

DEER HUNTING GUIDE 2024



October 30th & 31st, 2024

20 pages / Special Section

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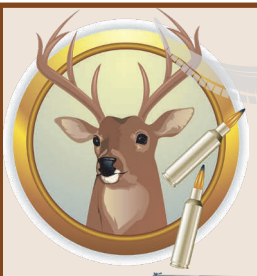
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Paul Finch, of Tomah with his 6 X 7 elk shot on October 14th, 2024 at 5:10 p.m.
Contributed photo.

By **KYLE EVANS**
Herald Staff

This was the first year that hunters could apply for Elk tags in Jackson County. Four individuals got the opportunity to hunt elk in Jackson County. The season started on October 12th, 2024 and all four of the tags were filled on October 14th.

Paul Finch, from Tomah was one of the random individuals who got a tag. Before the season, there were a couple meetings he had to attend with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the others who drew tags.

Finch used a family friends land, which sits a bit north of Warrens. Finch has a trail camera set up in that area, nearby where his stand is. Finch and his father, Ron Pearson went out the first two days together and didn't even see an elk. On the third day, Pearson decided to stay back. Unfortunately for Pearson that was the day that Finch got his elk.

Finch isn't new to the hunting game, as he's been hunting his entire life. But hunting Elk was something new. He said, "You just

don't realize how massive these animals are, until they're in front of you."

Finch got to his stand at 1 p.m. After sitting for four hours, he saw what he had hoped for since drawing his tag. "There he stood, about 70-80 yards away, right between two trees — a bull elk with a big rack and a massive body." Finch took the shot and hit the Elk, but the elk didn't flinch. He said, "It just looked around like, 'Where did that come from?'"

Finch took a couple steps toward the elk and then shot again, and the elk swayed before thundering to the ground. "Before I could say 'Holy s**t,' the elk was back up on all fours," Finch exclaimed. The elk then started walking toward the stand. Finch had a clear shot at the heart from about 20 yards. He then took his third and final shot, and the elk went down again, this time for good.

The landowner texted Finch and asked if that was his shots or not. He replied that it was and the landowner came up with his tractor to help with the initial testing re-

'ELK'
cont. on pg.6

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No bucks may be harvested during the antlerless-only hunts identified below.

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Oct. 5 – 13, 2024

Youth deer hunt

Oct 5 – 6, 2024

Gun

Nov 23 – Dec 1, 2024

Muzzleloader

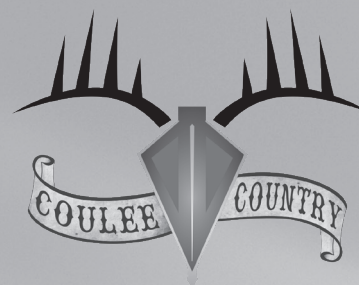
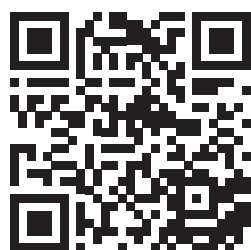
Dec 2 – Dec 11, 2024

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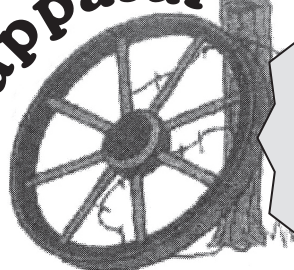
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Deer Management Strategies

By **JAMES LANIER**
 Realtor/Land Pro at United Country Midwest Lifestyle Properties. Landowner in Ridgeville Township

It seems that Quality Deer Management (QDM) is talked about in just about every deer hunters camp, in hunting magazines, outdoor television shows, and the social media posts discussing QDM are everywhere. The increased popularity of QDM has been a great thing for deer, deer hunting, deer hunters, landowners and also all types of wildlife that benefit from better habitat management. QDM is not Trophy Deer Management, they are not even close! The National Deer Association classifies three different types of deer management strategies. Let's take a look at all three.

Traditional Deer Management:

Under traditional deer management, any antlered buck is the main target and is harvested. Hunters are encouraged to harvest does when allowed. Most hunters that practice this strategy would rather harvest a buck than a doe. This is the strategy that most of us Wisconsin hunters grew up on and it still continues to be by many today. This strategy can lead to skewed buck to doe ratios in favor

of too many does and can lead to deer numbers that exceed the habitat's carrying capacity. This strategy may work when the deer herd is below the habitat's carrying capacity.

