

Deer Season Permits

Permit hunting seasons play a major role in the Division's deer management program. The three permit seasons provide a means to control hunting pressure, and thereby harvest, in each deer management zone to meet specific deer management objectives. With the additional harvest and recreational opportunity these seasons provide, an additional fee is charged for each permit.

- Permits are required to hunt during the permit bow, permit muzzleloader and permit shotgun seasons.
- **Permits are zone specific and are valid for the duration of the specified zone's permit season, even when that season extends into the 2005 calendar year.**
- Hunters are limited to purchasing **one permit per zone for each of the permit seasons.** Example: If you hunt only in Zone 19, you are limited to purchasing one muzzleloader, one bow and one shotgun permit for Zone 19. If you hunt in more than one zone you may purchase one muzzleloader, one bow and one shotgun permit for each zone.
- Regardless of how many permits one has, hunters are limited to taking **one buck** during each of the permit seasons. (See *Licenses and Permits* for details, page 21.)
- Either a regular, non-resident or youth hunting license is a prerequisite to purchasing a deer

permit. See page 4 for more information regarding hunting licenses.

- Muzzleloader season permits are not valid unless accompanied by both a valid rifle permit and a firearm or all-around hunting license.
- It is illegal to use a permit for a zone or season or hunter other than what is written on the permit. Deer permit violations are subject to a fine of \$100–\$500 for each offense.
- The cost per permit is \$28 for each adult and \$12 for each youth permit.

Permits Available at Participating License Agents

- Permits may be purchased at participating license agents (listed on page 13) only for the following zones: **1–19, 21–31, 34–36, 41–43, 45–51, 55, 63 and 65.** (See *Mail-in Lottery Permits* for zones with lower quotas).
- Bow, muzzleloader and shotgun permits will be available for sale **beginning Saturday, Sept. 11, 2004.**
- Participating license agents will be selling permits through **Feb. 12, 2005.**
- Hours of operation and types of payment accepted vary according to license agent.
- To purchase a permit at a license agent, a hunter **MUST** present his or her valid current year's hunting license.

- Hunters need not be present; a person may purchase a permit for an absent hunter only if he or she shows the hunter's valid hunting license. **Photocopies of licenses are not accepted.**
- The **hunter** is responsible to know in what zone and season he or she wants to hunt.
- Hunters are urged to review their permit **before** leaving the license agent.
- Once a permit has been paid for and leaves the store, **there will be no returns, exchanges or refunds. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- As with licenses, hunters are reminded to keep the purchaser's copy in a separate, safe location. This is their receipt and proof of permit, should the original be lost.

Special Area Deer Management Zones

- Special areas include Federal Military Installments, certain state and county parks and national wildlife refuges.
- Zone dependent, permits are either purchased over-the-counter at the special area, or through the mail in lottery.
- There may be specific, qualifying criteria which hunters must meet before obtaining a permit. Some zones are not open to the public.

(continued on page 10)

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Deer Season Permits

(continued from page 9)

- Refer to the *Special Area Hunting Seasons* section on page 35 for specific details and instructions.

Military Zones

Military base zones include the following: Picatinny Arsenal (Zone 54), Earle NWS (Zones 39 & 40), Lakehurst NAES (Zone 53), FAA Tech Center (Zone 66) and Fort Dix (Zones 37 & 52). All have lower quotas and a limited amount of permits will be made available. Due to heightened security measures, permits for most military base zones will be available for purchase only at each base location except permits for Ft. Dix, Zones 37 and 52, will be sold through the mail-in lottery. Permits will be available beginning Sept. 13, 2004, however please refer to the Special Area Section on page 35 for complete details. For the FAA Tech. Center, see Special Areas on page 36 for Zone 66.

Mail-In Lottery Permits

Zones which have a limited permit quota necessitate a mail in lottery. Hunters may apply for a total of four deer permits (two bow, two firearm) through the mail-in lottery. Two random lotteries will be conducted. The first lottery will choose applicants from the first lottery section of the permit application.

The second lottery will assign permits leftover from the first lottery. These permits will be assigned, where available, to applicants completing the second lottery section of the application.

The second lottery is NOT a continuation of the first lottery. The computer will attempt to fill the first, second, or third choice of each applicant in the second lottery *independent* of any previous request in the first lottery. If permits remain after both computerized lotteries are conducted, they will be available for purchase over-the-counter at selected Division offices.

- Permits will be available by lottery for the following zones: **37, 38, 52, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 64 and 67.**
- Application and instructions can be found on page 6 and 7.
- Applications must be **postmarked by Aug. 31, 2004.**
- **Only ONE application per hunter.** If you make a mistake do not submit a second application. The computer will automatically void both applications. See *Notification*, below.
- Consult the permit quotas for lottery zones table on the table below to ascertain your chances of winning a permit. This table shows last year's permit quotas and the number of applicants, you can use it to compare to this year's permit quotas.

