end of January. The season dates for these zones include November 26 and 27, December 3–8, 10, 11, 15–24, 26–31, 2001, January 1–31, 2002. Hunters will be restricted to taking only antlerless deer during December 3–8, 2001.
- The duration of the muzzleloader permit season in Zones 5, 7–14, 36, 41, 42, 49, 50 and 51 is increased to include November 19, 20, and 21, 2001, December 3–8, 2001 and will be extended until February 16, 2002. Hunters will be restricted to taking antlerless deer only for the November days and during the six-day firearm season. The season dates for these zones include November 19–21, 26 and 27, December 3–8, 10, 11, 15–24, 26–31, 2001, January 1–31, and February 1–16, 2002. Hunters, in these zones, will again be provided with the option of taking two deer at a time during the muzzleloader permit season. This will allow a hunter the opportunity of shooting two deer before going to the check station.

- The shotgun permit season will be extended until January 31, 2002 in zones 17, 19, 22, 26 and 47. The season dates for these zones include December 12–14, 2001 and Jan. 5–31, 2002.

Please see next page for

updated paragraph.

- The shotgun permit season will be extended until February 16, 2002 in Zones 5, 7–14, 36, 41, 50 and 51. The season dates for these zones include November 19–21, December 3–8, 12–14, 2001, January 5–31, 2002 and February 1–16, 2002. Hunters will be restricted to taking only antlerless deer November 19–21 and December 3–8, 2001. Hunters in these zones have the option of taking two deer at a time during the shotgun permit season. This will allow a hunter the opportunity of shooting two deer before going to the check station.
- Earn-A-Buck Zones: hunters will again be required to harvest an antlerless deer first in all seasons except the six-day firearm season in Deer Management Zones 5, 7–14, 36, 38, 40, 41, 50, 51, 60 and 67.
- The Earn-A-Buck requirement has been clarified. Hunters have satisfied the earn-a-buck requirement during the fall and winter bow seasons when a hunter has taken an antlerless deer from any of the earn-a-buck zones (5, 7–14, 36, 38, 40, 41, 50, 51, 60 and 67). For example, a hunter takes an antlerless deer from zone 5 and then wants to hunt in zone 50. He has already satisfied the earn-a-buck requirement and can now take an antlered buck.
- In earn-a-buck zones during special permit seasons (muzzleloader, permit shotgun and permit bow seasons) the first deer taken on each permit from these zones must be antlerless. For example, a hunter has a shotgun permit for Zone 5 and he takes an antlerless deer. The hunter also has a shotgun permit for Zone 50. The hunter has to take another antlerless deer first in Zone 50 before being eligible to take an antlered buck on his Zone 50 permit.
- Hunters are limited to ONE antlered buck per season in all seasons except the six-day firearm buck season, regardless of how many permits are purchased.
- An Antler Point Restriction (Quality Deer Management) program will be continued in Deer Management Zones 3, 6, 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, 59, 63, 66 and 67. Hunters will be restricted to taking antlered deer having at least one antler with at least three points during all seasons open in these zones.

These changes in regulations will contribute to increasing the antlerless harvest, aid in efforts to decrease the deer population and increase recreational opportunities for sportsmen and women. Population management objectives call for reducing white-tailed deer populations in over 75% of

(continued on page 4)

The season dates for zones 15, 25, 35, 42, 48 and 49 include November 19-21, December 3-8, 12-14, 2001, and January 5-31, 2002. Hunters will be restricted to taking only antlerless deer for the November days and during the six-day firearm season. The bag limit for these zones is one buck and unlimited antlerless deer. Hunters, in these zones, will be provided with the option of taking two deer at a time during the shotgun permit season. This will allow a hunter the opportunity of shooting two deer before going to the check station.

# General Hunting Regulations

**This is not the full law. Consult the Division of Fish and Wildlife for further details. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal authorities.**

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

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

## Hunting & Trapping Education Requirements

New Jersey requires that anyone applying to hunt with a shotgun, rifle or bow show a previous resident license of the appropriate type from this or any state, or a course completion card of the appropriate hunter education course.