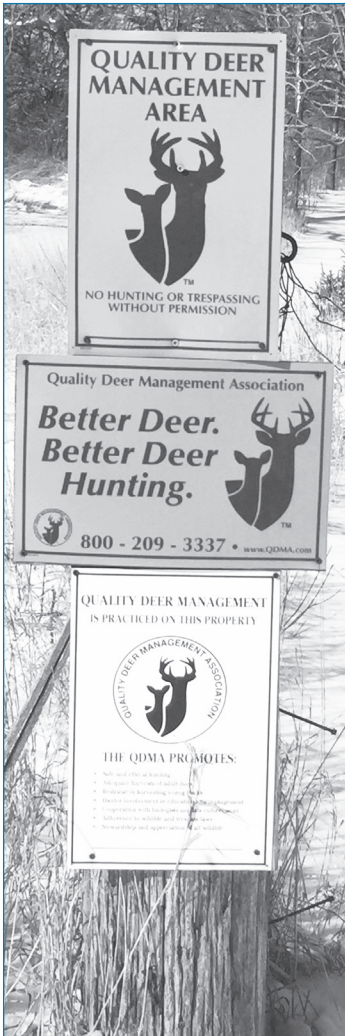
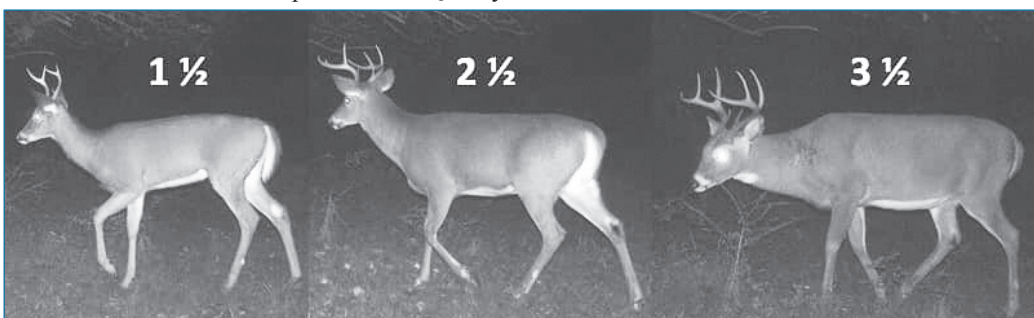
Trophy Deer Management:

On the opposite end of the spectrum is Trophy Deer Management, which is the approach where only fully mature bucks with high scoring antlers are harvested. Does are aggressively harvested to maintain low deer numbers providing optimum nutrition for the remaining animals. It requires large amounts of acreage making it not very practical in much of Wisconsin. This strategy is negatively viewed by much of the hunting and non-hunting public because of its focus on the trophy rack.

Quality Deer Management:

In the middle of the spectrum is Quality

Deer Management (QDM). QDM is based on science that is first and foremost about having the appropriate number of deer on the landscape that the habitat can support. This approach is where the younger bucks (1 ½ and most times 2 ½ year olds) are protected from harvest allowing them to reach an older age, typical of a balanced herd. Combining this with an adequate harvest of does produces a healthy deer herd in balance with existing habitat conditions. In other words, where QDM is correctly practiced there are plenty of deer (not too many), more older aged bucks, all on lands with very little to no deer ag/habitat damage. A sound QDM strategy provides tremendous hunting opportunities while balancing the deer herd with the local habitat.



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ELK

Continued from Page 3



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A trail camera photo from 10 minutes before the elk was shot. Contributed photo.

quired by the DNR and help haul the 800 to 1,000 pound beast out of the woods.

Finch got the largest rack of the four elk killed in Jackson County. It was a 6 X 7, which means there were 6 points on one side and 7 on the other, for a total of 13. Finch plans to get a shoulder mount of the elk. All four tags were filled on October 14th, with two being filled in the morning, and the final

two in the afternoon. "We'll be eating a lot of elk burgers, that's for sure," said Finch.

Finch said, "I never in my life expected to elk hunt 20-30 minutes from home." Later, the landowner and Finch reviewed the trail camera photos, and they had one of the elk that the camera had taken 10 minutes prior to being shot. Finch added, "It was an experience I'll never forget."

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CWD testing site returns to Hillsboro for third year

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

Deer hunting is one of Wisconsin's longest-standing outdoor recreational traditions. Most of us either hunt deer ourselves or know people who do, perhaps even members of our own family. Some hunt for fun, others for trophies, and others for meat. Whatever the reason, every Wisconsinite knows that fall brings with it the arrival of deer hunting season and a flood of bright orange and camo clothing.

However, hunting deer is not without its risks. One of the bigger concerns facing hunters and conservationists involves chronic wasting disease, or CWD. CWD is fatal and highly infectious prion disease, also known as a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE). This is a unique family of diseases, caused by a malformed protein accumulating in the brain and other tissues, resulting in neurological symptoms, emaciation of the infected animal, and death. By the time symptoms appear, the disease has already advanced beyond any hope of treatment.

