Deer Season Permits

PERMIT INFORMATION

Regulations in red are new this year.

PERMIT HUNTING SEASONS play a major role in Fish and Wildlife’s deer management program. The three permit seasons provide a means to control hunting pressure, and thereby the 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.

Apprentice License Holders!
All hunting permit requirements and regulations apply to Apprentice License holders.

Farmer deer permit information is detailed in the Farmer Hunting Information section beginning on page 24. Farmers purchasing non-farmer permits should also read this deer season permit section, below.

For purchasing procedures, see Permits for Hunters and Trappers, page 8.

• A permit is required to hunt during the Permit Bow, Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun deer seasons.
• The zone-specific deer permit is valid only for hunting antlerless deer. To take an antlered buck during any permit season, hunters must purchase one Antlered Buck Permit. An Antlered Buck Permit is not zone-specific but is valid only when used in conjunction with a zone-specific deer permit.
• Hunters are still limited to purchasing one Antlered Buck Permit per permit season (i.e., one Antlered Buck Bow Permit, one Antlered Buck Shotgun Permit and one Antlered Buck Muzzleloader Permit). Buck permits are valid in any zone for which the hunter has a valid antlerless zone-specific permit.
• Note: Only one deer at a time may be taken during any permit season even if you possess both an antlered and antlerless permit, except in those zones where two deer at a time may be harvested during the Permit Bow, Permit Shotgun and Permit Muzzleloader seasons as per the deer regulation table on page 33–34.
• Antlerless deer permits are zone-specific and are valid for the duration of the specified zone’s permit season, including when that season extends into the 2021 calendar year. Hunters are still limited to purchasing one zone-specific permit per zone per permit season. Example: If you hunt only Zone 19, you may purchase only one muzzleloader, one bow and one shotgun antlerless 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 the number of zone-specific antlerless permits in possession, hunters are limited to taking one buck during each of the permit seasons ONLY after first purchasing a Buck Permit for that season. (See Deer Hunting Regulations, Licenses and Permits for details, page 27)
• A resident, non-resident or youth hunting license is a prerequisite to purchase a deer permit. See pages 1 and 10 for hunting license information.
• Muzzleloader season permits are not valid unless accompanied by both a valid Rifle Permit and a Firearm or All-around Sportsman License while hunting.
• Permits are valid only for the season and zone indicated, are non-transferable and non-refundable.
• It is illegal to use a permit for a zone, season or hunter other than those named on the permit. Deer permit violations are subject to a fine of $100–$1,000 for each offense.
• The cost per permit [both the Antlerless (zone-specific) Deer Permit or Antlered Buck Permit] is $28 for each adult and $12 for each youth permit.

Permits Available at Participating License Agents (Except Special Areas Zones)
• The following deer management zones have permit quotas that far exceed hunter demand: Zones 1–19, 21–31, 34–36, 41–43, 45–51, 55, 63, 65, 67 and 68. These permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis. In the unlikely event that sales reach the permit quota for a specific zone and season combination, those permit sales will end.

Antlered Buck Permit Deadlines!

Antlerless zone-specific permits may be purchased beginning Sept. 14, 2020 through the last day of the season for that zone. Hunters are encouraged to purchase their Antlered Buck Permit and their zone-specific permit(s) for each season in the same transaction. Those who initially purchase only an antlerless zone-specific permit before the season opens should remember the following deadlines:

• Antlered Buck Permits for the Permit Bow Season must be purchased by Oct. 31 at 11:59 p.m.
• Antlered Buck Permits for the Permit Muzzleloader Season must be purchased by Nov. 23 at 11:59 p.m.
• Antlered Buck Permits for the Permit Shotgun Season must be purchased by Dec. 16 at 11:59 p.m.