All hunter education courses are pre-scheduled with rosters generated from the southern region office. You must apply to be scheduled for a hunter education course.

Application forms for the hunter education courses may be obtained from most license agents, sporting goods dealers and Division offices.

Completed application forms must be returned to the regional office at the address on the application. Students will then be notified when and where to report for the courses. Apply early! Persons applying just prior to the hunting seasons most likely will not be scheduled in time to hunt those seasons.

## Hunter Orange

Hunters must wear a cap made of daylight fluorescent orange or an outer garment containing at least 200 square inches of fluorescent orange material visible from all sides at all times while engaged in hunting. A camo orange hat alone is not adequate.

This applies to all persons while hunting deer, bear, rabbit, hare, squirrel, fox, railbirds, and game birds including while in a tree stand.

Exceptions: this law does not apply to waterfowl, crow, spring wild turkey, coyote nor bow-hunters except that a bow hunter using a deer decoy must wear hunter orange, as described above, while transporting the decoy into and out of the woods and fields.

## Trespass Law

Hunters and trappers are required to secure permission prior to entering private lands to hunt. On agricultural lands, the law provides that these lands need not be posted to enforce the trespass law. Hunters must ask permission to recover a deer.

Hunters must not hunt in unharvested crops without first obtaining permission from the owner. Anyone causing damage to cultivated crops, orchards, fences, buildings or livestock may be arrested without warrant by the owner, occupant, lessee, or any officer of the law. Violators are liable for a fine of up to \$2,000 and restitution to the property owner in addition to the loss of hunting privileges for a period of 2 years.

## Hunting on Sunday

No person may hunt with firearms or any other weapon or carry a gun in the woods or fields or on the waters on Sunday except on semi-wild & commercial shooting preserve lands for the pur-

pose of shooting stocked game.

Persons are allowed to hunt raccoon or opossum between midnight on Saturday and one hour before sunrise on Sunday during the prescribed season.

### SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED:

- Carrying a loaded firearm or nocked arrow within 450 feet of a building or school playground without possessing written permission from the owner or lessee.
- Discharging a firearm or a bow and arrow on or across highways or roads. Discharging a firearm or a bow and arrow from a motor vehicle.
- Hunting for or shooting any wildlife by aid of a light, except when hunting raccoon, coyote or opossum while on foot.
- Hunting or shooting with the aid of a light attached to or carried in a vehicle.
- On National Wildlife Refuges, the distribution of bait and/or hunting over bait is prohibited.
- Hunting with arrows, darts or any other device propelled by any means that is used for the purpose of injecting or delivering any type of drug into an animal.
- Using electronic calling devices except when hunting for fox, raccoon, crow and coyote.
- Loaded firearms in a motor vehicle. Possession of a loaded firearm in or upon a vehicle is considered proof of pursuing or taking of wildlife.
- Transporting an uncased firearm in a motor vehicle.
- Shooting into a squirrel's nest.

### The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, the following apply:

- Baiting is prohibited
- No permanent tree stands or screw-in steps are permitted
- You cannot possess a loaded firearm while on any publicly traveled road-way within the park

## Farmer Regulations

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

Farmers and their lessees occupying or farming their land, members of their immediate families, or their farming employees may kill crows, woodchuck, and fox on farm property at any time when found destroying livestock or crops. However, they must use legal firearms, ammunition and other lawful procedures.

Farmers may trap foxes destroying poultry, crops or property at any time, subject to state law and local ordinances. Farmers or their agents may shoot or trap coyotes by lawful procedures at any time when found destroying livestock or crops. A regional Division law enforcement office must be notified within 24 hours of killing a coyote.

## Use of Dogs

Allowing dogs to run at large is prohibited. Persons may train dogs without firearms in daylight at any time except during any open firearm deer season.

No person shall train a raccoon or opossum hunting dog on WMAs other than during the periods of September 1 to October 1, 2001 and from March 1 to May 1, 2002. Training hours shall be one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

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

Note: For special areas and regulations for dog training on WMAs see the section of Wildlife Management Area Regulations, page 42.

