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Paul Benjunas/CT DEEP Wildlife Division

MENTOR A JUNIOR HUNTER, page 6

Help a new generation discover a passion for hunting and the outdoors!



Paul J. Fusco/CT DEEP-Wildlife

WHITE-TAILED DEER AND DISEASE CONCERNS IN CONNECTICUT, page 32

Connecticut's white-tailed deer population is faced with several existing and potential diseases.



On the cover:

A successful morning hunt for Pete Napolitano and a job well done by his hunting companion Soap, a three-year-old fox red Labrador retriever. The pair frequents this Newtown Fish and Game property, overlooking the hills of New Milford. On this chilly November outing, it didn't take long for Soap to put up two rooster pheasants and, despite one of them landing in the nearby woods, Soap's dependable nose led him to the prize.

Photo by:

Paul Benjunas

2020 CONNECTICUT HUNTING & TRAPPING

State of Connecticut

Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

Katie S. Dykes, *Commissioner*

79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106-5127
www.ct.gov/deep

Bureau of Natural Resources

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Jenny Dickson, *Director*

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This guide is intended to provide a summary of the most pertinent laws and regulations concerning hunting and trapping, and to provide information on these opportunities in Connecticut. No attempt has been made to employ the exact wording of laws and regulations, nor to provide their complete listing. For legal purposes the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and the General Statutes of Connecticut must be consulted. A listing of the General Statutes of Connecticut can be found on the Connecticut General Assembly website at www.cga.ct.gov and information on state regulations is at <https://eregulations.ct.gov>.

Directory of Services

For additional information the following DEEP offices may be contacted from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please note that the DEEP – Licensing Permit Sales Office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Note that the Sales Office closes at noon before major holidays and may close early during periods of severe weather.

Wildlife Division	860-424-3011
Division of Env. Cons. Police	860-424-3012
Licensing and Revenue	860-424-3105
Fisheries Division (Inland)	860-424-FISH
Fisheries Division (Marine)	860-434-6043
State Parks Division	860-424-3200
Forestry Division	860-424-3630
DEEP Home Page	www.ct.gov/deep
CT Fish and Wildlife Facebook Page	www.Facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife

Field Services

Questions concerning hunting, trapping, fishing, boating, camping, recreational use of state lands, forestry, and law enforcement may be directed to one of the following field offices (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

Eastern Area Headquarters	860-295-9523
Western Area Headquarters	860-485-0226
Office of Boating Safety (Old Lyme)	860-434-8638
Marine Patrol (Old Lyme)	860-434-9840

24 Hour Emergency Numbers

Report a Violation	1-800-842-4357
DEEP-Emergency Dispatch	860-424-3333



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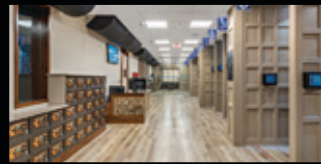
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2020 Summary of Hunting Season Dates

For further information regarding specific bag, possession, and season limits, please visit the pages noted in the table below. See page 6 for details on Junior Hunter Training Days.

GAMEBIRDS	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Upland Birds	See page 16 for limit information
Pheasant ^A	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Chukar and Hungarian Partridge ^A	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Ruffed Grouse ^A	Oct. 17 – Nov. 30
Quail ^{A,B}	Oct. 17 – Oct. 31
Crow ^C	Jan. 11 – Mar. 28 (Mon. through Sat.) Aug. 8 – Oct. 9 (Wed., Fri., Sat.) Oct. 17 – Nov. 30 (Wed., Fri., Sat.)
Woodcock – Snipe – Rails ^C	See current Migratory Bird Hunting Guide; State stamp required
Waterfowl ^C (ducks, mergansers, geese, and coot)	See current Migratory Bird Hunting Guide State and federal stamps required

^A Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp required.

^B See page 16 for areas with extended season dates.

^C Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp required.

SMALL GAME MAMMALS	
See page 16 for limit information.	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Gray Squirrel	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Sep. 1 – Dec. 31
Cottontail Rabbit European Hare	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Snowshoe Hare	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31 Nov. 21 – Dec. 31
Woodchuck	Mar. 16 – Nov. 16

FURBEARERS	
See pages 16 and 17 for limit information and page 44 for trapping seasons and regulations.	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Coyote	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31
Red & Gray Foxes	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Raccoon & Opossum	Jan. 1 – Jan. 18 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31

JUNIOR HUNTER TRAINING DAYS	
See page 6 for specific details.	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Junior Spring Wild Turkey	April 18 – 25, 2020 (excluding Sunday)
Junior Waterfowl	Two Saturdays in fall (see 2020-2021 Migratory Bird Hunting Guide for dates)
Junior Pheasant	October 10, 2020
Junior Deer	Nov. 7 – 14, 2020 (excluding Sunday)

TURKEY	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Spring Turkey ^A	See page 18 for limit information
State Land Private Land Landowner	Apr. 29 – May 30
Fall Turkey Archery ^A	See page 19 for limit information
Private Land (zones 11–12)	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31
Private Land (all zones)	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land Bowhunting Only Areas	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land	Sep. 15 – Nov. 17 Dec. 23 – Dec. 31
Fall Turkey Firearms ^A	See page 19 for limit information
State Land Private Land Landowner	Oct. 3 – Oct. 31

^A Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp required.

DEER	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Deer Bowhunting	See page 20 for limit information
Private Land (zones 11–12)	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31
Private Land (All zones)	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land Bowhunting Only Areas	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land	Sep. 15 – Nov. 17 Dec. 23 – Dec. 31
Deer Shotgun* – State Controlled Areas	See page 22 for limit information
No Lottery "A" Season*	Nov. 18 – Nov. 27
No Lottery "B" Season*	Nov. 28 – Dec. 8
Deer Lottery*	See page 24 for lottery application and bag limit information
Archery-Only Controlled Hunt Lottery	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land and Controlled Hunt* Lottery "A" Season	Nov. 18 – Nov. 27
State Land and Controlled Hunt* Lottery "B" Season	Nov. 28 – Dec. 8
Deer Shotgun/Rifle – Private Lands	See page 20 for limit information
Shotgun/Rifle/Revolver	Nov. 18 – Dec. 8
Landowner	Nov. 2 – Dec. 31
Deer Muzzleloader	See page 20 for limit information
Private Land	Dec. 9 – Dec. 31
State Land	Dec. 9 – Dec. 22

* The regulation concerning the Lottery and No-lottery A and B seasons may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.