For hunters who do not purchase any antlerless zone-specific deer permit until after the season opens, an Antlered Buck Permit may be purchased only with the initial antlerless zone-specific permit. There will be no other chance to purchase an Antlered Buck Permit.
Permits sales are available at license agents listed on page 16 and on Fish and Wildlife’s Internet sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. Hours of operation and types of payment accepted vary according to license agent. Be prepared.

To purchase a permit at a license agent a hunter must present his or her valid, current year’s hunting license.

A person may purchase a permit for an absent hunter only when the following conditions are met:
1. The absent hunter has already completed a Child Support Certification (see page 7) online or at a license agent and
2. The buyer shows the absent hunter’s valid hunting license and identifying information (date of birth and Conservation ID Number or Social Security Number). License photocopies 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 fee is paid and the buyer leaves the store, there will be no returns, exchanges or refunds. No exceptions.

Permits purchased online will now print as PDF documents. Hunters may use those afield or may purchase duplicates printed on durable material. If purchased, the duplicate durable license copy will arrive in 7–10 business days. Additional fees apply.

Special Area Deer Management Zones

Special Areas include federal military installations, certain state and county parks and national wildlife refuges. Special Area zones include: 37, 38, 39, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 64, 66, 67, 68 and 70. Some of these zones have specific qualifying criteria which hunters must meet before obtaining a permit. Certain zones are not open to the public. It is the hunters’ responsibility to arrange for property access prior to purchasing a permit.

There is no lottery for Special Area Permits. Permits will be available for a limited time on a first-come, first-served basis. Note: Most of these Special Areas permits will be available for sale only for a limited time. It is the hunters’ responsibility to pay attention to all deadlines. Exceptions cannot be made.

Refer to a specific Special Area (see Special Areas Hunting Seasons, page 38) for complete details including when each permit sale will occur.

Military Zones

Military base deer management zones include the following: Picatinny Arsenal (Zone 54), Earle NWS (Zone 39), Lakehurst Section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, (Formerly Lakehurst NAES (Zone 53), FAA Tech Center (Zone 66) and Dix-McGuire section of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, U.S. Air Force, (Formerly Fort Dix) (Zone 37). All have lower quotas with a limited number of available permits. Due to heightened security, hunters must be sure to have proper security clearance and access prior to applying for or purchasing permits for military base zones.

Refer to a specific Special Area (see Special Areas Hunting Seasons, page 39) for complete details including when each permit sale will occur.
IMPORTANT: License agents change frequently. Call the agent before going or refer to our website for active license agents:
NJFishandWildlife.com/agentlist.htm.
IMPORTANT: License agents change frequently. Call the agent before going or refer to our website for active license agents:
NJFishandWildlife.com/agentlst.htm.

MORRIS
Dick’s Sporting Goods, 240 Rt. 10 West, East Hanover ........................................ (973) 428-0889
Dick’s Sporting Goods, 387 Mount Hope Ave., Rockaway ................................ (973) 659-1950
Dorsi’s Deli & Pharmacy, 184 Central Ave, Sterling ................................................. (908) 647-7787
Dows Boat Rental, 145 Nolans Point Rd., Lake Hopatcong ....................................... (973) 663-3826
Lakes End Marina, 91 Mt. Arlington Blvd., Landing ..................................................... (973) 398-5707
Ramsey Outdoor Store, 281 Rt. 10 E., Succasunna ....................................................... (973) 584-7798
Rich’s Refrigeration, 4 King St, Morristown ............................................................... (973) 234-5868
Wal-Mart #3291, 40 International Dr. South, Flanders .................................................. (973) 347-7400
Wal-Mart #3443, 48 Rt. 23 North, Riverdale ............................................................... (973) 835-5812
Wal-Mart #5077, 300 Wooton St., Boonton ............................................................... (973) 299-3943
Wal-Mart #5414, 580 Rt. 9 North, Lanoka Harbor ...................................................... (609) 242-8311
Wal-Mart #5178, 220 Enterprise Dr., Rockaway ......................................................... (973) 361-6089
Wal-Mart #3598, 235 Ridgedale Ave., Cedar Knolls .................................................... (973) 889-8646
Wal-Mart #5077, 300 Wooton St., Boonton ............................................................... (973) 299-3943
Wal-Mart #5178, 220 Enterprise Dr., Rockaway ......................................................... (973) 361-6089

