

2013–2014 Deer Harvest

SUMMARIES

NEW JERSEY DEER HUNTERS harvested 51,595 deer during the 2013–2014 seasons between September 14, 2013 and February 15, 2014. The harvest for this year's deer season is 3.3 percent higher than the 49,942 deer taken in 2012. Harvest numbers were up in the central and southern regions of the state, but down in the northern region, most probably due to the significant amount of hard-pack snow cover which lasted over a month. The antlerless portion of the 2013 harvest was 33,083 deer, up 2.8 percent from 2012. The antlered portion of the 2013 harvest was 18,511 deer, up 4.3 percent from 2012. 🍖

Deer Harvest Trends in New Jersey



Easy and Delicious Venison Recipes



2013–14 Total Deer Harvest by Season and Zone

DMZ	Fall Bow	Permit Bow	Six-day Firearm	Permit Muzzleloader	Permit Shotgun	Winter Bow	Youth Days	Total
1	86	74	94	105	10	30	0	399
2	616	352	174	336	295	88	25	1886
3	131	123	44	130	14	30	14	486
4	101	83	106	194	17	18	9	528
5	944	563	398	397	732	80	43	3157
6	375	226	94	127	56	100	8	986
7	501	325	192	223	400	51	10	1702
8	1263	713	318	392	808	159	28	3681
9	419	226	39	48	115	92	7	946
10	805	480	234	289	625	126	17	2576
11	522	331	143	232	413	53	11	1705
12	1098	704	289	352	839	174	16	3472
13	628	392	32	42	314	130	6	1544
14	759	401	227	108	516	165	7	2183
15	355	263	136	98	427	74	13	1366
16	400	322	144	115	192	95	11	1279
17	293	208	173	127	501	24	28	1354
18	125	106	87	56	10	45	16	445
19	467	358	245	181	521	75	16	1863
21	117	87	240	67	5	43	22	581
22	61	59	36	27	7	26	6	222
23	84	100	252	72	12	32	20	572
24	67	39	164	43	2	16	9	340
25	444	233	169	143	430	61	26	1506
26	203	198	372	176	42	92	28	1111
27	237	209	65	159	140	32	11	853
28	370	270	90	170	207	65	19	1191
29	240	205	102	228	181	29	23	1008
30	79	69	46	70	64	30	14	372
31	140	96	26	64	52	37	8	423
34	116	130	84	124	50	76	18	598
35	407	368	105	212	205	82	35	1414
36	339	222	42	37	187	100	1	928
37	74	98	13	30	9	24	1	249
38	0	0	0	12	25	0	0	37
39	44	42	22	47	66	4	2	227
41	264	140	78	123	333	33	11	982
42	136	118	61	68	128	45	2	558
43	20	31	85	18	2	11	5	172
45	42	45	157	48	11	30	10	343
46	44	59	98	48	9	27	8	293
47	101	76	41	32	50	37	5	342
48	250	185	137	148	490	11	8	1229
49	201	181	32	19	115	77	4	629
50	720	562	112	86	381	197	4	2062
51	281	192	85	35	120	79	2	794
53	29	23	8	15	20	10	0	105
54	21	17	3	5	2	0	1	49
55	17	16	17	7	8	12	1	78
56	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	23
57	0	4	0	1	18	0	0	23
58	0	5	0	2	8	0	0	15
61	0	6	1	10	7	0	0	24
63	50	52	13	33	12	7	0	167
64	0	0	19	0	23	5	0	47
65	40	43	56	36	3	12	2	192
66	3	7	0	0	18	2	0	30
67	0	0	0	129	0	10	0	139
68	21	13	19	12	25	7	1	98
70	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3
Unknown	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	9
Totals	15,151	10,451	6,019	6,110	10,295	2,970	600	51,595



Operation Game Thief Participation Skyrockets

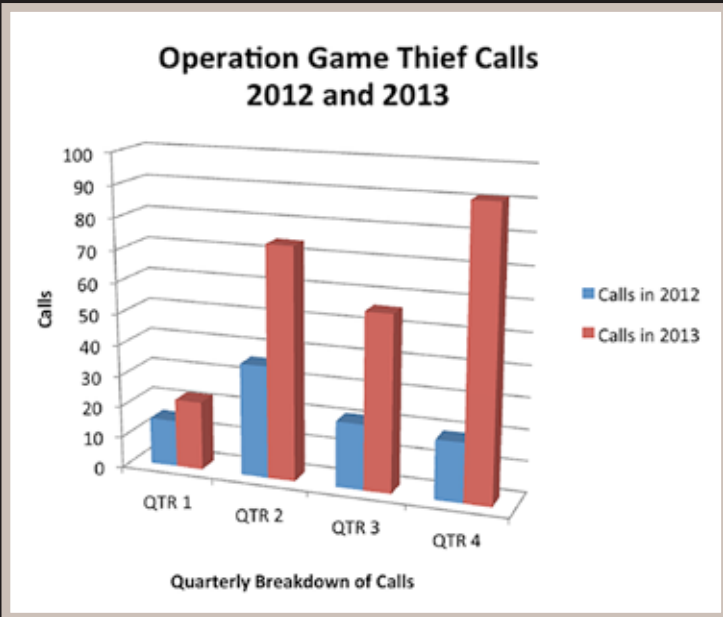
By Captain Mark Canale and Kevin Giberson

Information about wildlife violations witnessed or suspected can be reported anonymously through New Jersey's Operation Game Thief program for which you may receive a monetary reward. The program was upgraded in 2012 to increase awareness, develop plans to create a mobile display and to seek additional funding to sustain the reward feature.

In 2013 the Operation Game Thief program received 243 calls, a 158 percent increase over 2012. Calls regarding deer hunting (67) and trout fishing (31)

outnumbered reports concerning other species. Fish and Wildlife's northern region Bureau of Law Enforcement investigated the most calls of the state's four regions with roughly 40 percent the total calls.

The graph represents the value of a Crime Stoppers-type program dedicated to thwarting wildlife violators in New Jersey and shows the increased participation among New Jersey's sporting public.



The highest call volume to New Jersey's Operation Game Thief program occurred during deer and waterfowl seasons, as anticipated, which took place during the fourth quarter of 2013. This represents 37 percent of the calls reporting wildlife violators.

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Do you know of township or county lands where regulated hunting could provide relief from high deer densities?

You can become an important part of the wildlife management process to open more land to hunting.

Managing Deer by Gaining Hunter Access

By Cindy Kuenstner, Hunting and Shooting Sports Outreach Program Leader

There is an allure to hunting deer on land that currently has zero hunting pressure. The prospect of harvesting an unwary buck is exciting. Productive deer habitat with limited—or no—hunter access may include a suburban neighborhood, corporate development, municipal open space or county park acreage. When such properties remain closed to hunting, an overpopulation of deer can be expected. The Division of Fish and Wildlife works year-round to expand hunter access by guiding landowners and land managers (public and private) along with hunters and residents through several steps to reach the goal of reducing deer populations by opening land to hunting.

As wildlife managers, our agency understands the science—and has the data, experience and legal authority—to manage white-tailed deer in New Jersey for all to enjoy. Where an overabundance of deer develops and adversely affects the welfare of people in addition to degrading the local habitat, a deer management strategy should be implemented.