Species hardest hit by CWD include members of the cervid family: deer, elk, moose, and reindeer. While Wisconsin is

not bereft of elk and moose populations, though there efforts to reintroduce elk into the state, the population that has thus far taken the brunt of the infection are the deer.

CWD was first identified in the U.S. in the 1960s and 70s, over in Colorado and Wyoming, before spreading across the continent. According to the National Parks Service (NPS), the disease has spread across most of the eastern United States and has made it as far west as Utah. At least 24 U.S. states have reported instances of CWD, including Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been monitoring Wisconsin deer populations for the disease since 1999, recording the state's first positive cases in 2002. In the 22 years since, CWD has spread through much of the state, heavily impacting southern and southwestern deer populations with counties such as Richland, Sauk, and Iowa have been the hardest hit thus far.

In an effort to monitor the disease, and perhaps contain further spread when possible, the DNR has established a sponsorship program for Wisconsinites interested in getting a testing site established in their community. This was the impetus behind Raymond Coorough's decision to



Hillsboro veterinarian Raymond Coorough has sponsored a self-serve kiosk for collecting samples of harvested deer to test for CWD. These kiosks are part of the DNR's efforts to monitor and track the spread of the disease throughout the state. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.

sponsor a testing site kiosk in Hillsboro in 2022.

Coorough, a veterinarian based in Hillsboro, received a general email from the DNR detailing the Adopt-a-Kiosk program and decided to give the program a try. The kiosk was set up at the boat landing by Field Veterans' Memorial Park, and in its first year collected several samples that tested positive for CWD.

The kiosk has returned for another hunting season, and is located in approximately the same place: at the boat landing across from Field Veterans; Memorial Park. Community members should note that this site is NOT a community dumpster for trash and that rubbish from any outdoor activities should be deposited in appropriate trash bins, NOT the testing kiosk.

Hunters can deposit their samples at the kiosk, which is vivid orange in color and marked with a red sign on its front identifying it as a CWD testing site. The kiosk is self-serve, with DNR employees

regularly visiting the site to collect deposited samples and keep the kiosk stocked with the items necessary to submit a sample for testing. Once collected, it can take up to ten to fourteen business days for the samples to be processed, and hunters will be notified once the tests are complete whether their deer tested positive for the disease or not.

For more information on CWD and DNR testing sites, you can visit the DNR online at dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/cwd. You can also learn more about the department's Adopt-a-Kiosk and Adopt-a-Dumpster programs, which the Hillsboro kiosk is part of.

If you plan to hunt outside of Wisconsin this fall, you can also find information regarding CWD in Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, and Minnesota by visiting the previously mentioned site. If you're a hunter who enjoys participating in this form of outdoor recreation, be sure to do your part to ensure that those who come after you will be able to enjoy it as well.

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Help Maintain A Healthy Herd: Avoid Baiting And Feeding Deer

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds hunters and the public to help prevent the spread of chronic wasting disease (CWD) and other illnesses between deer by following all baiting and feeding bans and refraining from baiting and feeding in areas where no bans are in effect.

CWD is an always-fatal disease that affects the nervous system of deer, elk, moose and caribou caused by a misshapen prion protein. The disease can spread through contact with an infected animal's saliva, urine, feces or blood. It can also spread indirectly through exposure to a contaminated environment. CWD prions are extremely resilient, and they can stay in the soil for a long time, making containment of an affected area a challenge.

Baiting is the intentional placement of any material, including food, scented materials, salts, minerals and grains, to attract wild animals for hunting purposes. Feeding is the deliberate placement of material used to feed or attract wild animals for non-hunting

purposes, including recreational and supplemental feeding, except as allowed for birds and small mammals.

Baiting and feeding encourage deer to congregate unnaturally around a specific location, creating an environment where infected deer can quickly spread diseases like CWD through direct contact with healthy deer or through indirect contact in the environment.

Infected deer can also leave infectious CWD prions behind in their saliva, blood, feces and urine, creating a risk to any healthy deer that may visit the site in the future. CWD can spread rapidly when these prions remain in an area where more deer are sure to congregate, such as a feed pile.

To mitigate these risks and slow the spread of CWD, state law directs the DNR to impose baiting and feeding bans within any county with a confirmed CWD-positive wild or captive deer or any county within 10 miles of the location of the positive deer.