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CONNECTICUT BIRD HUNTING STAMPS ARE FOR THE BIRDS!

The Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp is required to hunt pheasants, wild turkey, quail, partridges, and ruffed grouse. All revenue from the sale of Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamps is deposited into a non-lapsing, dedicated fund to provide a stable funding source for game birds and their habitat.

The Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp Program is a great example of how conservation works—concerned citizens paying into a program that was formed to protect and enhance vital habitat. All revenue from the sale of Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamps goes into a dedicated account that is used solely for wetland habitat management and acquisition or for improving hunter access. Over 3,145 acres of critical wetlands have been protected in Connecticut using stamp funds. These wetlands benefit not only waterfowl, but also a multitude of other wildlife species like herons, egrets, fish, and amphibians.

Migratory bird hunters are required to purchase a Connecticut stamp to participate in migratory bird hunting seasons. Other licensed hunters are encouraged to purchase a Connecticut Duck Stamp (even if they do not participate in the migratory bird hunting seasons) to show their support for the conservation and purchase of wetland habitats. Hunters can purchase stamps for \$17 each wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold: participating town clerks, participating retail agents, DEEP License and Revenue (79 Elm Street in Hartford), and through the Online Sportsmen Licensing System (www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing).

**Do your part for wetland conservation —
buy a Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp!**



Mentor a Junior Hunter

Help a **new** generation discover a passion for hunting and the outdoors!

Connecticut designates specific days when experienced adult hunters are encouraged to take a youth hunting, helping them learn safe and effective hunting practices, develop observational skills, and gain confidence and a comfort level they need to discover a passion for hunting and the outdoors. Mentors usually come away from the experience knowing they have introduced a young person to a sport they love and inspired him or her to become an avid and successful hunter and conservationist. On these days, licensed junior hunters (12 to 15 years of age) may hunt when accompanied by a licensed adult hunter 18 years of age or older. The adult mentor may not carry a firearm and must remain within physical contact in a position to provide direct supervision and instruction at all times.

Stay up-to-date on Junior Hunter events and activities on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/JuniorHunter.

Junior Hunter Training Days

TURKEY

April 18 through April 25, 2020 (excluding Sunday)

Private Land: Licensed junior hunter and adult mentor must both have a valid Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp and written consent from landowner. **State Land:** Licensed junior hunter and adult mentor must both have a Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp. Adult mentor may assist in calling turkeys. Hunting hours for Junior Turkey Hunter Training Days only are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 5:00 PM. **(The regulation concerning hunting hours for the junior turkey hunter training days may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the season starts.)**

Report Your Harvest: Immediately upon harvest, complete a Deer/Turkey Harvest Tag (page 34). All turkey and deer taken must be reported within 24 hours via the DEEP's website (www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) or by telephone at 1-877-337-4868.

WATERFOWL

See the 2020–2021 Migratory Bird Hunting Guide for the designated Junior Waterfowl Hunter Training Days (usually two Saturdays in the fall). The Guide should be available in mid- to late summer 2020 at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting.

Junior hunters (ages 12 to 15) must have a valid small game junior hunting license and a 2020 Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp. Sixteen and 17-year-old hunters can participate in the training day, but they must have a valid hunting license, a 2020 Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp, and federal 2020-2021 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp. Adults must possess a valid hunting license; however, they are not allowed to carry a firearm. Ducks, geese, mergansers, and coots may be hunted. Bag limits and shooting hours are the same as for the regular duck and goose hunting seasons. The Connecticut Waterfowl Association has initiated a mentoring program to help provide a quality waterfowl hunting experience for youths or other novice hunters. Learn more at <http://www.ctwaterfowlers.org/mentoring-information.html>.

PHEASANT

Saturday, October 10, 2020

State and Private Land: Youth participants must possess a current junior hunting license and a Connecticut Resident Game Bird



Conservation Stamp. There may be exceptions if hunting on a private shooting preserve or a hunting club property with a Resident Game Bird Stamp exemption. Adults must possess a valid hunting license; however, they are not allowed to carry a firearm.

DEER

Saturday, November 7 through Saturday, November 14, 2020 (excluding Sunday)

Private Land: Licensed junior hunter and adult mentor must each have a valid private land shotgun/rifle deer permit and written consent from landowner. **State Land:** Licensed junior hunter must have a state land shotgun deer permit (Lottery or No-Lottery). Adult mentor must have a valid deer permit of any type. Deer hunting on Junior Deer Hunter Training Days is permitted on any Lottery or No-Lottery Deer Area, regardless of area designated on the permit, with the following exceptions:

1. Yale Forest, MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir East Block, MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir West Block, MDC Nepaug Reservoir-Valentine/Pine Hill Block, and MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Sweetheart Mt. Block are not open during Junior Deer Hunter Training Days.

2. Centennial Watershed State Forest and Bristol Water Company are only open to junior hunters and mentors who have both been awarded a permit for these areas.

Report Your Harvest: See instructions under Junior Turkey Hunter Training Days.

SPECIAL JUNIOR HUNTING EVENTS

The CT DEEP Wildlife Division, with the help of volunteer instructors from the Conservation Education/Firearms Safety (CE/FS) Program and several sportsmen's clubs, holds special events for junior pheasant hunters at various sportsmen's clubs throughout the state on Junior Pheasant Hunter Training Day (October 10) and additional dates in the fall. These mentored events allow junior hunters to sharpen their shooting skills on a trap range and then take to the field to hunt with either a certified volunteer hunter safety instructor or experienced hunter, as well as with well-trained bird dogs with their handlers.

"Hunt on Your Own" junior pheasant hunts are also available at designated state-owned locations for licensed junior hunters accompanied by a licensed adult hunter.

Check out the Junior Hunter webpage on the DEEP website (www.ct.gov/deep/JuniorHunter) to learn about special events and activities, see photos from events, and obtain more information for junior hunters.



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Licenses & Permits

Licenses and permits to hunt and trap in Connecticut are available online, at most town clerks, and at some sporting good stores and DEEP offices. Licenses are valid for a calendar year. To buy licenses online, or for a listing of places that sell licenses, go to: www.ct.gov/deep/hunting

Conservation ID#s: Everyone issued a license has been issued a unique Conservation ID# that should be used every time and every year when purchasing licenses and permits. If you log on to the Online Sportsmen Licensing system, or go to a vendor for your licenses, always use your Conservation ID# as a means of identification. You should write your Conservation ID# down and keep it in a safe place. Your Conservation ID# is your license number.