Municipal open space parcels (including those in agricultural crops) and large county park properties are among the numerous lands where Fish and Wildlife has been instrumental in the development of deer management programs using the most effective and efficient means of deer population reduction: regulated hunting. As a fundamental part of that process, our agency will create a constructive interface between residents, property owners or managers, county or local government officials and hunters. Fish and Wildlife assists county, township,

borough administrators and their councils by using the following approaches:

- ♦ Educate officials and residents on deer biology and ecology (including reproductive potential, feeding habits and preferences) to help put into perspective key wildlife management issues
- ♦ Provide deer harvest data
- ♦ Assess deer-vehicle collision data
- ♦ Reveal inappropriate deer feeding activities
- ♦ Advise on existing hunting- or shooting-related ordinances
- ♦ Assess deer damage to forest, crops and landscaping
- ♦ Highlight hunting laws and regulations
- ♦ Develop a deer management plan
- ♦ Facilitate cooperative hunter- landowner relations
- ♦ Provide a hunter orientation program focusing on hunter responsibility

Many township and county officials may not consider deer hunting on their lands as a form of recreation. Their primary concerns are for the health and welfare of their residents. Hence, reducing property damage, deer-vehicle collisions and the incidence of tick-borne diseases are the main goals of a deer population reduction strategy on municipal and county lands. Improving forest health is viewed as another important objective when developing a deer management plan through regulated hunting.

Do you know of township or county lands where hunting could provide relief from high deer densities? Are you a property owner or manager seeking relief from deer damage? **You can become**

an important part of the wildlife management process to open more land to regulated hunting.

Here's how:

1. Identify the un hunted property (location, acreage) and ownership (township, county).
2. Photograph deer sign showing overbrowsing of ornamental plantings, gardens and tree lines along with a lack of forest understory (plant diversity or regeneration) on and near the identified property.
3. Ask numerous property neighbors and note their experience with deer damage, deer-auto collisions and tick-borne illnesses.
4. Review Fish and Wildlife's website on white-tailed deer management, particularly the publication *An Evaluation of Deer Management Options* (http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/deer_mgt_options.pdf) for an excellent overview demonstrating that regulated hunting is the most efficient and effective solution to reduce deer overpopulation.
5. Prepare notes with several key points about the local deer overpopulation issue. Print images of obvious deer damage to vegetation.
6. Bring together residents who are experiencing deer overpopulation problems and want relief. Have them join you at a township council (or county board of freeholders) meeting where you will present facts about this local matter that needs attention.

Local government officials highly value the input of their residents. Your involvement may provide the essential motivation for opening lands to regulated hunting.

7. Respectfully request that action be taken by the council to open select municipal lands to regulated hunting, where appropriate. Remind them that regulated hunting takes place safely in the large majority of communities throughout New Jersey. If an existing township ordinance prohibits hunting, propose that this be updated to remove such prohibition, just as numerous municipalities around the state have done in recent years. Signatures with the address of additional *residents* supporting these approaches are also valuable to present to the council.
8. Request that the municipality form a committee to develop a deer management plan with the support of New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife—at no charge. Consider serving on that committee. Our agency will, also.
9. After the public meeting, send a follow-up email or letter to the mayor and council restating your key points, the action you have asked the municipality to take and thank them for their sincere consideration. Copy Fish and Wildlife on this communication to keep us informed of municipalities that we might assist in developing an effective deer management program.

Remember that many non-hunters and township officials have no knowledge about our sport, mandatory hunter education courses, the outstanding hunter safety record, hunting laws and regulations

or the responsibilities that all hunters must uphold in order to maintain their hunting privileges. Meeting with local government officials is an opportunity to share several positive aspects about regulated hunting and to make a favorable impression. Your actions as an informed and vocal resident will open the door for Fish and Wildlife to work directly with your municipality, supporting them in developing straightforward, efficient and fiscally responsible deer management strategies that benefit all of their residents.

Wildlife biologists from Fish and Wildlife's Deer Research Project, our Hunting and Shooting Outreach Program, regional conservation officers and our Hunter Education Program take a team approach when working with municipal and county officials on deer- and hunting-related issues. This includes addressing any township ordinance that could affect hunting both on township open space lands and private properties throughout the municipality.

Be sure to notify our agency *immediately* if a municipality is considering any new ordinance that could affect hunting or the shooting sports. Note that a municipality cannot regulate hunting; this authority is pre-empted by the state. Prompt timing is essential for Fish and Wildlife to ensure that only valid and reasonable ordinances are enacted that might affect responsible wildlife management—and *your* hunting privileges.

Although the development of a new deer management plan for municipal or county properties will take time, likely several months, the long-term benefits of increasing hunter access are valuable and far reaching. A significant reduction in crop and property damage, decreased deer-vehicle collisions, fewer incidents of tick-borne diseases and a more diverse and naturally regenerating forest habitat can be realized with ongoing deer management strategies in place—all while nurturing a healthier habitat for the wildlife that everyone appreciates.

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife encourages residents—hunters and non-hunters alike—to partner with us, making this a successful process to manage deer by gaining hunter access.

For support in approaching your municipal or county officials to open land for regulated deer hunting as a management tool, contact:

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Hunting & Shooting Sports Outreach Program Leader
MC501-03, PO Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Cindy.Kuenstner@dep.nj.gov
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GUNSMITH SERVICES · NEW JERSEY & PENNSYLVANIA HUNTING LICENSES

Regulations in red are new this year.

FOLLOWING COMMENCEMENT OF the black bear season, the Fish and Wildlife Director, after consultation with the Fish and Game Council Chairman, may close the season. The Commissioner or the Director will announce such closure, which will become effective 24 hours from the daily legal closing time of the day on which the decision is made, based upon data obtained and reviewed by Fish and Wildlife. The notification number for season closure is the permit hotline number, (609) 292-9192. Season closure notification will also be announced by news release, radio and Fish and Wildlife's website NJFishandWildlife.com.

Black Bear Hunting Season: Dec. 8–13, 2014

Hunting Hours: Legal hunting hours for black bear shall be ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

Bag Limit: Only one bear of either sex and any age may be taken per properly licensed hunter or farmer hunter regardless of the number of black bear permits held. It is unlawful to take or attempt to take or continue to hunt for more than the number of black bear permitted.

Special permit requirement: All black bear hunters must have a current and valid firearm hunting license and a special Black Bear Hunting Permit issued by Fish and Wildlife. See *Black Bear Management Zone Descriptions*, page 61; see also *Black Bear Hunting Permits*, page 12. Hunters are limited to purchasing two black bear hunting permits, one each for two different zones. The bag limit remains at one black bear per hunter.

Youth Bear Hunters: Youth hunters with a valid hunting license must also possess a black bear hunting permit. Youth hunters aged 10 through 13 on or before Dec. 8, 2014 must be under the direct supervision of a properly licensed adult (21 years of age or older) while bear hunting. The adult must also possess a black bear hunting permit. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The youth hunter may not hunt independently of the adult.

Firearms and Ammunition Legal For Bear Hunting

Shotgun: not smaller than 20 gauge nor larger than 10 gauge with rifled slugs. Lead, lead alloy or copper rifled slug or sabot slug. Buckshot is prohibited.