Counties fall under a three-year baiting and feeding ban when a wild or farm-raised deer tests positive for CWD

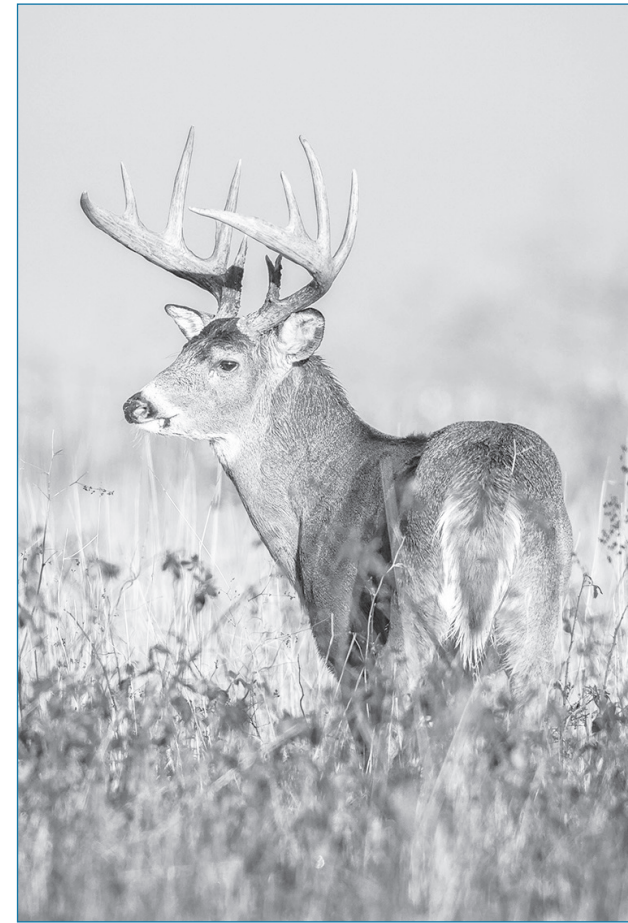
in the county. If the CWD-positive deer is found within 10 miles of a county line, the adjoining county will fall under a two-year ban. If additional CWD cases are found during the lifetime of a baiting and feeding ban, the ban will reset for an additional two to three years. Therefore, the date when a baiting and feeding ban would be lifted on a given county may change due to new farm-raised and wild CWD positive detections.

In counties where baiting and feeding bans are in effect, individuals may still feed birds and small mammals provided feeding devices are within 50 yards of a human dwelling and at a sufficient height or design to prevent access by deer.

Find more information on baiting and feeding regulations and a map of counties with active bans on the DNR's Baiting and Feeding Regulations webpage.



Baiting and Feeding Regulations webpage



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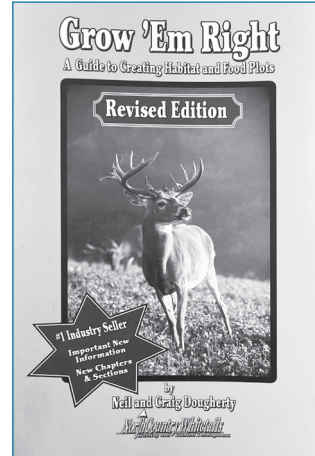
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Book Review! - Grow 'Em Right

By **JAMES LANIER**
 Realtor/Land Pro at United Country Midwest Lifestyle Properties.

Grow 'Em Right – Neil & Craig Dougherty: If you're looking to improve the habitat for Whitetails in your area, this book is for you. This book does a good job of including everything you need to do to improve your property for better deer, better wildlife, and better hunting. The father/son team discuss: habitat plans, food plot strategies, timber stand improvement, creating access trails, controlling trespassing, creating better bedding cover, Quality Deer Management, and much more. It also including a chapter on how to buy a hunting property. This is a great read for both the novice and the expert alike.