OCEAN
Animals & Gardens Unlimited, 14 Jacotstown Rd, New Egypt ...................................... (609) 752-0000
Creekside Outfitters, 403 Rt. 9, Waretown ................................................................. (973) 242-1812
Dick’s Sporting Goods, 223 Stafford Park Blvd., Manahawkin ...................................... (609) 597-5396
Dick’s Sporting Goods, 487 Rt. 70, Brick ................................................................. (732) 477-4844
Downe’s Bait & Tackle, 287 Brennan Concours, Bayville ........................................... (732) 269-0137
Garden State Yacht & Sales, 101 Rt. 35 South, Pt. Pleasant ............................................ (732) 892-4222
Grizz’s Forked River & T. & T. Lacey Rd., Forked River ............................................. (609) 693-9208
Hook House Bait & Tackle, 2701 Rt. 37 East, Toms River ........................................... (732) 270-3856
Lacey Marine, 308 Rt. 9 South, Forked River .............................................................. (609) 693-0151
Pequest Trout Hatchery, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford ...................................................... (908) 637-4125
Pequest Sporting Goods, 290 Rt. 46, Great Meadows .................................................. (609) 799-3530
Smitty’s Liquors & Deli, 89 Rt. 46, Delaware ............................................................... (908) 475-5933
The Owl’s Nest, 97 Rt. 519, Phillipsburg ................................................................. (908) 995-7903
Wal-Mart #2497, 1236 Rt. 22, Phillipsburg ............................................................... (908) 545-3622
Wal-Mart #2503, 1885 Rt. 57 Suite 100, Hackettstown ................................................ (908) 979-9342
Washington One Stop, 288 Rt. 51 South, Washington ................................................... (908) 689-1353

PENNSYLVANIA
Chrusz’s General Store, 235 Main St., Johnsonburg ....................................................... (908) 852-0181
Hackettstown Firearms Storage, 134 Main St, Hackettstown ........................................ (908) 852-5260
Hi-Way Sport Shop, 253 Rt. 31 North, Washington ................................................... (908) 689-6208
Knot Just Flies, 61 Rt. 94, Blairstown ................................................................. (908) 362-3474
Pequest Sporting Goods, 290 Rt. 46, Great Meadows .................................................. (908) 799-3530
Pequest Trout Hatchery, 605 Pequest Rd., Oxford ...................................................... (908) 637-4125
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Washington One Stop, 288 Rt. 51 South, Washington ................................................... (908) 689-1353

ELECTRONIC PERMIT AND LICENSE SYSTEM
License agents may change throughout the year. Consult our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/agentlst.htm for the most current list.

SALEM
SJ Gas and Shine, 290 Rt. 40, Elms ........................................ (856) 358-3488
Wal-Mart #2041, 709 S. Broadway, Pennsville ......................................................... (856) 935-8200

SOMERSET
Middlebrook Firearms, 288 Rt. 22, Green Brook .................................................. (732) 529-6897
Wal-Mart #2651, 100 N. Main St., Manville ......................................................... (908) 575-8997
No. Haledon General Store, 20 Manchester Ave, No. Haledon .................................... (973) 427-1653
Tackle and Field, 81 Ringwood Ave, Wantage ....................................................... (908) 835-2996
Totowa Bait & Tackle Shop, 10 Albion Ave., Paterson ............................................... (973) 956-0825