Muzzleloader Rifle: must be single-barrel, single shot rifles not less than .44 caliber. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions are allowed. Double barrel muzzleloaders prohibited. Persons hunting with a muzzleloader rifle must also possess a current and valid rifle hunting permit.

Baiting: No person shall attempt to take or kill a black bear or have in their possession or control any firearm, or other weapon of any kind, while elevated in a standing tree or in a structure of any kind within 300 feet of a baited area. On national wildlife refuges and at the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, the distribution of bait and/or hunting over

bait is prohibited. Hunters should also check with the landowner or administrative agency before placing bait on any hunting area.

Additional Black Bear Hunting Regulations

- ♦ Black bear hunters must wear a hat of solid fluorescent hunter orange or an outer garment containing at least 200 square inches of fluorescent orange material visible from all sides at all times while bear hunting.
- ♦ It shall be illegal to use dogs to pursue or run black bear.
- ♦ Allowable hunting methods: stand hunting, still-hunting or drive hunting.
- ♦ Hunters using or possessing any shotgun slug in the field during the bear seasons must have a shotgun with adjustable open iron or peep sights or a scope affixed to the shotgun.
- ♦ Telescopic sights of any magnification (scope power) are permitted for bear hunting on all firearms, including muzzleloader rifles.
- ♦ Shotgun shells containing single spherical projectiles referred to as pumpkin balls are prohibited.
- ♦ While bear hunting with a shotgun, it is illegal to have in possession any ammunition not authorized for bear hunting.
- ♦ Only one muzzleloader rifle may be in possession while bear hunting.
- ♦ All firearms must be cased and unloaded while being transported in vehicles.
- ♦ It is illegal to take or attempt to take a black bear with a bow and arrow or with a crossbow.
- ♦ It is illegal to take or attempt to take a bear in a den structure.

Black Bear Hunting on State Lands

- ♦ Baiting is **prohibited** within 450 feet of campsites and picnic areas in all state parks and forests to coincide with the bear management policy for these areas. Learn these locations BEFORE you hunt.
- ♦ Hunting is prohibited in the Cedar Swamp Natural Area at High Point State Park due to sensitive wetland habitat that could be impacted by going off trail in this area.
- ♦ ATV use is prohibited in state parks, forests and wildlife management areas. However, hunters might be permitted to use ATVs to retrieve a bear but only with approval from, and on a pathway approved by, the park superintendent or designee (for state parks and forests) or from Fish and Wildlife's regional Law Enforcement office (for assistance on wildlife management areas).

After Harvesting a Bear—Mandatory Bear Check Requirement

Properly licensed hunters who harvest a black bear shall immediately complete and affix to the bear hide the "Black Bear Transportation Tag" from their Black Bear Hunting Permit. Information

included on the black bear transportation tag shall include: the hunter's name, address, Conservation ID number; date and time of kill; nearest road, county and municipality of kill; and the sex of the black bear. When field dressing a black bear, leave the sex organs intact and attached to the body.

It is critical to remove the hide and cool the bear immediately after checking the bear. Cooling a bear with ice from inside the body cavity is inadequate to prevent the meat from spoiling. If the hide remains on overnight, the meat may be unsuitable for consumption.

Successful hunters must take the black bear to a designated check station by 7 p.m. on the day of the kill. Hunters shall surrender the black bear transportation tag and will be issued a legal possession seal.

Any legally killed black bear recovered too late to be brought to a designated black bear check station by 7 p.m. on the date of the kill must be reported immediately by telephone to the Northern Region Office of the Bureau of Law Enforcement (908) 735-8240. On the telephone message recording device, hunters must leave their name, address and a telephone number where they can be reached. The harvested black bear must be brought to a designated black bear check station on the next weekday to be registered and to receive a legal possession seal. After check stations have closed on Saturday, hunters reporting a bear harvest via the Law Enforcement recorder will be contacted by a Fish and Wildlife biologist on Sunday to legally check the bear and to collect biological data.

Mandatory Black Bear Check Stations

Hours: 12 noon to 7 p.m.

Warren County

- ♦ Pequest Wildlife Management Area
605 Pequest Road, Oxford

Morris County

- ♦ Black River Wildlife Management Area*
275 North Road, Chester
- ♦ Green Pond Golf Course
765 Green Pond Rd, Rt. 513, Rockaway

Sussex County

- ♦ Flatbrook Roy WMA
Rt. 615 (Walpack Rd.), Sandyston
- ♦ Whittingham WMA
148 Fredon-Springdale Rd., Newton

* Operating Opening Day and Saturday only

Black Bear Game Care

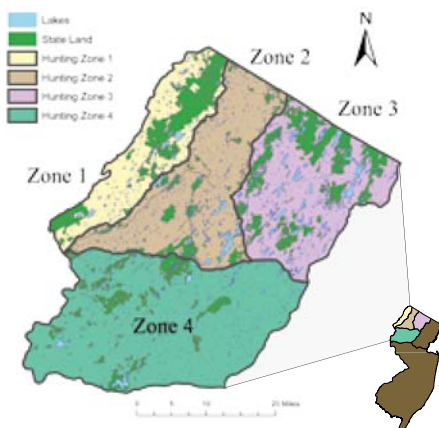
As when cooking any raw meat, care must be taken to prevent exposure to disease when consuming wild game. Black bear are known to carry *Trichinella*, a parasite commonly associated with pork. States nationwide report incidents of bears infected with *Trichinella* and New Jersey is no different. A *Trichinella* infection (Trichinellosis) is a risk only

if the meat is cooked improperly. To ensure bear meat is safe to eat, be sure it's cooked to an internal temperature of 170 degrees for at least 15 seconds.

Toxoplasmosis, most commonly associated with cats, is another parasitic disease that may be transmitted to humans if meat is not handled properly. To eliminate any health risks associated with Toxoplasmosis make sure no one who may be pregnant handle raw bear meat and always cook the meat thoroughly as you would for *Trichinella*. If you follow these simple guidelines you can enjoy your bear meat without any concern for exposure to *Trichinella* or Toxoplasmosis.

BLACK BEAR MANAGEMENT ZONE MAP

NOTE: Bear management zones are different than deer management zones.



2013 Black Bear Harvest by Zone and County

BMZ	2013 Harvest
1	107
2	62
3	70
4	14
Total	253

County	2013 Harvest
Sussex	155
Warren	42
Morris	30
Passaic	25
Hunterdon	1
Total	253

No bears were harvested in the portions of Bergen and Somerset counties open to bear hunting in 2013.

Black Bear Management Zone Descriptions

Note: Black bear management zones are different than deer management zones. Choose carefully when purchasing a black bear permit.

Bear Management Zone No. 1: That portion of Warren and Sussex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of

the Portland Bridge and the Delaware River at Columbia; then northward along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York State line; then east along the New York State line to Rt. 519; then south along Rt. 519 to its intersection with Rt. 627; then south along Rt. 627 to its intersection with Rt. 521; then southwest along Rt. 521 to its intersection with Rt. 94 in Blairstown; the southwest along Rt. 94 to the Portland Bridge, the point of beginning in Columbia. The islands of Labar, Tocks, Poxono, Depew, Namanock, Minisink and Mashpacong lying in the Delaware River are also included within this hunting area.