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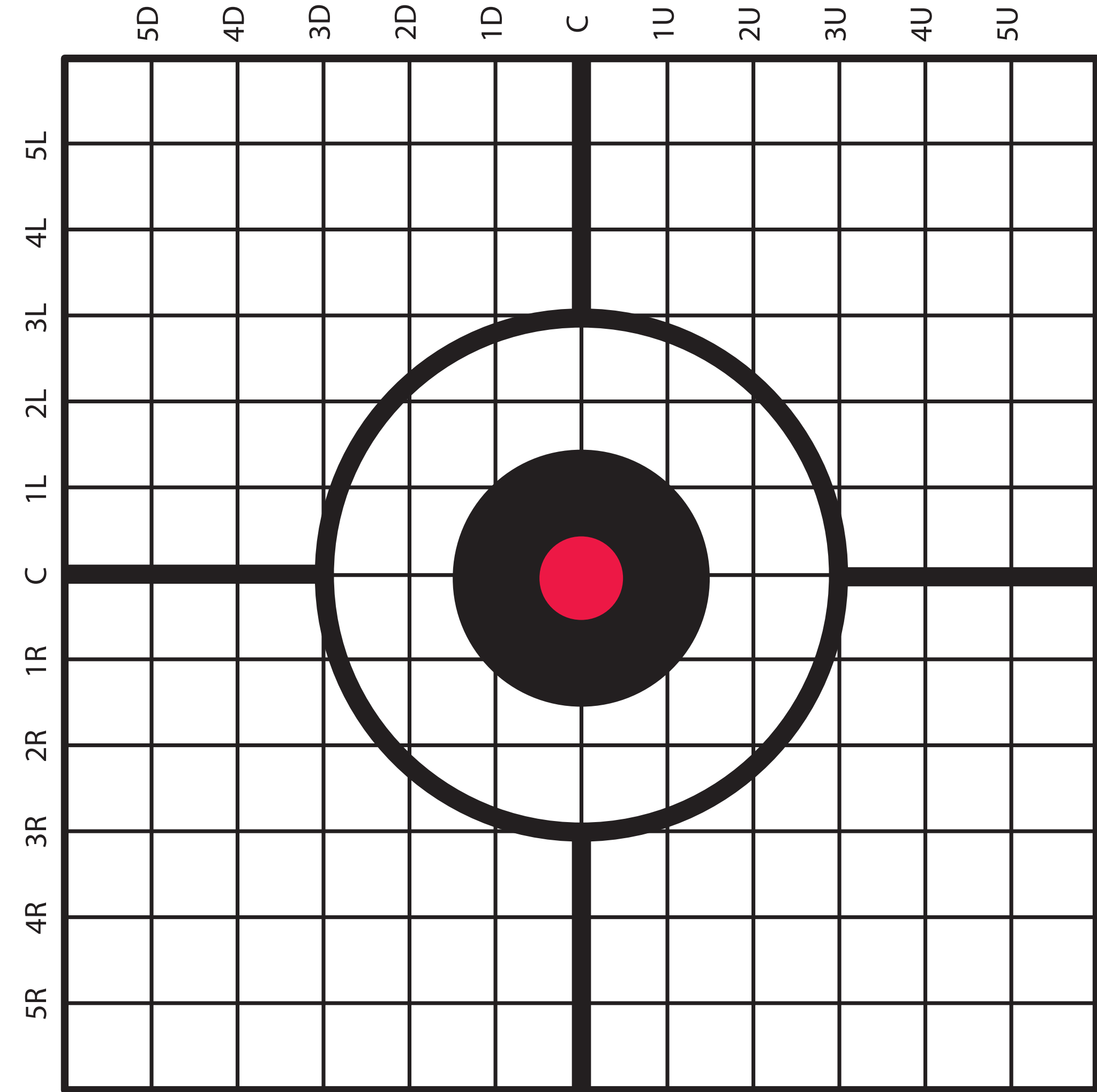
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Support a good cause by donating deer hides this fall



Yellow collection boxes, such as this one, will be set up by local Lions Clubs throughout the area to collect deer hides. The hides will be processed and the funds raised by the donated hides will help support the Wisconsin Lions Camp, which provides camping experiences for children and adults with disabilities. Pictured: Hillsboro Lions Liz (left) and Ken (right) Johnson pose with one of the donation boxes set up by the Hillsboro Lions. Photo taken by Nicolette Nauman, HSE Editor.

By NICOLETTE NAUMAN
Sentry-Enterprise Editor

With October in its final days and the fall colors beginning to fade as winter creeps ever closer, we're entering into the month of November. The start of the holiday season, when retail stores make the sudden and oftentimes jarring cut from standard pop music to Christmas songs and related music genres, as well as the arrival of one of Wisconsin's favorite seasons: deer hunting.

Deer hunting has already been ongoing, with hunters limited to their bows for the time being. Gun deer season is set to begin towards the end of November, and hunters can pay a visit to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) website to get updated on this year's rules, regulations, and permitting requirements.

However, another thing to consider as gun-deer season approaches is the other themes of this point in the year: generosity, charity, and gratitude. Gun-deer season isn't the only thing November brings us each year; Thanksgiving is a good time for us to take time to be thankful for what we have and to extend some charity to those who aren't quite as lucky.

Lions International has been dedicated to charitable efforts and community support for decades, and here in Wisconsin local Lions Clubs take full advantage of the local holiday season to help fundraise in support of one charitable effort in particular: the Wisconsin Lions Camp.

