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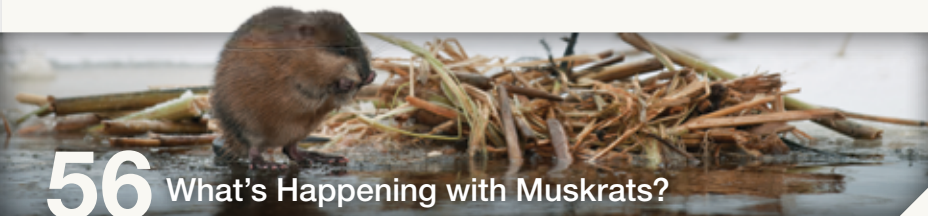
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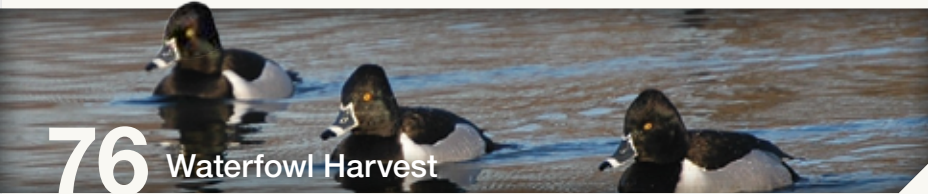
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License Information & Fees 2015–16

Licenses are valid from date of purchase to Dec. 31 of each year. For license sales by phone or Internet, call (888) 773-8450 or go to www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. See also pages 20–21 for license agent listings.

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• New licenses become available on Dec. 15 annually. See page 8 for additional license information.

• **Do NOT** heat laminate a durable license or permit. High temperature will destroy these waterproof, heat-sensitive documents.



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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

Our Mission

To protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

Our Goals

- To maintain New Jersey's rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.
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Director's Message

DAVE CHANDA



Hunters in New Jersey can look forward to exciting changes for this hunting season. Recent revisions to the Game Code now offer more opportunities to enjoy the sport than ever before, increased convenience for hunters and additional protection for our wildlife resources. The

opening of turkey hunting areas, formally closed to fall hunting, the expansion of the black bear hunting area and the addition of hunting days in some deer management zones are examples of changes made to offer increased opportunity for 2015.

The elimination of the lottery for fall turkey hunting is an added convenience for hunters who now may simply purchase a permit at any license agent. Garden State hunters can also look forward to future increased opportunity for black bear hunting beginning in 2016. These changes will enable us to better manage a New Jersey black bear population which is increasing in number and expanding in range. Stay tuned for details on the proposed additions to black bear hunting beginning in the summer of 2016.

Changes which enable Fish and Wildlife to continue specific conservation efforts include the

mandatory reporting of incidentally-caught bobcats, the inclusion of foot-encapsulating traps and relaxing locks on snares which will help protect non-target species. Other projects in the works to promote and maintain the hunting traditions is the cooperative research conducted by our agency with research partners on bobwhite quail restoration in New Jersey's pinelands; see page 80.

Fish and Wildlife is also very excited to be planning a showcase archery training center in Clinton Township, Hunterdon County. This proposed facility supports our agency's mission to protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife population while maximizing their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans. It supports New Jersey's rapidly growing Archery in the Schools and the state-mandated Hunter Education programs. This state-of-the-art community archery, shooting and natural resource education center is currently in the design phase. If built as proposed, this facility could serve as the Northeast's elite Olympic archery training center.

Young people from across the nation are inspired to learn archery. This facility will provide the perfect setting to support the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). NASP brings the sport of archery to millions of students in schools throughout the United States. Last year, Fish and Wildlife's participation in this program resulted in

two national awards. Over the past two years we enrolled more than 100 schools in the program. NASP is taught in physical education classes as in-school curriculum for grades 4-12. During the 2012 school year, more than 2,486,550 students throughout the country participated in this archery program, exceeding youth participation in all of Little League Baseball.

This recreational/educational/training facility has the potential to generate more than \$500,000 per year in revenue for the Division of Fish and Wildlife. In addition, visitors and events conducted at this facility are expected to generate more than \$3 million annually in economic activity to the local economy. This exciting project is truly a win-win for New Jersey. Our aim is to begin construction during FY 2017. Once the archery training center is completed, our sights are set to build a companion facility on our Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area (Lenape Farms Unit) in Atlantic County.