Hunter Education Requirements: No hunting or trapping licenses will be issued to any person unless proof is provided that they have held a RESIDENT license in the respective discipline within the last 5 years OR the person has a certificate indicating successful completion of a Connecticut Conservation Education/Firearms Safety (CE/FS) course (or recognized equivalent) in the respective discipline for which they are applying. Hunter education coursework may have been completed online but MUST have been accompanied by a field day. "Apprentice" or "Mentored" hunting licenses issued in other states do not qualify. To become certified in firearms or bowhunting, a person must be 10 years

or older. All bowhunters must show proof when purchasing a small game/deer archery permit that they have completed the CE/FS bowhunting course (since 1982) or its equivalent from another state or country. Certifications from another state or country must specify Bowhunter Education. If you have previously purchased a 2002 or later Connecticut bowhunting license, you have already provided such proof. Obtain course listings by visiting the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting or calling the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011.

Printing Hunter Safety Certificates: After successfully completing a hunter safety course, your certification will be uploaded to your online license profile and will print directly at the bottom of your hunting or fishing license (you may print your certification without making a purchase). Certificates will no longer be mailed. To print your certificate, visit www.ct.gov/deep/SportsmenLicensing.

Age 65+ Annual Licenses: Firearms hunting and trapping licenses are issued free to residents who meet hunter and trapper education requirements. These licenses must be renewed annually.

Hunting by Minors: A person must be 12 years of age or older to hunt. Persons 12 through 15 years of age must be licensed and accompanied by a licensed hunter 18 years of age or older while hunting. A person may not supervise more than 2 minors at one time while hunting. Minors are

entitled to their own bag limits. Junior license holders do not have to purchase a new license if they turn 16 years of age during the same calendar year.

Trapping by Minors: There is no minimum age requirement for trapping. Persons under age 16 must purchase a Junior Trapping License.

Free License for Hunters with Disabilities: A person who has permanently lost the use of a limb may be issued a hunting or trapping license free-of-charge (permits and stamps not included). Non-residents are eligible for this free license if their state provides the same privilege to Connecticut residents. Verification of the disability, signed by a licensed physician, must be presented. These licenses are available at select DEEP offices.

Armed Forces: Any active full-time member of the U.S. armed forces may purchase a Connecticut hunting, fishing, or trapping license for the same fees as a resident. Proof of full-time membership during the calendar year must be carried while using the license. These licenses are only issued at DEEP or town clerk offices.

Lost License: At any time, you can log on to the Online Sportsmen Licensing system and reprint your license. You can also go to a licensing vendor or DEEP office to have your license reprinted.

FISHING/HUNTING GUIDE REGISTRATION

Anyone providing fishing and hunting guide services in Connecticut needs to register annually with DEEP. Guides can register online using DEEP's Online Sportsmen Licensing System (www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing), in person at DEEP offices, or at other vendors where hunting and fishing licenses and permits are available. There is a \$100.00 fee for this registration.

SNAPPING TURTLE TRAPPING ENDORSEMENT

- Required when using traps to catch snapping turtles. Available for free online or at DEEP offices.
- Season Dates: July 15 – September 30
- Bag Limits: Daily 5, Possession 10, Season 10
- Size Limit: Minimum 13" shell length
- Turtle eggs cannot be taken and turtle nests cannot be disturbed without DEEP authorization.
- The commercial trade of snapping turtles is prohibited.
- Legal Methods: Hand capture, dip net, turtle hook, floating or non-floating turtle trap, or hook and line.
- A maximum of 3 turtle traps can be used per individual at any given time, traps must be set in such manner as to allow turtles to surface and breathe and be constructed of 1" minimum mesh size. All traps must have a functional escape hole with minimum diameter of 7.5" to allow passage of fish and smaller turtles. Box-type traps cannot exceed 4'x4'x4' and hoop-style traps cannot exceed 84". Traps must be tagged with a plate or tag visible above the water line bearing the Conservation ID# of the trapper. All traps may only be tended by the authorized trapper and must be checked at least once every 24 hours and emptied of



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catch. Any other wildlife captured must be immediately released at the point of capture.

- Traps cannot be used on any body of water owned, leased, or otherwise under control of the DEEP.

THREE-DAY OUT-OF-STATE BIRD HUNTING LICENSE

This license allows out-of-state hunters to hunt migratory and resident (non-migratory) game birds, including wild turkeys, for three consecutive privilege days (Sundays not included). The \$35 fee for this license will go into the Game Bird Conservation account, which is exclusively for the purchase and management of game birds and their habitat. Out-of-state hunters will still need to purchase a Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp and/or a Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp, depending on what species they intend to hunt.

CONNECTICUT RESIDENT GAME BIRD AND MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION STAMPS

Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp

- Valid for Calendar Year
- Fees: \$28 Resident, \$28 Non-Resident
\$14 for resident 12 to 17 year olds

This stamp replaces all turkey permits. Required for hunting pheasant, partridges (Hungarian and chukar), grouse, quail, and wild turkey. Current firearms hunting license or Small Game and

Archery Deer Permit required. When purchased, authorization for resident game bird hunting will be printed on your license.

Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp

- Valid for Calendar Year
- Fees: \$17 Resident, \$17 Non-Resident
\$9 for resident 12 to 17 year olds (junior hunters are no longer exempt)
- This stamp has been merged with the Harvest Information Program (HIP) Permit. It is required for hunting waterfowl, woodcock, rail, snipe, and crow. When purchased, authorization for migratory bird hunting will be printed on your license. The actual state stamp no longer needs to be signed or carried while hunting. If you want a copy of the actual stamp mailed to you, answer "yes" to the prompt when selecting the stamp for purchase. Physical stamps can also be purchased by mailing a request with the enclosed fee to DEEP Licensing & Revenue, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

Federal Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp

- Valid from July 1 through June 30
 - Fees: \$25 Resident, \$25 Non-Resident
- Available at most Post Offices. Also available by telephone and online. Go to www.fws.gov/duckstamps for more information. Stamp must be signed in ink across its face. Junior hunters ages 12–15 are exempt from purchasing a federal stamp.