The Wisconsin Lions Camp, located in Rosholt, Wisconsin, offers week-long camp sessions focused on providing camping experiences to children with disabilities. Certain weeks may be set aside for those dealing with specific disabilities, such as a diabetes, and there are other weeks dedicated towards adults dealing with disabilities.

Campers can participate in a variety of traditional camp activities, ranging from hiking and canoeing to archery and fishing. These activities are no-cost to the campers or their families, and are funded with the support of Wisconsin Lions Clubs and donations received by the organization.

The Lions Clubs of Wisconsin all work together in order to help fundraise for this cause, setting up collection boxes for donated deer hides. In 2021, for example, the Lions Clubs were able to raise almost \$88,000 in support of the Wisconsin Lions Camp just by collecting deer hides!

Locally, the Hillsboro Lions, the Wonewoc Area Lions, and the Elroy Lions will have collection bins set up in their respective communities.

Here in Hillsboro, hunters looking to donate their hides will have three spots to choose from: a bin located out at County Market, one located at the Hillsboro Town Hall (along Town Shop Road, off State Highway 33 outside of Hillsboro), and the third located at the property of Ken and Liz Johnson, S3946 State Highway 80.

The Wonewoc Area Lions will be setting up their collection box at the Zzip Stop in Wonewoc this week, and the Elroy Lions have placed two boxes around Elroy: one at the Elroy Fire Department and one at the Plymouth Town Hall. The Kendall Lions have placed a box at Buck's Custom Welding. Look for a bright yellow box bearing the Lions' emblem if you'd like to donate this year!

Boxes will be regularly checked by Lions Club members, with donated hides being picked up, salted down, and delivered to a designated collection point for further processing. Those who would like to donate should take care to remove the head and legs of the hide in question before donating, as this will help to expedite the preparation and processing of each hide on the part of the Lions.



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- Thursday, Nov 21 - Pre-Hunt Beer & Deer Party. Hidden Beers & a Big Buck (\$100), DJ Dearman
- Friday, Nov 22 - Naughty Nurse Night. Nurse Bartenders, Doctor Promo, & DJ
- Saturday, Nov 23 - Opening Day! Free Food After the Event with Purchase of Beverages. Ladies Event. Static Echo Band 9pm-lam
- Wednesday, Nov 27 - 'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving . Frank Martin Busch Duo Show 9pm-lam
- Thursday, Nov 28 - Thanksgiving. Open Regular Hours . Packer Party
- Friday, Nov 29 - Black Friday . Logan Spicer Music 9pm-lam
- Saturday, Nov 30 - The Pat Watters Band

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DON'T SHOOT AN ELK!

BE AWARE!

ELK ARE IN WISCONSIN

Look for differences between ELK and white-tailed DEER.

✓ COLORING

ELK: Tan rump patch, black legs and a dark brown, furry neck.

DEER: Legs the same color as bodies and a white throat patch.

✓ TAILS

ELK: SHORT tail.

DEER: LONG tail with a white underside.

✓ ANTLERS

ELK: Sweep BACK.

DEER: Curve FORWARD.

✓ JEWELRY

ELK: Some marked with COLLARS and EAR TAGS.



✓ SIZE

ELK: Adults stand 4-5 FEET at the shoulders.

DEER: Adults stand 3-3 1/2 FEET at the shoulders.

NOTE!

A 5- to 6-month-old elk calf will be about the same size as an adult white-tailed doe.

LEARN MORE

SCAN to visit the Elk in Wisconsin webpage.



dnr.wi.gov/elm/2036

Always be sure of your target and beyond

Know Your Target: Don't Accidentally Shoot Elk This Hunting Season

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds hunters to know their target and understand the difference between elk and white-tailed deer this hunting season.

Elk occasionally venture outside of Wisconsin's two elk ranges, especially during the fall breeding season. Positively identifying the target ensures the safety of other people and avoids accidental shooting of non-target animals.

How To Identify An Elk:

Adult elk are larger than adult deer. An adult elk stands about 1-2 feet taller than an adult deer at the shoulders. An elk calf will be about the same size as an adult white-tailed doe but will display similar coloration to adult elk.

Spot the difference in the antlers. White-tailed deer antlers curve forward, whereas elk antlers are larger and sweep back from their heads.

Look for color markings. Elk have a tan rump patch, black legs and a dark brown

mane. Deer have legs the same color as their bodies, a white throat patch and a fluffy white tail.

Additional markers. Elk moving throughout the state may have noticeable markers, including colored ear tags or tracking collars. These collars are fixed around the neck and are typically orange in color, sometimes with a visible printed number.

See the differences between elk and white-tailed deer using the DNR's comparison guide.