Bear Management Zone No. Area 2: That portion of Sussex, Warren and Morris counties lying within a continuous line beginning at Portland Bridge in Columbia; then northward along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 521 in Blairstown; then north along Rt. 521 to its intersection with Rt. 626; then north along Rt. 626 to its intersection with Rt. 627; then north along Rt. 627 to its intersection with Rt. 519 in Branchville; then north along Rt. 519 to the New York State line; then southeast along the New York State line to Rt. 517; then south on Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 23 in Hamburg Borough; then south along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 517 in Franklin; then south along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 15 in Sparta; then south along Rt. 15 to its intersection

with Interstate 80 in Dover; then west along interstate 80 to its intersection with Rt. 94; then south along Rt. 94 to the intersection with the Portland Bridge and the Delaware River located in Columbia, the point of beginning.

Bear Management Zone No. 3: That portion of Sussex, Passaic, Morris and Bergen counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 80 and Rt. 15 in Dover; then north along Rt. 15 to its intersection with Rt. 517 in Sparta; then north along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 23 in Franklin; then north along Rt. 23/517 to its intersection with 517 in Hamburg Borough; then north along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt 517; then north along Rt. 517 to the New York State line; then east along the New York State line to its intersection with Rt. 287; then south along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 15 the point of beginning in Dover.

Bear Management Zone No. 4: That portion of Sussex, Warren, Morris, Somerset and Hunterdon counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 78 and the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the Portland Bridge at Columbia; then northeast along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then east along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 287; then southwest along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 78; then west along Rt. 78 to the Delaware River the point of beginning.

Create a New Tradition: Hunt New Jersey Black Bear

The management of New Jersey's black bears has proven to be one of the most controversial issues in recent wildlife management history. Some said there would never be a black bear hunting season in New Jersey which underestimates the dedication of Garden State sportsmen and sportswomen. Your support for the scientific management of New Jersey's wildlife resources is outstanding. This same support for proper wildlife management will ensure an enduring bear hunting tradition for future generations along with a healthy black bear population for all residents to appreciate.

The Division of Fish and Wildlife's Black Bear Project would like to take this opportunity to thank the New Jersey sportsmen and sportswomen, volunteers, cooperating agencies and staff for their hard work and dedication to the conservation of black bears, without which nothing we have accomplished would have been possible.

Black bears have always been and will always be an integral part of the New Jersey landscape. We should all be proud to be a part of this new hunting tradition.

If you are looking for an inexpensive and exciting hunting adventure close to home, consider hunting black bears in New Jersey. For tips on how to get started hunting New Jersey black bears visit our website www.NJFishandWildlife.com.



Tips for Hunting New Jersey's Black Bear



REGULATIONS

Regulations in red are new this year.

A CURRENT AND valid hunting license (Bow and Arrow, Firearm or All-Around Sportsman) is required to pursue any small game species. See page 25 for *General Hunting Regulations*. The use of dogs, unless specifically stated otherwise, is permitted to pursue any small game species, except wild turkey. Hunting for those species shown on page 65 is prohibited during the statewide Six-day Firearm (deer) Season and on the Wednesday of the Permit Shotgun (deer) Season that immediately follows the Six-day Firearm Season. For exceptions, see *Coyote and Fox* and *Semi-wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting* sections below. **Sunday hunting is prohibited**; see *Raccoon and Opossum*, page 64 plus *Semi-wild and Commercial Shooting Preserves* for exceptions.

Season Dates and Bag Limits: The *Small Game Hunting Seasons* table on page 65 lists dates, hunting hours and daily bag limits for all small game species open for hunting.

General Small Game Hunting Methods: Properly licensed hunters may hunt small game with shotguns or bow and arrow and limited hunting with small caliber rifles; see air gun and coyote/fox regulations. See also *General Hunting Regulations*, page 25.

Shotgun: Unless specifically stated otherwise, shotguns for small game hunting may be single or double barrel, rifled or smoothbore and not larger

than 10-gauge or smaller than .410 caliber and capable of holding no more than three shells.

Shot: Unless specifically stated otherwise, shot size for small game hunting may be no larger than #4 fine shot.

Bow and Arrow: All bows must meet the requirements specified in *General Hunting Regulations*, page 25. **For taking game birds in flight, arrows equipped with an edged head are prohibited. Flu flu arrows are required for taking game birds in flight.**

Air gun: Air guns may be used for taking cottontail rabbit, hare and gray squirrel using ammunition not smaller than .177 caliber or larger than .22 caliber. Air gun BBs are not legal for hunting. See also *Air Guns* under *Firearms and Missiles*, page 28.

Muzzleloading Rifles: For limited small game rifle hunting, see below for *Coyote and Fox—Special Permit Season, Squirrel—Muzzleloading Rifle Season* and *Woodchuck* for restrictions.

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

Stealing Traps or Trapped Animals: It is illegal to take, carry away or unlawfully remove or steal a trap belonging to another person that is set along, by or in public or private property, ditch, stream, pond or water in this state and which has been

set for the purpose of catching any of the furbearing animals species for which a legal season is established. It is also illegal to remove, alive or dead, any animal from the trap of another person.

Coyote and Fox, General and Special Permit Seasons

See chart below for both general and special permit season regulations for coyote and fox. **NOTE: All successful coyote hunters must report any coyote harvested to a Fish and Wildlife Regional Law Enforcement Office within 24 hours. Callers must identify themselves by name, CID# and daytime phone number.**

In addition to the general coyote and fox seasons described in the chart below, properly licensed turkey hunters may legally harvest coyotes if encountered incidental to legal turkey hunting. Turkey hunters shall not actively pursue coyotes or have coyote calls or decoys in possession. Also, properly licensed persons hunting deer during the Six-day Firearm, Permit Muzzleloader or Permit Shotgun deer seasons may kill coyote or fox if the coyote or fox is encountered before the hunter has taken the season bag limit of deer. However, after the hunter has taken a *daily* bag limit of deer, they must cease hunting immediately. Incidental hunting of coyote or fox while deer hunting may resume the following

(continued on page 64)

Coyote / Fox Season

Dates	Bow Only: Sept. 13–Nov. 7 in DMZs open for early fall bow deer hunting; otherwise Oct. 4–Nov. 7	Firearm or Bow: Nov. 8–March 14	Special Permit Season: Jan. 1 – March 14 (Permit required with shot larger than #4 fine thru #4 Buck sizes and/or nighttime hunting and/or using a muzzleloading rifle other than incidental to deer hunting and/or using a modern rifle)	
Hours	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except 8 a.m. start on Nov. 8	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise
Weapon Type and Projectiles Permitted	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> above.	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above. Shotgun and Shot Size: See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above.	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above. Shotgun: single or double barrel. Not smaller than 12 gauge or larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells. Shot: Not smaller than BB or larger than #4 Buck. Pellets must be lead or a tungsten-nickel-iron hybrid. Muzzleloading rifle: single-shot, single barrel no less than .44 caliber. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted, loaded only with a single projectile, either round ball or conical bullet. Electronic ignitions prohibited. A modern rifle magazine need not be pinned (plugged), but may be loaded with no more than three cartridges. Centerfire rifles: From .17 to maximum of .25 caliber with soft point or hollow point bullets and maximum of 80 grains. Rimfire rifles: From .17 to maximum of .22 caliber with soft point or hollow point bullets and maximum of 50 grains.	Shotgun: single or double barrel. Not smaller than 12 gauge or larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells. Shot: sizes not smaller than #4 fine shot or larger than T
Notes	Hunter orange not required. Use of dogs prohibited. Daily bag: unlimited coyote or fox	Hunter orange required when using firearm. Muzzleloading rifle may be used only incidental to deer hunting. Use of dogs permitted except not during Dec. 8–13 and Dec. 17. Daily bag: unlimited coyote or fox	While hunting under the provisions of the Special Permit: Hunter orange is not required (but is recommended while traveling to/from hunting areas.) Hunting methods are restricted to calling and stand hunting. A predator-calling device (manual or electronic) must be in possession. Use of dogs is prohibited. Use of bait is prohibited. Portable lights are allowed. Sunday hunting is not legal. Daily bag: unlimited coyote or fox	