Notification

- Late applications will be returned.
- Incorrect or incomplete applications will be

returned for correction, to be resubmitted promptly.

- Any applicant not selected to receive a permit will receive a notice of non-selection. A refund, minus a \$2 application fee, will be issued at a later date.
- All applicants will receive notification by Oct. 18 for bow permits, and Oct. 22 for shotgun and muzzleloader permits.
- If you have not received notification by these dates, contact the Division.
- Hunters not receiving a deer permit *or* notice of non-selection must contact the Division before the end of the appropriate season or the hunter will not receive a refund for undeliverable permits or those lost in the mail.
- For questions concerning the permit process, call the 24-hour automated permit hotline: (609) 292-9192.

Over-the-Counter Sale of Leftover Lottery Permits

- Should there be leftover permits after both computerized lotteries are conducted, they will be sold over-the-counter at selected Division offices.
- Leftover permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Sale of permits will be Mondays through Fridays only, **tentatively beginning Monday Oct. 25, 2004.**
- During the week of Oct. 18, 2004, check the Web site or call the 24-hour automated permit hotline at (609) 292-9192 for more detailed information.

2004 Permit Quotas For Lottery Zones

This table shows the permit quotas for 2003 along with the number of applicants who requested that zone as their first choice in the first lottery. The 2004 Permit Quota is also listed. Hunters can ascertain their chances of winning a permit by looking at the number of permits allotted (the permit quota) and comparing them to the number of permits requested.

ZONE	2003 Permit Bow Quota	1st Choice Bow Requests 2003	2004 Permit Bow Quota	2003 Permit Shotgun Quota	1st Choice Shotgun Requests 2003	2004 Permit Shotgun Quota	2003 Permit Muzzleloader Quota	1st Choice Muzzleloader Requests 2003	2004 Permit Muzzleloader Quota
37*	190	140	190	75	17	75	300	218	300
38	0	0	0	290	330	390	10	6	10
52*	65	30	65	25	13	25	180	68	180
56	0	0	0	25	24	25	0	0	0
57	40	22	40	40	19	40	40	9	40
58	50	52	50	75	82	75	50	32	50
59	35	40	35	75	22	75	25	16	25
61	40	21	40	80	28	80	40	12	40
64	0	0	0	100	153	100	0	0	0
67	0	0	0	0	0	0	350	235	350

* See Fort Dix segment in the Special Hunting Section on page 36.

Portions of this *Digest* are available in enlarged format for the visually impaired.

Write to: New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife
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The Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) in the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is the state agency charged with managing all fish, game and wildlife programs in the state. The NJ Fish and Game Council was created by law and empowered to adopt the Fish and Game Code and advise the DEP Commissioner and the DFW on the management of fish, wildlife and habitat. Sportsmen appointees enact wildlife-related law and influence wildlife policy. Each of the Fish and Game Council members selected by the Federation maintains close contact with us to keep us informed and to understand our positions on various issues.

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PERMITS & STAMPS

2004 New Jersey Duck Stamp Print



**The Retriever Puppy Series, Print II—
The Yellow Lab Puppy**

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife Waterfowl Stamp Advisory Committee proudly announces its 21st Edition waterfowl stamp painted by artist Phillip Crowe. The second in the Retriever Puppy Series, the stamp features a yellow Labrador retriever and a hooded merganser crafted by New Jersey decoy carver John Potts.


Proceeds from sales of New Jersey's duck stamps and prints are used to acquire wetlands for waterfowl habitat and public use. To date, funds raised total more than \$3.9 million. More than 13,000 acres of waterfowl habitat have already been acquired, and the stamp advisory committee will continue working to enhance thousands of additional acres to benefit wildlife.

The stamp artist attended Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, Fla., and Crowe's learning experience there laid the groundwork for his love of painting. Crowe's artwork has raised millions of dollars for many organizations including Ducks Unlimited, Quail Unlimited, the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Nature Conservancy. He also has donated his time at charity events such as the Louise Mandrell Celebrity Shoot and has helped raise money for the Boy Scouts of America and the Ruffed Grouse Society.

Potts, a self-employed house painter, began carving in 1985 while recovering from surgery. He spent time in Louisiana studying with Tan Brunet, widely regarded as one of the world's best carvers. Potts has since earned more than 600 awards in state and national competitions and also is a well-respected judge among competing waterfowl carvers. He has donated many carvings to charitable organizations including Ducks Unlimited, the New Jersey Waterfowlers, hospitals and animal shelters.


Limited-edition, signed and numbered prints of the 21st New Jersey waterfowl stamp can be purchased directly from the Division of Fish & Wildlife. To order a print, visit www.njfishandwildlife.com or send a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope to: Waterfowl Prints, N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400.

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