FIREARMS DEER HUNTING PERMITS

- Fees: \$19 Resident, \$68 Non-Resident, \$10 for resident 12 to 17 year olds
- A current firearms hunting license is required to purchase firearms deer permits.
- Lottery permits can be applied for starting January 1. See page 24 for details.
- No one may purchase both a State Land Lottery Permit and a State Land No-Lottery Permit. If you are rejected for a lottery permit, you may still purchase a State Land No-Lottery Permit.

Revolver Deer Endorsement - Fee: \$5

Allows persons hunting with a Free Landowner Permit or Connecticut residents hunting with a Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Permit to use a revolver rather than a rifle or a shotgun to hunt deer on private lands of at least 10 acres in size. A person using a handgun for hunting must possess any required state/town permits to carry.

LANDOWNER HUNTING PERMITS (10 OR MORE CONTIGUOUS ACRES REQUIRED)

Turkey permits have been replaced by the Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp. Landowners may take turkeys on their property (any season) with either a Free Landowner Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp or Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp. There is no additional bag limit for turkeys due to the free stamp. Landowners may take deer on their



Help Build the Next Generation of Hunters

NRA's Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) provides a fun environment for kids to improve their hunting, marksmanship and safety skills. Through simulated hunting situations, live fire exercises, educational and responsibility events, YHEC helps build upon skills learned in basic hunter education courses and encourages safer, lifelong hunting habits. From rifle, bow and muzzleloader shooting at life-sized targets, to wildlife identification, map and compass orienteering and more, YHEC participants can get hands-on training in eight skill areas, giving them expertise in all methods of take and all types of game.

It is up to us to ensure that America's hunting heritage is passed down to future generations.

Many clubs, groups, organizations and individuals across the country proudly host YHEC events each year. NRA supplies everything you need including T-shirts, game targets, bags, scorebooks and more! If you'd like to host an event in your community, all it takes is an appropriate location, an organizational skill or two, and the ability to obtain a resource of volunteers to help conduct the event.

**Help ensure our rich hunting traditions stay alive.
Register to host a YHEC event today by visiting YHEC.NRA.org!
(800) 492-4868 opt. 3 • yhec@nrahq.org**



Licenses & Permits

property with a Free Landowner Deer Permit. Landowners may take two deer on their property with the Free Landowner Deer Permit.

LANDOWNER PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	INFO
Deer	Free	Free	page 20
Free Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp (required for wild turkey, pheasant, quail, partridges, and ruffed grouse)	Free	Free	pages 16 & 18

LICENSES	ADULT RESIDENT	16 & 17 YEAR OLD RESIDENT	12 - 15 YEAR OLD RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT 12 AND OLDER
Firearms Hunting	\$19.00	\$10.00	see below	\$91.00
Firearms Hunting & Inland Fishing	\$38.00	\$19.00	—	\$110.00
Firearms Hunting & All Waters Fishing	\$40.00	\$20.00	—	\$120.00
Firearms Hunting & Marine Waters Fishing	\$25.00	\$13.00	—	\$94.00
Archery Deer/Small Game	\$41.00	\$21.00	see below	\$135.00
Archery Deer/Small Game & All Waters Fishing	\$65.00	\$33.00	—	—
Trapping	\$34.00	\$17.00	see below	\$250.00
3-day Out-of-state Bird Hunting License (must also purchase a Connecticut Resident Game Bird and/or Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp, depending on what species are being hunted.)	—	—	—	\$35.00
JUNIOR LICENSES AND PERMITS				
Junior Firearms Hunting (Ages 12 to 15)	—	—	\$11.00	\$11.00
Junior Archery Deer/Small Game (Ages 12 to 15)	—	—	\$10.00	\$19.00
Junior Trapping (Ages 15 and under)	—	—	\$11.00	—
AGE 65+ LICENSES				
Age 65+ Annual Hunting License	Free (Annual renewal)	—	—	—
Age 65+ Annual Trapping License	Free (Annual renewal)	—	—	—
HUNTING STAMPS				
Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp	\$28.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$28.00
Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp (Includes HIP permit.)	\$17.00	\$9.00	\$9.00	\$17.00

DEER PERMITS	RESIDENT	RESIDENT 12 TO 17 YEARS OLD	NON-RESIDENT	INFO
State Land Lottery* (includes Controlled Hunt Areas)				
"A" Season	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$68.00	page 24
"B" Season	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$68.00	page 24
State Land No-Lottery*				
"A" Season	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$68.00	page 22
"B" Season	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$68.00	page 22
Private Land Shotgun/Rifle	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$68.00	page 20
Private Land Muzzleloader	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$68.00	page 20
State Land Muzzleloader	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$68.00	page 20
Revolver Deer Endorsement Allows persons hunting with a Free Landowner Permit or Connecticut residents hunting with a Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Permit to use a revolver rather than a rifle or a shotgun to hunt deer on private lands of at least 10 acres in size.	\$5.00	—	—	—

* The regulation concerning the Lottery and No-lottery A and B seasons may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.

Hunter Education Needs You!

To become a volunteer instructor, email deep.franklin@ct.gov or call 860-424-3011



Pass on the Tradition

SPORTSMEN'S DOLLARS AT WORK

Wildlife management is largely funded through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program. This program was initiated by sportsmen and conservationists in the 1930s to provide states with funding for wildlife programs. Funds are derived from a federal excise tax on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment. These funds are collected from the manufacturers by the Department of the Treasury and are apportioned each year to the states for wildlife programs.



The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program...

Partnering to fund conservation and connect people with nature.

To Report a Wildlife Violation

CALL 24 HOURS TOLL FREE
1-800-842-HELP
ALL CALLS CONFIDENTIAL

CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

Message from the Bureau Chief

Support the Bipartisan Recovering America's Wildlife Act

The Act is good for wildlife, good for taxpayers, and good for business



We sportsmen and women know of the legacy that those before us created through adoption of the Pittman-Robertson Act (Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program) in 1937, the Dingell-Johnson Act (Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration) in 1950, and the Wallop-Breaux Sport Fish and Boating Safety Act in 1984. Through their efforts, our purchase of hunting and fishing equipment has provided permanent dedicated funding to state fish and wildlife agencies for the management of species that are hunted and fished. That legacy has led to astounding conservation successes; the resurgence in white-tailed deer, wild turkeys, and diverse populations of waterfowl. However, many of America's wildlife species remain at risk, including such Connecticut species as the wood turtle and American oystercatcher. The financial resources needed to protect and recover these species simply do not exist. That is why the bipartisan Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) is so important — RAWA will dedicate \$1.3 billion annually to state-led conservation efforts to prevent at-risk wildlife from becoming endangered. *If passed, this would be the most significant new investment in wildlife conservation in decades.* Current funding (about \$70 million/year nationwide) is less than five percent of what is needed to conserve the species most at-risk. The magnitude of the solution must match the magnitude of the problem.

