2018 Deer Season and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Update

Oct. 2018



Visit the following DNR webpages for the most up to date information

- Visit <u>dnr.wi.gov</u> and type the keyword(s):
 - o <u>Deer</u>- for information and resources on the 2018 deer hunting seasons
 - Deer registration- for tips on what you need to register your deer and to find locations for assistance with in-person registration
 - o Deer donation- for information on the Wisconsin deer donation program
 - <u>CWD</u>- for information and resources on all things CWD related in Wisconsin; including, maps, baiting and feeding bans, carcass movement and disposal
 - o CWD sampling- for information on where you can get your deer sampled
 - <u>CWD results</u>- to look up test results for your deer and see summaries of sampling efforts in Wisconsin

Register your deer- its required!

- All deer registration needs to be completed electronically, some inperson registration stations are available to assist hunters with this.
- Register your deer by 5 p.m. the day after recovery.
- Before you register, have the deer tag harvest authorization number handy.

Wisconsin Deer Donation Program

- Wisconsin has a network of venison donation partners.
- You can donate your deer by dropping it off at a participating processor; for a list of local processors visit the deer donation webpage described above.
- Deer from some CWD affected counties need to be tested for CWD as part of the donation process; this includes all adult deer from Lincoln and Oneida Counties.

Baiting and Feeding

- Baiting and feeding is currently banned in 43 WI counties; including many in your local area.
- None of the bans in your local area will be lifted during any of the 2018 deer season.
- Under state statute, it is required to prohibit baiting and feeding of deer due to wild and captive CWD positives in your local area.

 Baiting and feeding is different than food plots because bait and feed is regularly placed in the same location over and over. This causes unnatural concentrations of deer and increased opportunities for disease transmission.

 Please check the DNR baiting and feeding webpage for updates.





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Chronic Wasting Disease

Targeted CWD surveillance will occur in two areas near Rhinelander this fall.

During the 2017-gun deer season a wild deer from NE Lincoln County tested positive for CWD. In March 2018 a wild deer in southcentral Oneida County also tested positive for CWD. Additionally, deer from within a captive deer farm in Eastern Oneida County have tested positive for the disease.

- The DNR strongly encourages hunters to submit adult deer heads for CWD testing from the
 areas around these CWD positives (See map for boundary around focus area). It is very
 important to further understand CWD in our local area and detect any further infections early.
- Hunters outside these focus areas can also have their deer tested.
- You can find CWD sampling locations throughout our local area on the provided map, or by visiting dnr.wi.gov, keywords "CWD sampling."
- Testing is free!

Carcass Transportation and Disposal

No changes to deer carcass transportation rules in 2018

An emergency rule regarding transportation of deer carcasses out of CWD-affected counties was scheduled to take effect Oct. 1st 2018 but has been suspended.

- Due to the suspension of this emergency rule, carcass transport regulations revert to the rules previously in the books for the time being:
 - Wild-deer carcasses and certain parts of carcasses from CWD affected counties can only be moved within CWD affected counties or an adjacent county.
- Proper disposal of deer carcass waste is an effective preventative measure to reduce risk of
 disease transmission. Although the emergency rule has been suspended, the DNR continues to
 recommend that hunters who harvest deer in CWD affected counties: 1) limit movement of
 carcasses to within the county of harvest or an adjacent CWD affected county or ensure carcass
 ends up in a landfill that accepts deer waste.

What to do if you see a sick or dead deer

- DNR staff are interested in reports of sick deer or deer with an unknown cause of death (not car-killed deer). Contact your local DNR wildlife biologist to report a sick or dead deer. If a biologist is unavailable, call the DNR's customer service hotline at 1-800-847-9367.
- Deer with early stages of CWD may look completely healthy. However, clinical signs of CWD include: no fear of humans, drastic weight loss, notable weakness, drooping of head and ears, excessive salivation and drinking, inability to stand.