Look to our website for additional information as these projects develop. ♪

Dave Chanda is the Director of New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife.



Canada geese on Holiday Lake in Manalapan, New Jersey.

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Highlights of Regulation Changes

2015–2016 HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Changes to deer regulations for the 2015–16 seasons are extensive and involve **the mandatory tagging of all harvested deer**; the ability to harvest two deer before registering them via the Automated Harvest Report System during bow seasons in certain deer management zones (DMZs); a change in Regulation Set for four DMZs; the expansion of the permit bow season in zones in Regulation Set 4; Regulation Set 0's permit muzzleloader season is restructured and changes to some Special Area DMZs.

- ♦ Hunters are once again **required to tag all deer upon harvest**, as with the former live check station system. See pages 29 and 32 for cut-out tags and additional information.
- ♦ **DMZs in Regulation Sets 6, 7, and 8 are now included** in the regulation to **take two deer before reporting the harvest** via the Automated Harvest Report System for all bow seasons.
- ♦ **DMZs 10, 11 and 15 are moved** from Regulation Set 7 to **Regulation Set 8**; **DMZ 17 is moved** from Regulation Set 6 to **Regulation Set 7**.
- ♦ **The permit bow season is extended in Regulation Set 4** and will close on December 31.
- ♦ **Regulation Set 0's permit muzzleloader season** has two days moved from the week after the Six-day Firearm Season to the week before New Year's Day.
- ♦ **DMZ 37** (Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst) is **removed from antler point restriction** regulations.
- ♦ **DMZ 39** (Earle Naval Weapons Station) is **added to earn-a-buck** regulations during the fall bow deer season.

A new Youth Division is now part of the Outstanding Deer Program! See page 73 for details.

Other Game Code amendments for the 2015–16 hunting seasons include the following:

- ♦ The opening of the north zone **ruffed grouse season** is changed to the third Saturday in October; see page 62.
- ♦ A **requirement to report incidentally-caught bobcat** is added for trappers to allow Fish and Wildlife to obtain additional data on this species; see page 66.
- ♦ The **lottery for fall turkey hunting permits is eliminated**. Permits may now be purchased at license agents. See page 12.
- ♦ The **fall turkey season is expanded to turkey hunting areas (THA) 6, 7, 10, 12, 14, 15 and 16**. See page 64.
- ♦ **Spring and fall permit quotas are increased for THAs 14 and 22**. See page 12.
- ♦ Trappers may now use **enclosed foothold traps**; these traps have been extensively studied and found to be humane alternatives to the banned, steel-jaw leghold traps. They are species-specific and are designed to capture animals that possess a degree of manual dexterity, like opossums and raccoons, while excluding non-target species like domestic dogs and bobcat. See page 66.
- ♦ Weasel is added to cable restraint regulations. See page 66.
- ♦ All live-capture cable restraints are required to have relaxing-type locks. See page 66.
- ♦ **Air guns** are now allowed for the dispatch of legally trapped furbearers, excluding muskrat. See page 66.
- ♦ The use of 20-gauge shotguns is now allowed for **coyote and fox hunting** during the special permit season. See page 60.
- ♦ A **wanton waste regulation** is now in place for game mammals and birds, excluding furbearers. The species included are deer, bear, turkey, rabbit and hare, pheasant, quail, partridge, ruffed grouse and waterfowl. See page 27.
- ♦ Grain weight in center-fire rifles is changed from 100 to 80 grains, and grain weight is limited to a maximum of 50 grains for rim-fire rifles when hunting woodchuck. See page 62.
- ♦ Bear hunters are added to the requirement to display hunter orange on or near a ground blind when hunting during the deer firearm seasons. See page 25.
- ♦ Portions of the Rockport Wildlife Management Area are added to pheasant hunting; a pheasant and quail stamp is required. See page 61.
- ♦ A hunter orange hat is required for all firearm small game hunters on wildlife management areas stocked with pheasants or quail. See pages 25 and 61.

At the time of this printing, the Fishing Buddy License and Apprentice Hunting License legislation are both pending the Governor's signature. Watch our website for further information.



About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

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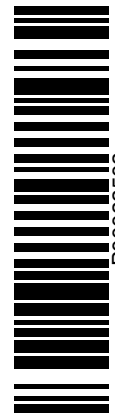
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