Hunters, trappers, and anglers have proven that dedicated financial resources lead to successful conservation. Such funding empowers states to prioritize species and efforts, build critical partnerships, and staff resources to restore these and many other species and their habitats. Fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration requires long-term conservation investment. Fluctuations in annual funding jeopardize success and lead to species recovery failure. RAWA completes the outstanding needs of the states and provides a long-standing commitment to fully fund the conservation of all fish and wildlife across the country.

The passage of RAWA would also be better for hunters and anglers. Currently, 80% of the funding for state fish and wildlife agencies comes from federal excise taxes on hunting and fishing gear, and the fees paid for state hunting and fishing licenses and permits. This funding model has worked for decades but has reached its limit. RAWA would expand the funding source to all Americans and modernize conservation funding for the nation. Game species would also benefit from additional conservation of priority habitats, and several Species of Greatest Conservation Need are game species.

Who supports the Recovering America's Wildlife Act?

In 2014, the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies convened a Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish & Wildlife Resources, consisting of members representing the outdoor recreation, retail, and manufacturing sector, the

energy and automotive industries, private landowners, educational institutions, sportsmen's and other conservation groups, and state and federal fish and wildlife agencies. The panel recommended a modernized method of fish and wildlife conservation funding that formed the backbone of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. Since then, a national campaign formed from the strong partnership created by this Panel and expanded to include additional industries and sportsman and conservation organizations. Together, the coalition behind the legislation represents billions of dollars of economic impact, thousands of non-exportable jobs, and tens of millions of members and consumers across the country, all who rely on healthy fish and wildlife populations.

Bipartisan support in the U.S. House of Representatives continues to grow and momentum on RAWA is building as it moves through the various committees.

What You Can Do

You can learn more about the Recovering America's Wildlife Act on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/AllianceforFishandWildlife. Most importantly, visit ournatureusa.com and take a few minutes to send a letter to your member of Congress in support of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. Follow the progress of RAWA on social media using the hashtag #RestoreWildlife.

Rick Jacobson

Chief, Bureau of Natural Resources

PROPAGATED GAME BIRDS FOR SHOOTING PRESERVES, DOG TRAINING & FIELD TRIALS

The taking of propagated game birds on regulated private shooting preserves, regulated dog training areas, and field trial events requires that each bird taken be identified with a tag containing the permittee's name and date of taking. Handwritten tags are permitted or copies of the tags below may be used. A full sheet of tags may also be downloaded for printing from the DEEP's website at www.ct.gov/deep/Hunting. Importation of game birds requires a permit from the Department of Agriculture (860-713-2508).

Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: _____

Date of Harvest: ____ / ____ / ____

Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: _____

Date of Harvest: ____ / ____ / ____

Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: _____

Date of Harvest: ____ / ____ / ____

Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: _____

Date of Harvest: ____ / ____ / ____

Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: _____

Date of Harvest: ____ / ____ / ____

Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: _____

Date of Harvest: ____ / ____ / ____

Hunting Laws & Regulations

The use and possession of firearms, ammunition and bowhunting equipment is regulated in the interest of public safety and the conservation of wildlife. Hunters are also subject to any federal, state, or municipal firearms regulations. General restrictions on the use of firearms, air guns, and bowhunting equipment are described below. **New statutes and regulations related to hunting and trapping may be added during the calendar year or some may change. A pending regulations package may result in regulation changes prior to or during the 2020 hunting seasons.** Although we do our best to have the most up-to-date information in this guide, be prepared for changes to occur. The best way to stay current is to check the DEEP website often, especially before hunting seasons start, at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting; follow our Facebook page at [www.Facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife](https://www.facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife); and subscribe to our free E-newsletter Wildlife Highlights (www.ct.gov/deep/WildlifeHighlights) and Connecticut Wildlife magazine (www.ct.gov/deep/WildlifeMagazine; \$8.00 for 6 issues).

HUNTING — GENERAL

Sunday Hunting: Possession of hunting implements in the open on Sunday is prima facie evidence of violation (except for archery deer hunters on private land). Sunday hunting is allowed on licensed private shooting preserves and regulated dog training areas when the operator has permission from the town. Hunting may also take place on Sunday at permitted field trial events.

Archery deer hunters (including landowners hunting with a bow during the Free Landowner Deer Season) can hunt on Sundays on

private land in ALL Deer Management Zones. All archery deer hunting on Sundays must take place at least 40 yards away from blazed hiking trails.

Deer Management Zone 2 and 4A Restriction: During the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle and Private Land Muzzleloader seasons, the “Antlerless Only” tag is NOT valid in Deer Management Zones 2 and 4A. Only the “Either-sex” tag will be valid in Zones 2 and 4A.

Prima Facie Evidence of Hunting: Possession by any person of a loaded hunting implement while at or entering or leaving an area where a reasonable person would believe the objective was to take wildlife. Except that a person may, one hour before sunrise during the regulated deer and turkey firearms hunting seasons, be in possession of a loaded rifle or shotgun provided a live round is not in the chamber of the rifle or shotgun.

Loaded Hunting Implement: (A) a rifle or shotgun with a live round in the chamber or in a magazine which is attached to such rifle or shotgun, a muzzle-loaded firearm with the primer in place, or a flintlock firearm with powder in the pan, (B) a bow and arrow with an arrow notched on the bow, (C) a drawn crossbow with a bolt in place, or (D) a high velocity air gun that is charged with a projectile in the chamber or in a magazine that is attached to such air gun.

Hunting While Under the Influence or Impaired: No person shall engage in hunting while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or both, or while impaired by the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

Hunting Near Roads, Buildings, People, and Domestic Animals: Hunting or shooting from or across the travelled portion of any public

roadway is prohibited. Shooting toward any person, building, or domestic animal when within range is prohibited.