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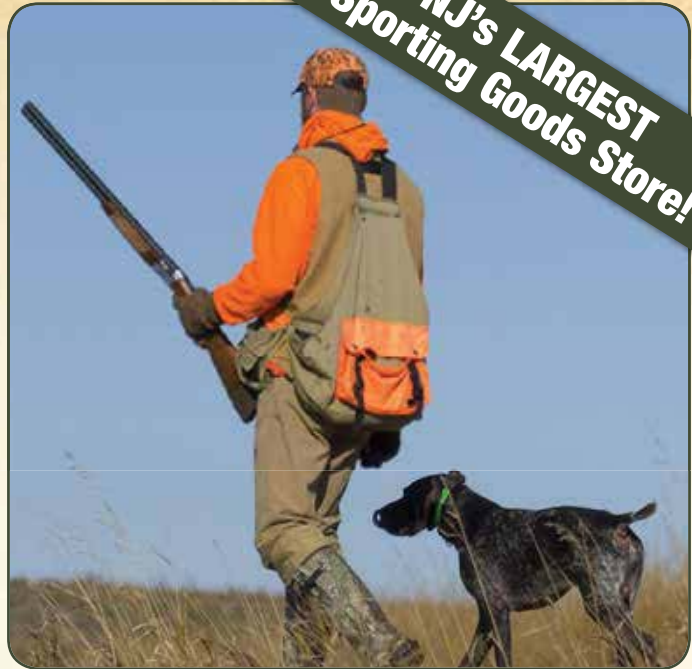
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(continued from page 62)

day (provided the season remains open and the season bag limit of deer has not been reached.) Only applicable projectiles approved for deer hunting may be used to take coyote and fox incidental to deer hunting during the deer seasons described above. See *Firearms, Bow and Ammunition* chart, page 31.

Baiting for coyote/fox is prohibited while hunting elevated in a standing tree or in a structure of any kind within 300 feet of a baited area.

Further, in addition to the general Coyote and Fox seasons plus the incidental harvest of coyote or fox while deer hunting, a Special Permit Coyote and Fox Season runs concurrent with the regular small game coyote and fox season. A Fish and Wildlife-issued permit is required to hunt coyote or fox under the provisions (see below) of the Special Permit Coyote and Fox Season; as follows:

A permit to hunt coyote or fox is required 1.) to hunt at night and/or 2.) to use shot sizes larger than #4 fine and up to size #4 Buck, and/or 3.) to use a rifle for coyote or fox other than incidental to deer hunting. Sunday hunting is not legal.

Coyote/Fox permits: \$2, available at any license agent or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site (www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) beginning December 1. A 2014 hunting license must be purchased prior to or in conjunction with the purchase of a Special Coyote and Fox Permit.

Northern Bobwhite (Quail)

Northern bobwhite quail are native to the southern half of New Jersey. In recent years, quail populations have declined throughout their range including New Jersey.

In an effort to reverse this decline in New Jersey, the statewide quail hunting season is closed except at Peaslee WMA and Greenwood Forest WMA where Fish and Wildlife will provide hunters and falconers the opportunity to hunt for quail.

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 65 for season dates and bag limits. Exception: This statewide closure does not apply to certain semi-wild and commercial shooting preserves that were permitted to stock quail during the 2009–10 season.

Pheasant

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 65 for season dates and bag limits. See exceptions below for semi-wild and commercial preserve hunting.

Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas: Anyone aged 16 and over (except 16 year olds whose Youth License remains valid until Dec. 31 in the year they reach 16 years of age) hunting or possessing pheasant or quail on the following designated wildlife management areas shall have in possession a current and valid Pheasant and Quail Stamp (Youth

Hunting licenses include pheasant and quail stamp): Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Millville (Bevan), Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook, Glassboro, Greenwood (including Howardsville), Heislerville, Tuckahoe (MacNamara), Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Stafford Forge, Walpack, Whittingham and Winslow. A current and valid Pheasant and Quail Stamp is also required at the Delaware River National Recreation Area.

Pheasant and Quail Stocking

Fish and Wildlife anticipates pheasant and quail releases to be as follows:

Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook, Glassboro, Millville (Bevan), Nantuxent, Pequest, Port Republic, Tuckahoe (MacNamara), Walpack and Whittingham WMAs will be stocked with pheasant for the following dates:

- ♦ Nov. 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27, 29
- ♦ Dec. 6, 20, 23, 27, 30

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and the Heislerville, Howardsville, Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan, Medford, Stafford Forge and Winslow WMAs will be stocked with pheasant for the following dates:

- ♦ Nov. 8, 15, 22, 27, 29
- ♦ Dec. 6, 20, 27, 30

Greenwood Forest and Peaslee WMAs will be stocked with quail for the following dates:

- ♦ Nov. 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27, 29
- ♦ Dec. 6, 20, 23, 27, 30

Fish and Wildlife reminds sportsmen and sportswomen that the stocking schedule is tentative until approved by the Fish and Game Council in early October. The schedule is subject to pheasant production and may change due to emergency weather conditions. For changes to the stocking schedule due to inclement weather or other necessary adjustments, visit our website at NJFishandWildlife.com/smgame_info.htm.

Rabbit and Hare

The rabbit and hare hunting season will begin the last Saturday in September. The early opening date allows for hunting opportunity when rabbit populations are at their peak. Air guns may be used for taking cottontail rabbit and hare using ammunition not smaller than .177 caliber or larger than .22 caliber. See also *Air Guns* under *Firearms and Missiles*, page 28 and *General Small Game Hunting Methods*, page 62.

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 65 for season dates and bag limits.

Raccoon and Opossum

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 65 for season dates and bag limits.