## Non-Resident Game Removal

A non-resident licensee may remove from the state each day a daily bag limit of game. However, a non-resident may not take more than two day's bag limit from the state after one week's stay (Sunday to Saturday inclusive). This does not apply to game raised or killed at a licensed commercial preserve and legally tagged.

## Falconry

No person shall use a raptor for hunting without a falconry permit and a valid hunting license. No person under 14 years of age may hunt by means of a raptor.

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

Beginning falconers must be sponsored by an experienced falconer.

No person shall possess a firearm while hunting with raptors.

For additional information, write to the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

## Bow and Arrow

"Bow" means any long bow, recurve bow or compound bow that is hand held and hand drawn, with no mechanical device built into it or attached to it that will enable the archer to lock the bow at a full or partial draw. All draw locking and draw holding devices are prohibited. Hand held release devices are permitted.

All bows must have a minimum draw weight of 35 pounds at the archer's draw length, except compounds, which must have a minimum peak draw weight of 35 pounds. All arrows used for hunting deer, turkey, coyote, or woodchuck must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal head with a minimum width of 3/4 inches.

Arrows fitted with heads other than specified for deer, turkey, coyote or woodchuck, may be carried in the woods and fields during the small game season or other seasons which overlap with the bow and arrow deer season.

### It is unlawful to:

- use a crossbow or variation,
- use or possess a poison arrow or one with an explosive tip,
- use a bow one-half hour after sunset until one-half hour before sunrise during any season,
- use a bow and arrow from any vehicle, moving or stationary,
- have both a firearm and bow in possession or under control while hunting.

## Muzzleloading Rifles

It is unlawful to use smokeless powder in a muzzleloader while hunting in New Jersey.

A valid rifle permit must be possessed while hunting with a muzzleloading rifle.

It is unlawful to hunt with a muzzleloading rifle on wildlife management areas, except for deer and squirrel hunting during the special season in certain zones. For muzzleloader rifle squirrel hunting, see page 15. For muzzleloader deer hunting, see page 22. For rifle permit information, see page 12.

(continued on page 11)

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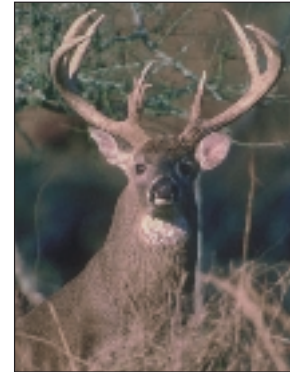
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# Take a Kid Hunting Pheasant Hunt: November 3, 2001



The 2001 Take a Kid Pheasant Hunt will allow properly licensed youth hunters ages 10 through 15 years old to hunt on one of 7 (seven) stocked Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) on Saturday morning, November 3, 2001. In a cooperative effort between the Division of Fish and Wildlife and the NJ State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, volunteer hunting mentors with trained bird dogs will guide youth hunters on a pheasant hunt. This experience will increase the young hunters' opportunity for harvesting a pheasant in a setting which encourages responsible and safe hunting practices.

All participants must pre-register and be accompanied to the check-in by a parent or guardian. Parents or guardians are welcomed and encouraged to follow the hunters through the fields. All pre-registered hunters will receive an information packet. Two sessions will be offered, starting at 7 a.m. and 12 noon.

Only 25 youth hunters will be allowed on each WMA during each session. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of slots available, a random drawing will be held to select participants. To register, please send the application found on this page to the address below. All entries must be postmarked by October 12, 2001. Information will be mailed on October 23, 2001.

Send application to: Take a Kid Hunting, NJ Div. of Fish & Wildlife, Northern Region Hunter Education, 26 Rt. 173 W, Hampton, NJ 08827

## TAKE A KID HUNTING YOUTH PHEASANT HUNT SATURDAY, NOV. 3, 2001

WMA	guided morning	open after 3 pm	open all day
Whittingham	X	X	
Black River	X	X	
Flatbrook			X
Clinton	X	X	
Assunpink	X	X	
Colliers Mills	X	X	
Glassboro			X
Millville	X	X	
Peaslee	X	X	

Guided: Pre-registration required. See details, this page.

