



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

www.njfishandwildlife.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PERMIT HOLDERS OF CAPTIVE DEER & ELK

- In April of 2005, tests confirmed that Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was present in both wild and captive deer herds in New York. Population reductions with surveillance since that time have not revealed additional cases.
- Since 1998 New Jersey has tested 4,392 wild deer, 130 captive deer and 6 elk and the presence of CWD has not been detected.
- The NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife will continue to monitor the health of our wild deer herd through sampling and testing. In 2011 tissue samples from an additional 375 deer were submitted for testing, and results from those samples are pending.
- **Remember - the ban on the importation of deer and elk put in place on April 15, 2002 is still in effect and will be strictly enforced.**
- In the event that you are concerned about CWD, notice a decline in the health of your deer herd and/or one or more of your deer die suspiciously with emaciation, please contact Bill Stansley at 908-236-2118 as soon as possible to discuss the situation and arrange for the testing of the deer.
- In the event of an unexplained death of a deer at least 1.5 years of age, please prepare the deer head for testing. Taking proper sanitary precautions, remove the head of the deer below the second vertebrae, place the head in a plastic bag and refrigerate the sample immediately. These steps should be completed as close to the time of death as possible. **Never freeze the specimen.** The refrigerated sample should be transported to the Division's Office of Fish and Wildlife Health and Forensics. Contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife for more detailed information.
- More information about Chronic Wasting Disease can be found on the on the USDA's website at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/cwd/