Hours: Hunting may not begin until one hour after sunset on the opening day of the season. On all other days open during the season, the hours of hunting are one hour after sunset to one hour before

(continued on page 66)

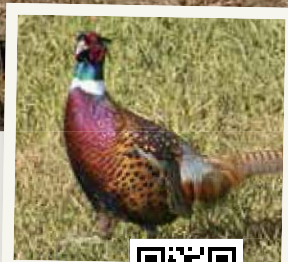
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2014–2015 Small Game Hunting Seasons

Species (alphabetical)	Inclusive Dates	Hunting Hours	Daily Limits	Notes
Bobwhite (quail)	Closed statewide; except at Peaslee & Greenwood WMA (see Notes) At Peaslee & Greenwood WMAs ONLY: Nov. 8–Dec. 6; Dec. 15, 16, 18–31, 2014 and Jan. 1–31, 2015	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	4	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8 Quail may be hunted ONLY at Peaslee and Greenwood Forest WMAs. Pheasant and Quail Stamp required. Season closed in remainder of the state. (See exceptions under Northern Bobwhite, page 64.)
Coyote* and Fox, General All coyote must be reported within 24 hrs.	Bow and Arrow only: Sept. 13–Nov. 7 in DMZ Regulation Sets 4–8 Oct. 4–Nov. 7 in DMZ Regulation Sets 0–3 Firearm or Bow and Arrow: Nov. 8–Mar. 14	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8 Deer hunters may harvest coyote and fox during all open deer seasons with restrictions as specified under Small Game Hunting, <i>Coyote and Fox</i> , page 62. Rifle permit required in possession when hunting with rifle (allowed only incidental to deer hunting).
Coyote* and Fox, Special Permit Season All coyote must be reported within 24 hrs.	Firearm or Bow and Arrow: Jan. 1–Mar. 14 (permit required)	Permit holders may hunt day and night with certain restrictions; see Notes at right. Sunday hunting from midnight Saturday (12:01 a.m.) to one hour before sunrise Sunday only.	No limit	For complete details, and for when a permit is required, see Small Game Hunting, <i>Coyote and Fox</i> , page 62. Calling and standing hunting only. Predator calling device must be in possession. See <i>Coyote/Fox Season</i> table, page 62, for firearm and ammo restrictions. Rifle permit required in possession when hunting with any legal rifle, allowed only during daytime hunting hours. During night hunting (½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise), only 10 or 12 gauge shotguns are permitted. See pellet restrictions in table on page 62. <i>Coyote/fox permit required.</i>
Crow** (Mon., Thurs., Fri., Sat.)	Aug. 11–Mar. 21 (See Notes .)	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8 Maximum shot size is #4
Grouse, Ruffed**	North of Rt. 70: Oct. 11–Dec. 6; Dec. 15, 16, 18–31 South of Rt. 70: Nov. 8–Dec. 6; Dec. 15, 16 and 18–31	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	2	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8
Opossum & Raccoon	Oct. 1 to Mar. 1	1 hour after sunset to 1 hour before sunrise	No limit	Rifle permit required when hunting with rifle. 7:41 p.m. start on Oct. 1. Closed Dec. 8–13 and Dec. 17.
Pheasant & Partridge	Nov. 8–Dec. 6; Dec. 15, 16, 18–31, 2014; Jan. 1–Feb. 16, 2015	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Chukar — 7 Hungarian — 7 Pheasant — 2	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8 Pheasant and Quail Stamp required on designated areas (see <i>Small Game Hunting</i> page 64).
Rabbit, Hare & Jackrabbit**	Sept. 27–Dec. 6; Dec. 15, 16, 18–31, 2014; Jan. 1–Feb. 21, 2015	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Cottontail — 4 Hare — 1 Jackrabbit — 1	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8
Squirrel, Gray**	Sept. 27–Dec. 6; Dec. 15, 16, 18–31, 2014; Jan. 1–Feb. 16, 2015	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8. Air guns are legal to harvest squirrel. See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> page 62.
Squirrel, Gray: Muzzleloading Rifle (.36 caliber or smaller)	Sept. 27–Nov. 7 and Jan. 4 to Feb. 16	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	Rifle permit required. Designated areas only (see <i>Small Game Hunting</i> page 66).
Turkey (Fall, Either-Sex)	(Period N) Oct. 25–Nov. 1	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.	1 Turkey (either sex) per permit	Permit required. Turkey Hunting Areas 1–5, 8, 9, 11, 20–22 only.
Turkey (Spring Gobbler)	(Periods A to E) April 20–May 22	½ hour before sunrise to noon; starting May 11, hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset	1 Male Turkey per permit	Permit required. Refer to 2015 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Turkey (Spring Gobbler, Youth)	(Period Y) April 18 to May 22, 2015	½ hour before sunrise to noon; starting May 11, hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset	1 Male Turkey per permit	Permit required. Refer to 2015 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Woodchuck:** Bow, Rifle or Shotgun	March 1 to Oct. 1, 2014 March 2 to Sept. 30, 2015	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	Rifle permit required when hunting with rifle. Rifle hunting prohibited on state property (see <i>General Hunting Regulations</i> , page 25 and <i>Small Game Regulations</i> page 62).
Woodchuck: Bow or Shotgun	Sept. 27–Dec. 6; Dec. 15, 16, 18–31, 2014; Jan. 1–Feb. 16, 2015	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8
Woodcock**	See <i>Migratory Bird Regulations**</i> on page 72	Sunrise to sunset	3 daily; 6 possession	HIP number required (see page 73). 8 a.m. start on Nov. 8
Youth Turkey Day	April 18, 2015	½ hour before sunrise to noon	1 Male Wild Turkey	Permit required. Refer to 2015 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Youth Upland Bird Day	Nov. 1, 2014	8 a.m. to sunset	Pheasant — 2 Quail — 4	Selected WMAs and licensed semi-wilds (see page 24).

* All harvested coyote must be reported to a regional Division Law Enforcement Office within 24 hours. Callers must identify themselves by name, CID# and daytime phone number.

** The starting time to hunt migratory birds on Nov. 8 only on those WMAs designated as Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas shall be 8 a.m. See list of areas, page 64.

(continued from page 64)

sunrise. Sunday hunting is permitted **only for raccoon** between the hours of midnight (the beginning of Saturday) and one hour before sunrise (Sunday).

Hunting methods: Portable lights are permitted. Fluorescent orange is encouraged but not required on outer clothing while hunting raccoon and opossum. A current and valid rifle permit is required when possessing a .22 caliber rifle while hunting raccoon and opossum. Only .22 caliber shorts are permitted.

Dog Training: Dogs may be trained during the month of September and from March 2 to May 1, inclusive. The training hours are one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

Ruffed Grouse

The state's two ruffed grouse hunting zones are delineated by Rt. 70. North of Rt. 70 the season will begin October 11. South of Rt. 70 the season will begin Nov. 8 to reduce harvest mortality of the remaining populations in the southern zone. The ruffed grouse zones are identical to those for woodcock and will provide for consistent regulations for these species that are often hunted simultaneously. See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 65 for season dates and bag limits.

Semi-Wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting

Hunting for pheasant, quail and chukar or Hungarian partridge is allowed from Nov. 8 to March 15 on semi-wild and from Sept. 1 through May 1 on commercial shooting preserves (which also allows mallards) that are properly licensed for the taking of such species. These game birds may be hunted on Sunday only on semi-wild or commercial shooting preserve lands.

Youth hunters (in possession of a valid Youth Hunting License and accompanied by a licensed, non-shooting adult) will be permitted to hunt pheasant, quail, Hungarian partridge and/or chukar partridge on licensed semi-wild preserves on Saturday, Nov. 1—the Youth Upland Bird Hunting Day.