Any elk taken without a tag may result in a fine and a revocation of hunting licenses.

Observations of elk outside the management zones can be reported to the DNR through the Wildlife Observation Tool.



Scan for Wildlife observation tool

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Stock Number 18009



2024 GMC Sierra 2500 HD, Denali

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Stock Number 17060



2025 GMC Sierra 2500 HD, SLT

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2024 GMC Terrain, SLT

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2022 GMC Canyon, Elevation

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12187 miles



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Dark Slate Metallic, 6.2L, Leather heated/cooled seats,
navigation. rear camera, 65682 miles



2021 Ram 1500 Rebel

\$39,990

Flame Red Clearcoat, 5.7L, heated leather seats, cruise,
navigation, rear camera, 80162 miles



2020 Jeep Grand Cherokee

\$24,990

Burgandy, 3.6L, heated suede seats, navigation,
rear camera, 95025 miles



2020 Volkswagen Tiguan

\$21,990

White, 2.0L Leather heated seats, sunroof, navigation
55880 miles



2016 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE

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HUNTING SAFETY TIPS



From Wisconsin DNR

Safety should be every hunter's top target each fall.

Remember, at least 50% of each hunter's clothing above the waist must be blaze orange or pink any time there is a firearm deer season in progress, and any head covering must be at least 50% blaze orange or pink.

Make sure to follow the four rules of basic firearm safety – TAB-K.

T = Treat every firearm as if it is loaded. Never assume a gun is unloaded, and never treat it that way, even if you watch as it is unloaded. Make it a habit to treat guns like they are always loaded.

A = Always point the muzzle in a safe direction. About one-third of all hunting incidents are self-inflicted injuries. That means the muzzle was pointed at some part of the hunter's body. A safe approach is where the bullet will travel and harm no one in the event of an unwanted discharge. There are no accidental discharges with firearms, only unwanted discharges.

B = Be sure of your target and what's beyond it. Positive target identification is a must. To shoot at something you only think is a legal target is gambling. In the case of human injury, that means gambling on human life. You must be specific and correct in judgment before deciding to shoot. Otherwise, it's reckless behavior. In addition to identifying the target, a hunter must know that a safe backstop for their bullet is present in every shooting situation. We don't always hit our target; in some cases, the bullet passes through the target. A safe backstop guarantees that no one will get hurt.

K = Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot. If a hunter stumbles with a firearm in one hand and nothing in the other, whatever that person does with their free hand will automatically happen with the hand holding the gun. If a finger is inside the trigger guard, that hand will likely close around the gun's pistol grip and on the trigger, causing an unwanted discharge.

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CONTEST DATES
2024 Gun Season
November 23rd-December 1st
Closed Thanksgiving Day

SIGN UP

•\$5.00 per person

•Sign up deadline is bar time on Friday, November 22nd

CASH PRIZES AVAILABLE!

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place only

DETAILS

Deer eligible for judging must be shot during gun season
All contestants must have deer present at Hillsboro Roadhouse for measurements

Judging will be based off two categories:

• Points • Inside spread

It's time to go **BIG** or go home!

GOOD LUCK!!



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Wed. All you can eat wings

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Friday - Fish and Chicken Buffet

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Huge selection of summer sausage and cheeses

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Large liquor and beer department for the relaxation after the hunt

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DNR Reminds Hunters To Test Harvested Deer And Take Action To Slow The Spread Of CWD This Fall

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds hunters to test their deer for CWD this fall. Testing is available statewide, but the DNR is particularly interested in samples from priority areas near recent CWD detection locations.

CWD is a contagious, fatal neurological disease that affects the nervous system of deer, elk, moose and caribou. It belongs to the family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies or prion diseases. Prions are misshaped proteins that can spread the disease through direct animal-to-animal contact or in the environment through bodily substances or the carcass of infected deer.

Prions are extremely resilient and capable of remaining in the soil for years, potentially infecting several deer from a single source. Common signs of infected deer in the later stages of the disease are drastic weight loss, drooped head and ears, loss of coordination, excessive salivation and reduced fear of humans.

For the 2024 - 2025 deer seasons, the DNR is especially interested in receiving more samples from the 2024 Fall Priority

Areas. Additional samples in these areas will help the DNR better understand disease levels and distribution. In addition to the desire for additional testing within the priority areas, testing is again available statewide this hunting season.

How To Test Your Deer

The DNR offers free and accessible options to test deer for CWD. Hunters can find the nearest location using the DNR's CWD Sample and Disposal Locations map.

Any hunter in the state may choose from the following testing options:

Self-service kiosks, open 24/7: Kiosks contain supplies for hunters to drop off a deer head with 5 inches of neck attached.