Motor Vehicle/ATV Use: Hunting or shooting from a motor vehicle is prohibited. The use of all-terrain vehicles is prohibited on state land (see exceptions under *Hunting Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities* on page 38).

Closed Season: (The regulation concerning shooting hours for hunting on opening day of the small game season may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the season starts.) No hunting and no training of dogs from October 10 through 7:00 a.m., EDT, on October 17, 2020, except for the hunting of rails in marshes; waterfowl hunting; deer, turkey, and coyote hunting; licensed private shooting preserves operating under the provisions of Sec. 26-48; field trials held under the provisions of Sec. 26-51 and Sec. 26-52; the training of hunting dogs under the provisions of Sec. 26-49 of the General Statutes; and the training of hunting dogs on any area approved by the department for this purpose.

Electronic Calling Devices: The use of electronic calling devices is prohibited when hunting migratory birds (except crows) and turkeys. Electronic calling devices can be used when hunting crows, coyotes, other small game, and deer.

Hunting Prohibited in Westport: By special state regulation, hunting within Westport town borders is prohibited.

Public Shooting Ranges: Trap or target shooting on any state property or public hunting area is prohibited unless the area is a designated shooting range. Four state-owned public shooting ranges are available for target shooting, patterning shotguns, and sighting in rifles (see box on this page).

FIREARMS HUNTING

The holder of a firearms hunting license may use rifles, shotguns, muzzleloaders, handguns, and high-velocity air guns subject to certain restrictions.

500 Foot Zone: It is prohibited to hunt with, shoot, or carry a loaded firearm within 500 feet of any building occupied by people or domestic animals, or used for storage of flammable material, or within 250 feet of such buildings when waterfowl hunting in tidal areas from land shooting positions or from floating blinds anchored adjacent to land or from rock positions, unless written permission for lesser distances is obtained from the owner and carried. Landowners, their spouse, and lineal descendants are exempt from this restriction, providing any building involved is their own. The 500 foot zone does not apply to bowhunting.

Firearms in Vehicles: It is prohibited to carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle. This does not apply to persons with handguns who have a valid Connecticut permit to carry pistols or revolvers.

Rifles and Handguns: Rifles or handguns using ammunition larger or heavier than .22 caliber

PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGES

Wooster Mountain State Park Cooperative Shooting Range: Wooster Mountain State Park, Danbury. Operated by the Danbury Shooting Sports Association. Located on Rte. 7, approximately two miles south of the Danbury Mall. Clay target shooting allowed. Call 203-794-9821 or check the Wooster Mountain Shooting Range website (www.woostermountain.com) for the daily time and fee schedule.

High Rock Cooperative Shooting Range: Naugatuck State Forest, Naugatuck. Operated by the High Rock Shooting Association, Inc. Range hours: Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m. (check website for scheduled closures). Range fee: \$5.00 for the first hour and \$5.00 per hour thereafter. No clay targets allowed. State pistol permit required to shoot handguns. Call 203-720-1101 or check the High Rock Shooting Association website (www.highrockrange.com) for information.

Glastonbury Public Shooting Range: Meshomasic State Forest, Glastonbury. Entry at Toll Gate Road. Range hours: Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., depending on the availability of range staff. Two hour periods. Paper targets only, clay targets not allowed. No range fees. Reservations can be obtained through the Online Sportsmen Licensing System (www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing) for shooters 18 and older. The individual requesting the reservation must have a CT Conservation ID number in order to access the online system. Reservations may also be made on Mondays only from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM by calling the Range Reservation line at 860-424-3737

Nye Holman Field Archery Range: Nye Holman State Forest, Tolland. Entrance on South River Road. Field course available to public at all times unless posted otherwise. Field points only, arrows with broadheads are strictly prohibited.

rimfire are prohibited on state-owned land. Rifles or handguns of any caliber are prohibited on State-leased and Permit-Required Hunting Areas (see Permit-Required and State-Leased Hunting Area sections for exceptions). The use of rifles or handguns to hunt turkeys, waterfowl, or any other federally regulated migratory game bird (except crows) is prohibited.

Hunting on private land with ammunition larger than .22 caliber rimfire during the private land shotgun/rifle deer season is prohibited unless the user has a valid private land deer season permit and landowner consent form. The use of rifles or revolvers to hunt deer is subject to additional restrictions (see Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Season). The use of ammunition larger or heavier than .22 caliber rimfire to hunt raccoon or opossum at night is prohibited. A person using a handgun for hunting must possess any required state/town permits to carry. Note: it is legal to use .17 caliber rimfire firearms in all situations where it is legal to use .22 caliber rimfire firearms.

Shotguns: The possession of shotgun ammunition larger than #2 shot is prohibited on state-owned lands, state-leased lands, and Permit-Required Hunting Areas, at all times, and is prohibited on private lands during the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Deer Season (see Permit-Required and State-Leased Hunting Area sections for exceptions). However, on any lands, waterfowlers hunting from a boat, blind, or stationary position may use up to and including size BB

steel shot. The possession of lead shot while hunting waterfowl, rails, and coots is prohibited. The use of shotguns larger than 10-gauge for hunting waterfowl is prohibited. Shotguns must not be capable of holding more than 3 shells (2 in the magazine, 1 in the chamber) when hunting waterfowl, other migratory birds (except crows), deer on state lands, and turkey. The exception is that unplugged shotguns are legal to use during the September Canada goose season. The use of shotguns to hunt deer or turkey is subject to additional restrictions (see Deer Hunting and Turkey Hunting).

Muzzleloaders: During Muzzleloader Deer Seasons, a muzzleloader means a rifle or shotgun, .45 caliber minimum, incapable of firing a self-contained cartridge, using powder and a single projectile loaded separately at the muzzle end. Shotgun converters and telescopic sights are legal. Restrictions on the use of smoothbore muzzleloaders for hunting small game and waterfowl are the same as those for shotguns. Restrictions on the use of muzzleloading rifles for hunting small game are the same as those for rifles, except that on state-owned land, up to a .36 caliber muzzleloading rifle using round ball ammunition only may be used. A percussion/in-line muzzleloader with a cap or primer installed, an electronic muzzleloader with a battery connected or a flintlock muzzleloader having powder in the pan are considered loaded firearms.