All game taken on semi-wild or commercial preserves must be properly tagged before being transported off the licensed property.

A person may legally hunt on semi-wild or commercial preserves for game birds during deer seasons, but no shot larger than #4 fine may be used. There are no daily bag or seasonal limits for pheasant, quail, chukar or mallards taken on commercial preserves. There are no daily bag limits for pheasant, quail or chukar taken on semi-wild properties. Seasonal harvests on semi-wild properties may not exceed the number of birds to be stocked as indicated on the semi-wild permit application.

Squirrel, Regular Season

Air guns may be used for taking squirrel using ammunition not smaller than .177 caliber or larger than .22 caliber. See also *Air Guns* under *Firearms and Missiles*, page 28 and *General Small Game Hunting Methods*, page 62. See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 65.

Woodchuck Season

Dates	Weapon Type Permitted	Gauge, Caliber or Weight	Projectile(s)
March 1 to Oct. 1, 2014	Center-fire rifle	.25 caliber or less	Hollow point, soft point or expanding lead core bullets of any weight.
		Larger than .25 caliber	Hollow point, soft point or expanding lead core bullets of any weight not exceeding 100 grains in weight.
	Rim-fire rifle	.25 caliber or less	Hollow point or soft point
March 2 to Sept. 30, 2015	Muzzleloading rifle: single-shot, single barrel. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted.	No restriction	Must be loaded with a single projectile, either round ball or conical bullet.
	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow	35 pounds pull at archers draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow); 75 pounds pull for crossbow	Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of 3/4"
	Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells	Shot – sizes not larger than #4 fine shot
Sept. 27–Dec. 6 and Dec. 15, 16, 18–31, 2014	Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow	35 pounds pull at archers draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow); 75 pounds pull for crossbow	Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of 3/4"
	Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells	Shot – sizes not larger than #4 fine shot
Jan. 1–Feb. 16, 2015	Shotgun: single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells	Shot – sizes not larger than #4 fine shot

Squirrel, Muzzleloading Rifle Season

Persons holding a current and valid firearm license and rifle permit may hunt for squirrels from sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset with a muzzleloading rifle (.36 caliber or smaller loaded with a single projectile) during the periods Sept. 27–Nov. 7 and Jan. 3–Feb. 16.

Hunting for squirrel in the manner described above is restricted to the areas described below:

- Those portions of Passaic, Mercer, Hunterdon, Warren, Morris and Sussex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 513 and the New York State line; then south along Rt. 513 to its intersection with Rt. 511; then south along Rt. 511 to its intersection with Rt. 46; then west along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 15; then north along Rt. 15 to its intersection with the Morris-Sussex County line; then south along the Morris-Sussex County line to the Warren County line; then southwest along the Morris-Warren County line to the Hunterdon County line; then southeast along the Morris-Hunterdon County line to the Somerset County line; then south along the Somerset-Hunterdon County line to its intersection with the Mercer County line; then west and south along the Hunterdon Mercer County line to its intersection with Rt. 31; then south along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 546; then west along Rt. 546 to the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York State line; then east along the New York State line to the point of beginning at Lakeside.

- In that portion of Salem, Gloucester, Camden, Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic,

Cape May and Cumberland counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 295 and the Delaware River; then east along Rt. 295 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then east along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 40; then east along Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Rt. 536; then east along Rt. 536 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then northeast along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 571; then southeast along Rt. 571 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then south along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with Rt. 9 at Somers Point; then south along Rt. 9 to its intersection with Rt. 83; then west along Rt. 83 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Dennis Creek; then south along the west bank of Dennis Creek to its intersection with Delaware Bay; then northwest along the east shore of Delaware Bay and the Delaware River to the point of beginning.

Woodchuck

All persons in possession of a rifle (including a muzzleloading rifle) while hunting woodchuck must have a current and valid rifle permit in addition to the current hunting license. Rifle hunting (of any kind) for woodchuck is prohibited on state wildlife management areas, state parks, state forests or state recreation areas. Farmers and their agents may use shot not larger than #4 buckshot to control woodchuck causing damage. Hours of hunting are sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. See chart at right for woodchuck hunting details. ♫

Fall 2014 Turkey Hunting Regulations

The 2014 fall turkey season will consist of one seven-day hunting segment, N, (excluding Sunday) from Saturday, Oct. 25 through Saturday, Nov. 1, 2014. Fall hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset. Turkey Hunting Areas 1–5, 8, 9, 11, 20–22 are open for fall hunting. Turkey Hunting Areas 6, 7, 10, 12 and 14–16 are closed to fall hunting.

- ♦ **Bag Limit:** One wild turkey of either sex per day during the fall season regardless of the number of permits the hunter holds.
- ♦ Dogs and artificial decoys may be used while turkey hunting in the fall season, except the use of electronically-operated decoys is prohibited. All hunters are required to possess a calling device while turkey hunting.
- ♦ The maximum group size while turkey hunting is five hunters. Hunters may not attempt to chase or drive turkeys for the purpose of putting them in range of other hunters. However, hunters may rush a flock of turkeys to cause the flock to scatter.
- ♦ No shot larger than #4 fine shot or smaller than #7½ fine shot may be used for turkey hunting.
- ♦ Hunters may not use shotguns larger than 10-gauge or smaller than 20-gauge for turkey hunting.
- ♦ Fluorescent hunter orange is not required to hunt turkey.
- ♦ Properly licensed hunters may use archery tackle to hunt turkeys.
- ♦ While turkey hunting, a weapon may not be in possession within 300 feet of any baited area. Immediately upon killing a turkey, hunters must complete the transportation tag on their fall hunting permit and affix it to the bird. The turkey must be taken to an official wild turkey check station by 7 p.m. on the day it is killed by the hunter who killed the bird.

Spring Turkey Season Changes

Spring turkey hunters should note that legal hunting hours for the last two weeks of the spring turkey season (including all of period D and the last Saturday of period E) are changed to ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. For periods A, B, C and the first three Saturdays of period E, hunting hours will still end at noon. This expansion of hunting hours will increase opportunity for working and youth hunters. Coyotes may be harvested incidentally while turkey hunting. See page 62.

Spring 2015 Gobbler Hunting Regulations

Spring gobbler hunting regulations are published in the 2015 Wild Turkey Hunting Season permit supplement available in January. See *Turkey Hunting Permits, General*, page 12.

Turkey Hunting Seminars

The latest turkey hunting techniques are presented at several turkey hunting seminars sponsored by Fish and Wildlife or wildlife conservation organizations. These seminars focus on how to set up, calling techniques and key safety information for turkey hunters. New turkey hunters are especially encouraged to join us at a seminar. Check your newspaper and the January 2015 Wild Turkey Hunting Season permit supplement for the seminars scheduled during March or April. 🦃



Just the day before, Lexis McCurry from Hardyston broke her hand playing softball. The 14 year old didn't let that interfere with her first-ever turkey hunt where she harvested this fine bird.