SUSSEX
Bait & Boat, 13 Rt. 183, Stanhope ........................................ (973) 345-5797
Garden State Bow & Reel, 2760A Rt. 23N., Stockholm ............................................ (973) 697-3727
Griffin & Howe, 270 Sparta-Stanhope Rd., Andover .................................................. (973) 584-7798
Simon Peter Sport Co., 660 Rt. 206 South, Newton .................................................... (973) 786-5313
Skylands Sport Shop, 33 Rt. 206 So., Augusta ....................................................... (973) 300-5883
Stokes Forest Sport Shop, 29 Rt. 206 South, Branchville ............................................ (973) 948-5448
Wal-Mart #2090, 230 Rt. 23, Franklin ................................................................. (973) 299-4242
Wal-Mart #2604, 26 Hampton House Rd., Newton ................................................... (973) 300-1859
YOJ Sports, 196 Main St, Andover ................................................................. (973) 786-7382

UNION
Dick’s Sporting Goods, 2700 Rt. 22 E., Union ....................................................... (908) 964-2580
Wal-Mart #3292, 900 Springfield Road, Union ......................................................... (908) 624-0644
Wal-Mart #3469, 1601 W. Edgar Blvd., Linden ....................................................... (908) 474-9055

Be The First To Know! Get on the List
The Hunting & Trapping e-mail list, that is.
This FREE service provides the latest information about Fish and Wildlife events, public hearings and other wildlife-related news. And there are nine other lists to help you get the most out of New Jersey’s fish and wildlife resources.
Sign up today.
Visit Fish and Wildlife’s website:
NJFishandWildlife.com/lstsub.htm
After passing on a doe, then readying to shoot a spike, this beautiful 9-pointer stepped into range. Hunter Geiger, 12, of Byram, in a father-son hunt from a ground blind in DMZ 7, made a clean shot, downing the buck in 30 yards. High-fives, hugs and tears of pride and joy followed. His dad Erich said, "When you watch your kids catch their first fish or take their first deer, it's even better than doing it yourself."

Erich Geiger

YOUTH DEER HUNTING

See table below.

After passing on a doe, then readying to shoot a spike, this beautiful 9-pointer stepped into range. Hunter Geiger, 12, of Byram, on a father-son hunt from a ground blind in DMZ 7, made a clean shot, downing the buck in 30 yards. High-fives, hugs and tears of pride and joy followed. His dad Erich said, "When you watch your kids catch their first fish or take their first deer, it's even better than doing it yourself."

Erich Geiger

YOUTH DEER HUNTING

See table below.

All youth hunters must have a valid youth hunting license. See Youth Licenses, page 8.

• Supervision: The youth hunter MUST be under the direct supervision of a person who is at least 21 years old and who has a valid firearm or bow and arrow license corresponding to the season hunted. Direct supervision is defined as both the youth hunter and the adult mentoring hunter set up together at the same location, hunting as a unit, not hunting independently. The adult does not need a zone or area permit to supervise, only their valid license, CANNOT hunt on any youth days but may call for the youth. Youth hunters do not need a harvest number during youth hunts or non-permit deer seasons.

For additional harvest reporting requirements, see page 30.

TAKE A KID HUNTING!

| Who can hunt? | Youth hunters aged 10 to 16, accompanied by an adult at least 21 years of age with valid license appropriate to weapon used. Properly licensed adult MUST be set up together with Youth Hunter (same tree, blind, etc). Direct supervision only. See Youth Licenses, page 8. ADULTS MAY NOT HUNT ON THIS DAY
| What do I need? | • A valid Youth Hunting License (See Youth Licenses, page 8.)
• A valid Rifle Permit if using a muzzleloader (adult also)
• A HIP Number if hunting waterfowl
• A Youth Turkey Permit if hunting Youth Turkey Day
| Dates | Bag Limits | Report Your Harvest |
| Deer | September 26, 2020 | 1 deer, either sex ARCHERY ONLY |
| Waterfowl | NORTH Zone — Youth ONLY, Oct. 3 |
| South Zone — Youth ONLY, Oct. 10 |
| Coastal Zone — Youth ONLY, Nov. 7 |
| Turkey | April 24, 2021 | 1 male turkey |
| Deer | November 21, 2020 | 1 deer, either sex SHOTGUN or MUZZLELOADER ONLY |


Natalie Raines proudly displaying a hooded merganser after an enjoyable hunt in the Coastal Zone.