High-Velocity Air Guns: Are restricted to those that use a single ball or pellet-like projectile. Additional restrictions on the use of air guns are the same as those for rifles and handguns.

BOWHUNTING

Bowhunter Education: All bowhunters must show proof when purchasing a small game/deer archery permit that they have completed the CE/FS bowhunting course (since 1982) or its equivalent from another state or country. If you have previously purchased a 2002, or later, Connecticut bowhunting license you have already provided such proof.

Legal Bows and Arrows: For the purposes of hunting deer and turkey, legal bows include long, recurved, or compound bows with a minimum draw weight of 40 pounds and crossbows. Mechanical string release devices are permitted. Projectiles coated with any drug, poison, or tranquilizing substance are prohibited.

Crossbows: The use of crossbows for hunting deer, turkey, and all other species is permitted. Legal crossbows must have a minimum draw weight of 125 pounds and permanent fixed rifle type stock with a functional mechanical safety device. Adjustable crossbow stocks are permitted, but folding stocks are not. The bolt (arrow) length must be at least 18 inches, excluding the broadhead. Crossbows are considered loaded when fully drawn with a bolt in place. Telescopic sights are permitted.

FROM FIELD
TO TABLE

AND EVERYWHERE IN BETWEEN.

THE NEW HAVALON® TALON™ QUIK-CHANGE II™
MULTI-BLADE CUTLERY SYSTEM BRINGS TOGETHER
NEARLY 40 YEARS OF EXPERTISE IN THE SURGICAL
FIELD AND DECADES OF QUALITY TIME SPENT OUT
IN THE BACK COUNTRY.

THIS INNOVATIVE PLATFORM FEATURES A VARIETY
OF RELIABLE ADD-ON BLADES DESIGNED TO MAKE
CLEAN WORK OF THE DIRTY WORK ALL THE WAY
FROM FIELD TO TABLE.

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Hunting Laws & Regulations

Legal arrowheads for hunting deer and turkey must have at least two blades and be at least $\frac{7}{8}$ inch wide at its widest point. Arrowheads that are designed to open on impact are legal provided they meet the above requirement.

Possession of a Firearm: Possession of a firearm while bowhunting is prohibited.

DEFINITION OF BAG LIMITS

Daily Limit: the number of a particular species that may be taken by an individual during a day (from 12:01 a.m. to 12:00 midnight). While in the field, a hunter may not have in their possession more than the daily bag limit for a species.

Possession in Storage: the number of a particular non-migratory game species kept in storage may not exceed the cumulative daily bag limits for that species since the season began, and at no time can it exceed the season limit. The possession in storage of migratory game species such as waterfowl, woodcock, snipe, coots and rail may not exceed the federally regulated possession limit.

Season Limit: the total number of a particular species that may be taken during an open season.

PRIVATE LAND PERMISSION

All hunters are required to have permission from the landowner when hunting on private lands. Verbal permission for the hunting of species other than deer and turkey is sufficient.

Deer Hunters and Turkey Hunters: must have written permission of the landowner for the current season on official DEEP forms. Copies of the form must be carried while hunting. Old forms, still available at some town clerks and DEEP offices, or a photocopy of the official form found in this guide must be used. Forms may also be downloaded from the DEEP

website (www.ct.gov/deep/hunting). The form must be dated for the current season, indicate the hunting implement types authorized by the landowner, and have the landowner's original signature. A landowner must have a minimum of 10 acres to authorize the use of a rifle or revolver for deer hunting. There is no minimum acreage requirement for using a shotgun, muzzleloader, or archery equipment.

Landowners and Lineal Descendants: are exempt from the requirement to carry written permission while hunting deer or turkey on their own land.

LANDOWNER LIABILITY RELEASE

Connecticut law provides protection from liability to landowners who allow, without a fee, the recreational use of their property.

Sec. 52-557g. Owner of land available to public for recreation not liable, when: (b) Except as provided in section 52-557h, an owner of land who, either directly or indirectly, invites or permits without charge, rent, fee, or other commercial service any person to use such land or part thereof for recreational purposes does not thereby:

1. Make any representation that the premises are safe for any purpose;
2. Confer upon such person who enters or uses such land for such recreational purposes the legal status of an invitee or licensee to whom a duty of care is owed;
3. Assume responsibility for or incur liability for any injury to person or property caused by an act or omission of such owner.

Sec. 52-557h. Owner liable when: Nothing in sections 52-557f to 52-557i, inclusive, limits in any way the liability of any owner of land which otherwise exists;

- a. For willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure, or activity;
- b. For injury suffered in any case where the owner of land charges the person or persons who enter or go on the land for the recreational use thereof, except that, in the case of land leased to the state or subdivision thereof, any consideration received by the owner for such lease shall not be deemed a charge within the meaning of this section.

FLUORESCENT ORANGE REQUIREMENT

During the period September 1 through the last day of February, hunters (including persons hunting with deer damage permits) are required to wear at least 400 square inches of fluorescent orange clothing above the waist and visible from all sides. An orange hat, in addition to a coat or vest, is strongly recommended.

The following hunters are exempt from this requirement:

- **Archery Deer Hunters** hunting from September 15 to November 17 and from January 1 to January 31.
- **Archery Deer Hunters** hunting during the November 18 to December 31 time period may remove their fluorescent orange clothing when hunting from an elevated stand at least 10 feet above the ground.
- **Firearms and Archery Turkey Hunters**
- **Waterfowl Hunters** while hunting from boats, duck blinds, or other stationary positions.
- **Crow Hunters** while hunting from a blind or a stationary position.
- **Coyote and Fox Hunters** when hunting from a blind except during firearms deer seasons and fall firearms turkey seasons.
- **Raccoon and Opossum Hunters** when hunting from $\frac{1}{2}$ hour after sunset until $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before sunrise.
- **Landowners** while hunting deer only on their own property. Family members are still required to wear fluorescent orange.

LICENSE SUSPENSION—REMEDIAL HUNTER ED REQUIREMENT

In accordance with Connecticut General Statute 26-61, payment of a fine, forfeiture of a bond, or a plea or judgment of guilty for fishing, hunting, or trapping violations may result in the suspension of all sport fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses and privileges.

To comply with the provisions of C.G.S. Section 26-31(g), any person having their hunting license suspended for the following safety violations will be required to complete a remedial hunter education course prior to reinstatement of such license following the suspension period. Completion of a CE/FS course is required if the hunter under suspension has not been previously certified.