In-person with cooperating partners: Meat processors and other businesses can collect the deer head for sampling or remove the lymph nodes at the time of drop-off. This is a convenient option for hunters who intend to mount their deer. If a taxidermist is not a cooperater, ask for the caped-out head back to submit at a kiosk.

At-home lymph node extraction: Hunters may pick up a kit ahead of time, extract the retropharyngeal lymph nodes using the provided instructions and return the lymph

nodes to the DNR or a kiosk for testing.

By appointment with local DNR staff: Hunters can contact their local wildlife management staff to schedule an in-person appointment.

Replacement Harvest Authorizations

If a hunter receives a CWD-positive test result, a replacement authorization will be issued to their Go Wild account within two to four days. A positive result from an antlered harvest authorization will result in a replacement antlered harvest authorization for the hunter (valid statewide). If the positive result was received for an antlerless harvest registration, an either-sex replacement harvest authorization will be issued for the same DMU and land type.

The replacement authorizations aren't weapon-specific and are valid for the remainder of the current hunting season and next year's hunting seasons (starting in September 2025).

Carcass Disposal Reminders

Proper disposal of deer carcasses can reduce the chance of CWD being introduced to a new area. Several disposal resources are available for hunters, including deer carcass disposal dumpsters, landfills or transfer

stations. These options can be found on the DNR's CWD Sample and Disposal Locations map, and we encourage hunters to check throughout the season, as more dumpsters will be added closer to the nine-day gun hunting season.

Consuming Venison

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization all recommend against consuming meat from deer that test positive for CWD. Infected deer typically appear healthy for many months after contracting the disease, so DHS encourages testing for the disease regardless of the physical condition of the harvested deer, especially in areas prevalent with CWD. To date, there have been no reported cases of CWD infection in humans.



CWD Sample and Disposal Locations map.



Chronic Wasting Disease webpage



Areas prevalent with CWD

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Field Dressed Venison to Become Available

NDA and WDNR Provide Community Support through Venison Donations

The Coulee Country Branch of the National Deer Association is excited to announce its latest donation plan which brings field dressed venison to those in the Wisconsin area. Through much of the Coulee Region the deer herd is in over abundance. To help trim the deer herd to healthy levels, many of the members of the Coulee Country Branch will be harvesting and donating venison.

"This is a great way for hunters to give back to the community," said Kim Zuhlke of the local Coulee Country Branch of the NDA. "The field dressed venison that comes out of this operation is sustainability grown and high-quality source of protein, so we're happy to be providing this to the community on top of helping to counteract over abundance.

For those looking to receive a field dressed deer, the Coulee Country Branch is now collecting names. To be eligible, send contact information to thevenisonconnection@gmail.com. The deer lymph nodes will be submitted for free CWD testing and the recipient will be responsible for the

processing of the deer.

In a complimentary program hunters will also be donating deer through the WDNR deer donation program which helps facilitate the dispersal of ground venison to the area's food pantries. Both programs will have venison available as the fall hunting season progresses.

For more information on the NDA and their partnerships visit www.deerassociation.com. To learn more about the Wisconsin DNR please see www.dr.wisconsin.gov.

About the National Deer Association

The National Deer Association is the leading non-profit deer conservation group and works to ensure the future of wild deer, wildlife habitat and hunting. Formed by combining the strengths of two long-serving, successful organizations, the National Deer Association has a combined 40 years of action that has changed deer management for the betterment of hunting and protected North America's most vital and admired game species for future generations. Visit DeerAssociation.com or follow @deerassociation on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and TikTok.



THE VENISON CONNECTION '24

Donate a deer and get entered to win!

Enter NOW through January 1, 2025

\$2500 IN PRIZES



**1st DEER =
1 TICKET**

**2nd DEER =
2 TICKETS**

**3rd DEER =
3 TICKETS**

AND SO ON - NO LIMIT!

TO ENTER:

- Harvest a deer
- Test it for CWD
- Donate it to a friend, neighbor, or a food pantry through participating meat processors.
- Email your name, phone #, deer registration #, recipient of the deer, and the date of donation to Matt at thevenisonconnection@gmail.com

- Some meat processors will do the CWD testing for you!
- For a list of processors Scan this QR code



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6.5 CREEDMOOR**

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NDA Rifle of the
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NDA**



Any Questions? Contact Kim Zuhlke, Branch President at kim@littleblueridge.com

Visit us on Facebook: National Deer Association - Coulee Count Branch

**Final Drawing will be held Jan 4, 2025
CHOICE OF PRIZE AFTER FIRST**



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