YOUTH TURKEY HUNTING

See table, left.

With great patience and straight shooting, Ryan Wright, 16 of Ocean County, used a 12-gauge shotgun to harvest his first gobbler called in by Christina Krajscovics. 
**WMA Youth Pheasant Hunt Days**

All youth hunters must have a valid youth hunting license. See *Youth Licenses*, page 8.

» Oct. 31 and Nov. 2–6, 2020 Rain or Shine!

This year’s Take a Kid Hunting Pheasant Hunt will allow properly licensed and supervised youth hunters (see table, below) to hunt any of the 10 stocked Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) on Saturday, Oct. 31 and Monday–Friday, Nov. 2–6.

In a cooperative effort between the Division of Fish and Wildlife and the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs, volunteer hunting mentors with trained bird dogs will guide youth hunters on a Saturday, Oct. 31 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 guided morning hunt participants must pre-register and be accompanied to the check-in by a parent or guardian who are welcomed and encouraged to follow the hunters through the fields. All pre-registered hunters will receive an information packet. One session will be offered, starting at 7 a.m.

A limited number of youth hunters will be allowed on each WMA during the guided morning hunts. To register, go to NJFishandWildlife.com/ythpheas_register.htm and select the wildlife management area where you wish to hunt. For each WMA, when registration reaches capacity, that area disappears from the online registration options. Select one of the remaining locations.

**Priority will be given to first-time participants.**

Register early; spaces fill quickly!

Online registration for the Oct. 31 guided youth pheasant hunt opens Sept. 8 and closes Oct. 16. No late registrations will be accepted. Pheasant hunt information packets will be mailed to registered youth hunters on or around Oct. 19.

**Selected Wildlife Management Areas for Youth Pheasant Hunting**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WMA</th>
<th>Guided AM Oct. 31 only</th>
<th>Open 1 PM Oct. 31</th>
<th>Open All Day Oct. 31</th>
<th>Open All Day Nov. 2–6</th>
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<td>Whittingham</td>
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**Guided Morning—pre-registration required.**

Open—all day: Any properly licensed and supervised youth hunter (see *Who can hunt?* top of table, page 18) will be permitted to hunt on the listed wildlife management areas on October 31 and Nov. 2–6 from 8 a.m. until sunset. *No registration required.*

**Veteran / Active Military Waterfowl Hunts**

Veterans and Active Military are welcome during two statewide, Veteran/Active Military Hunting Days on Feb. 6 and 13. See page 61 for details.

**Semi-wild Preserves Upland Bird Youth Hunt Day**

All youth hunters must have a valid youth hunting license. See *Youth Licenses*, page 8.

» Saturday, October 31, 2020

Properly licensed and supervised youth hunters (see *Who can hunt?* top of table, page 18) are permitted to hunt on licensed semi-wild hunting preserves for pheasant, quail and/or partridge on Saturday, October 31 from 8 a.m. to sunset. Take advantage of this great opportunity for hunters belonging to semi-wild preserves to introduce youth hunters to upland bird hunting without competition from adult hunters who may not hunt on this day.

**Instructors NEEDED!**

**Become an instructor with Fish and Wildlife’s Hunter Education Program.**

Our Hunter Education Unit is looking for New Jersey’s best sportsmen and sportswomen to become instructors at locations where students take the test and field course after first having completed the home study portion.

**Call (856) 629-0552**

Leave your name and address to receive an application.

Or complete the application form at: NJFishandWildlife.com/pdf/hunted/hntedinstr.pdf.

**YOUTH PHEASANT HUNTING**

See table, page 18.