2015 Spring Gobbler Hunting Season

Hunting Period	Dates
Youth Turkey Hunting Day (10–16 years of age) Hunting Period Y	Sat., April 18 If no turkey is harvested on this youth hunt day, Period Y permits may be used in the designated zone for balance of season until a bird is harvested
Hunting Period A	Mon., April 20–Fri., April 24
Hunting Period B	Mon., April 27–Fri., May 1
Hunting Period C	Mon., May 4–Fri., May 8
Hunting Period D	Mon., May 11–Fri., May 15; Mon., May 18–Fri., May 22
Hunting Period E	All Saturdays, April 25, May 2, May 9 and May 16

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Youth Turkey Hunt Day

April 18, 2015 (See page 24)
If no turkey is harvested on this youth hunt day, Period Y permits may be used by the youth hunter in the designated zone for the balance of the season until a bird is harvested (see page 24).

Non-hunting adults accompanying youth turkey hunters need only have in possession a valid hunting license. Turkey hunting is by permit only.
Spring and fall turkey hunting is by permit only. See *Turkey Hunting Permits, General*, page 12. For farmers, see *Farmer Turkey Permits*, page 28.

Warning to Violators

Be advised: two violations of wildlife management area regulations will result in loss of all sporting licenses and privileges for a period of five years.



Fall & Spring Wild Turkey Hunting

FALL TURKEY CHECK STATIONS



Fall 2014 Turkey Check Stations

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Butterhof's Farm & Home Supply, 5715 White Horse Pike, Egg Harbor City . . . (609) 965-1198
 Ted's Taxidermy, 713 Rt. 40, Buena (856) 697-8585

BURLINGTON

Sportsman's Center, Rt. 130, Bordentown (609) 298-5300

CAMDEN

Banger's Sport Shop, 840 Piney Hollow Rd., Winslow (609) 561-1717

CAPE MAY

Belle Plain Supply, 346 Handisville Ave., Belle Plain. (609) 861-2345
 Fletcher's Corner, 212 South Rt. 47, Cape May C.H. (609) 465-4949

CUMBERLAND

Beaver Dam Boat Rentals, 514 Old Beaver Dam Rd, Newport (856) 447-3633
 Blackwater Sports Center, 2228 Delsea Dr., Vineland (856) 691-1571

GLOUCESTER

Sportsman's Outpost, Fries Mill Rd., Williamstown (856) 881-3244
 The Bottle Barn, 65 West Broad St., Gibbstown (856) 423-3608

HUNTERDON

Sportsman's Rendezvous, Rt. 31, Speedway Plaza, Flemington (908) 788-5828
 Boan's Marine, 1296 Rt. 179, Lambertville (609) 397-3311
 The Corner Store, Rt. 12 and Rt. 519, Baptistown (908) 996-7648
 Carousel Deli And Bakery, Rt. 179 and Wertsville Rd., Ringoes (908) 788-5180
 Jugtown Mountain Campsites, 1074 Rt. 173 East, Asbury (908) 735-5995

MIDDLESEX

Sayreville Sportsmen, 52 Washington Ave., Sayreville (732) 238-2060

MORRIS

Mount Hope Deli, 662 Mount Hope Ave., Wharton (973) 328-7259

PASSAIC

Tackle and Field, 81 Ringwood Ave., Wanaque (973) 835-2966
 Greenwood Lake, Sports Center, 1745 Greenwood Lake Turnpike, Hewitt (973) 728-1000

SALEM

Salem Boat Exchange, 1163 South Broadway, Pennsville (856) 935-2515
 Sam's Super Service, 290 Rt. 40, Elmer (856) 358-3488

SOMERSET

Gladpack Sunoco, 1 Pottersville Rd., Peapack-Gladstone (908) 234-1355
 Puskas Dairy Farm, 170 South Middlebush Rd. Somerset (732) 690-0380

SUSSEX

Garden State Bow & Reel, 2760A Rt. 23N, Stockholm (973) 697-3727
 Hainesville General Store, 283 Rt. 206 South Hainesville. (973) 948-4280
 Mountain Mike's Sport Shop, 7 Old Rudetown Rd., McAfee. (973) 827-6527
 Mountain View Country Store, 300 Rt. 519, Wantage (973) 875-6000
 Simon-Peter Bait And Tackle, Rt. 206 And Brighton Rd., Newton (973) 786-5313
 Swartswood Deli, 911 Newton-Swartswood Rd., Stillwater (973) 579-3354

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Alpine Meats, Rt. 94 N., Blairstown (908) 362-8568
 Hi-Way Sport Shop, Box 253, Rt. 31 North, Washington (908) 689-6208
 Smitty's Liquor & Deli, 89 Rt. 46, Delaware (908) 475-5933
 The Owl's Nest, 97 Rt. 519, Warren Glen (908) 995-7903

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Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament

GET OUTSIDE & ENJOY A DAY OF FISHING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

By Karen Byrne, Senior Biologist

The 23rd Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament was held on May 18, 2014 at Island Beach State Park, the first time in tournament history that the event was not held on the traditional first Sunday in October. Over 600 anglers, along with family and friends, enjoyed a sunny, spring day of fishing. A bluefish blitz kept tournament judges on the move with nearly 200 fish being measured.

Chris Follmer of Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, took the grand prize and the New Jersey Governor's Cup with a 36-inch bluefish. Follmer received two rod-and-reel combinations plus a plaque and will have his name engraved on the Governor's Cup, on permanent display at the park. New Jersey Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno, who joined the tournament participants fishing with her family and friends, greeted anglers at tournament headquarters and took part in the awards ceremony.

In addition to the Governor's Cup winner, twenty anglers received rod-and-reel combinations for their prize-winning fish in the striped bass and bluefish categories. Overall fish length determined the grand prize winner, as well as first, second or third place in each of the species categories. There were categories for children, teen and adult anglers, including sub-categories for male and female anglers.

Since its inception in 1991, the tournament has generated more than \$130,000 for various marine



Jon Carlucci/NJ Div. Fish and Wildlife

In the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament winner's circle: L-R: Paul Haertel (Jersey Coast Angler Assoc.), Chris Follmer (Governor's Cup winner), John Rogalo (NJ State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs), Lt. Governor Guadagno, Tim Burden (NJ Beach Buggy Assoc.) and Dave Chanda (Director, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife).

education and restoration efforts, construction of access ramps for disabled saltwater anglers, surf fishing instruction programs and equipment, specialized wheel chairs that provide beach access to the disabled and elderly, plus the purchase of the first mobile automatic heart defibrillator for use at Island Beach State Park.

For more information about the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament or to receive a registration form for next year's Tournament, visit NJFishandWildlife.com/gsft.htm or call (609) 748-4347.

Thank you!

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, along with our co-sponsors: New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry, New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Jersey Coast Anglers Association and New Jersey Beach Buggy Association, would like to thank the following organizations for contributing to the success of the 23rd Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament in 2014:

- Canyon Gear
- Chestnut Neck Boat Yard
- Eagle Claw Fishing Tackle
- L&H Wood and Water
- Legal Limits Company
- Manns Bait Company
- Silver Horde
- Skunkbunker
- Stanley Jigs
- Sportsman's Center

A very special posthumous thank you to Ken Jelnicki, Jr. who, for the past five years, donated his custom-designed bait launching device—the Surf Rocket—as an early registration prize. Mr. Jelnicki passed away in January 2014 but will be remembered as being passionate about surf fishing and always willing to help other anglers.



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