Open—afternoon: Any youth hunter, between 10 and 15 years old, with a free Youth Hunting License. Youths, accompanied by a licensed, non-shooting adult, will be permitted to hunt on the listed Wildlife Management Areas on November 3, 2001 from 3:00 p.m. until sunset.

Open—all day: Any youth hunter, between 10 and 15 years old, with a free Youth Hunting License. Youths, accompanied by a licensed, non-shooting adult, will be permitted to hunt on the listed Wildlife Management Areas on November 3, 2001 from 8 a.m. until sunset.

### Youth Hunter

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Hunting License # \_\_\_\_\_

1. Select WMA (Check only 1):

- Assunpink     Black River     Clinton     Colliers Mills  
 Millville     Peaslee     Whittingham

2. Preferred Time:     7 a.m.     12 noon

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

- NO     YES-2000

4. With what gauge shotgun will you be hunting?

- 12     16     20     28     .410

## Youth Upland Bird Hunting Day Saturday, November 3, 2001

Youth hunters between the ages of 10 and 15 years old, with a Youth Hunting License, accompanied by a licensed, non-hunting adult, will be permitted to hunt on licensed semi-wild preserves. Youths can hunt for pheasants, quail, and/or chukars on Saturday, November 3, 2001 from 8:00 a.m. to sunset. This is a great opportunity for hunters belonging to semi-wild preserves to introduce youth hunters to upland bird hunting without competition from adult hunters.

## Youth Waterfowl Hunt Day Sept. 22, 2001 TAKE A KID HUNTING

Youth hunters 10-15 years old, with a free Youth Hunting License and accompanied by a non-shooting adult (21 years of age or older), will be permitted to hunt for waterfowl statewide from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset on Sept. 22, 2001. See the migratory bird supplement and watch for news releases for further details.

Non-toxic shot required

Bag limit: Same as regular duck and early Canada goose seasons. No Federal or State Duck Stamp required for youths.

**See page 20 for Youth Turkey Day and page 25 for Youth Deer Hunting Day**

# General Hunting Regulations

(Continued from page 6)

## .22 Rifles

A valid rifle permit must be possessed while hunting with a .22 caliber rifle.

It is unlawful to possess and use .22 caliber rifle except while hunting woodchuck, hunting raccoon and opossum with hounds, and dispatching trapped animals other than muskrat.

.22 caliber rifles must be loaded with short cartridges only, except when hunting woodchuck.

.22 caliber rifles need not be plugged, but must be loaded with no more than 3 shells. No 10-17 year olds may hunt with any modern rifle.

## Firearms and Missiles

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

Airguns are not legal hunting firearms.

It is unlawful to possess in the woods and fields shot larger than #4 fine shot except for hunting deer, waterfowl, woodchuck or coyote.

No shotgun capable of holding more than three shells at one time may be used for hunting.

## Wildlife

**Taxidermists note:** the sale of wild birds and game animals or parts thereof is prohibited in New Jersey. Legally trapped furbearers may be sold. Questions concerning the above should be directed to regional Division law enforcement offices.

It is illegal to capture, kill, injure or have in possession any wild bird other than a game bird.

No one may rob a bird's nest.

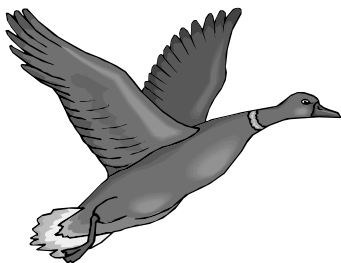
The removal of the skin or feathers or mutilation of any wild bird or mammal in the woods or fields for the purpose of concealing sex or identity is illegal.

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

There is no open season on bobcats or bears. It is illegal to kill, attempt to kill or possess bobcats or bears, except parts of bobcats or bears legally taken in other states may be possessed but not sold in New Jersey.

## Wildlife Damage Control

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



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