Laws

- Sec. 26-61 as amended by PA 16-160: Suspension of license, registration, or permit. Restoration. Fines.



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- The latest hunting information, regulation and season updates, and hunter education opportunities.
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- **Sec. 26-62:** Hunting related injuries/death to any person, animal other than a wild animal or damage to property of another
- **Sec. 26-73:** Hunting on Sunday (Exceptions: private shooting preserves and archery deer hunters on private land)
- **Sec. 26-74:** Use of motor vehicle in hunting
- **Sec. 26-91:** Taking of migratory birds—violations for hunting before or after legal hunting hours
- **Sec. 53-204:** Hunting from a public highway
- **Sec. 53-205:** Loaded weapon in a motor vehicle
- **Sec. 53-206d as amended by PA 16-152:** Carrying of firearm while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug
- **Sec. 53a-217e:** Negligent Hunting

Regulations — Behavior and Actions of Hunters

- **Section 26-66-1:**
 - (c) hunting before or after legal hours
 - (d) hunting within 500' of occupied buildings
 - (e) discharging toward people/animals or across public roadways
- **Section 26-86a-6:**
 - (a) hunting before or after legal hours

FALCONRY

Individuals wishing to participate in the sport of falconry must obtain a Connecticut falconry permit prior to obtaining a falconry bird. Falconers

are required to abide by the same regulations that pertain to other hunters who hunt small game and waterfowl. Falconers must wear fluorescent orange and must obtain the same licenses, permits, and stamps required for small game and waterfowl hunting. A non-resident falconry permit is required for any non-resident practicing falconry in Connecticut. To obtain application materials, visit the DEEP website (www.ct.gov/deep/hunting).

DEALING WITH HARASSMENT

All hunters, regardless of where they hunt, should be prepared for the possibility of being harassed. Your behavior if you are harassed is extremely important. Maintain your composure and do not retaliate. If you are interviewed by the media, project a positive image.

Connecticut has a hunter harassment law that protects the rights of sportsmen. If you decide to press charges, make sure you have a strong case by: (1) making it evident that the antagonists are following you by going in several directions, (2) asking your antagonists why they are harassing you, (3) being able to identify and describe the individuals, (4) taking the license numbers of their vehicles if possible, and (5) not responding with violence or threatening a protester with bodily harm.

Does an old **Criminal Record**

**keep you from
possessing
firearms?**

You may be eligible
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SHARE YOUR HUNTING AND TRAPPING PHOTOS WITH US!

Help us highlight your successes and also those of youth and first-time hunters and trappers by submitting photographs to the DEEP Wildlife Division at deep.ctwildlife@ct.gov (high resolution photographs are best for print publications, like the Hunting and Trapping Guide and Connecticut Wildlife magazine). The photos may be used (with written permission only) in the Connecticut Hunting and Trapping Guide, Wildlife Highlights E-newsletter, Connecticut Wildlife magazine, on the DEEP website, or on the CT Fish and Wildlife Facebook page (www.Facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife).



Deanna Rackie poses with her buck. Photo by Dave Rackie.

FUNDAMENTAL RULES FOR SAFE GUN HANDLING: ACTT

The most common causes of hunting-related shooting incidents are failure to identify the target, shooter swinging on game, and careless handling of a firearm. ALWAYS follow these rules for safe gun handling:

- **Assume the firearm is LOADED.**
- **Control the MUZZLE;** keep the MUZZLE pointed in a safe direction.
- **Trigger:** keep your finger off the TRIGGER until ready to shoot.
- **Target:** be sure of the TARGET and what lies beyond.

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🐕 Custom guided hunts on our exquisite shooting preserve guarantee a satisfying yield of pheasant and chukar partridge.

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Small Game Hunting

* The regulation concerning shooting hours for hunting on opening day of the small game season may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the season starts.

SMALL GAME HUNTING SEASONS

Licensing and permit costs are listed on page 8–10. Specific laws and regulations for each season are below. You must have verbal permission to hunt small game on private lands.

RESIDENT GAME BIRDS

Species: Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Quail, Chukar and Hungarian Partridge, Wild Turkey (see pages 18–19 for turkey hunting season information)

Season Dates

- **Pheasant:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
- **Ruffed Grouse:** Oct. 17 – Nov. 30
- **Quail:** Oct. 17 – Oct. 31
- **Chukar and Hungarian Partridge:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 17 – Dec. 31.

Bag Limits

- **Pheasant:** Daily (2); Season (10)
- **Ruffed Grouse:** Daily (1); Season (8)
- **Quail:** Daily (2); Season (10)
- **Chukar and Hungarian Partridge:** Daily (2), Season (10)

Hunting Hours*: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except on Oct. 17 (7:00 a.m. until ½ hour after sunset).

License and Permits: Firearms or Archery Hunting License and Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp

Legal Firearms: See firearms and ammunition regulations on page 12.

Special Conditions

- **Extended Quail Season:** Quail may be hunted at the Nod Brook WMA and the Flaherty, Mansfield, and Sugarbrook Field Trial Areas from Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and from Oct. 17 – Dec. 31.
- Landowners hunting game birds on their own land must obtain a Free Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp and are restricted to daily and season bag limits. Private hunting clubs can apply for exemption from stamp requirements. Contact the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011 for details. Members and guests of such exempt clubs are not subject to seasonal bag limits when hunting on club lands. They are also exempt from daily bag limits if they use club tags on all released game birds taken on such club lands. Club tags must be applied immediately upon kill and contain club name, hunting license number, and date taken. Game birds identified in this manner do not count towards the statewide daily limit.
- **Junior Pheasant Hunter Training Day:** Saturday, October 10, 2020. See page 6 for details.

SMALL GAME MAMMALS

Species Gray Squirrel, Cottontail Rabbit, Snowshoe Hare, European Hare, Woodchuck

Season Dates

- **Gray Squirrel:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Sept. 1 – Dec. 31

Migratory Game Bird Hunting

CROW HUNTING

Season Dates: Hunting only on certain days.

- Jan. 11 – Mar. 28 (Mon. through Sat.)
- Aug. 8 – Oct. 9 (Wed., Fri., Sat.)
- Oct. 17 – Nov. 30 (Wed., Fri., Sat.)

Bag Limits: No limit

Hunting Hours*: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset; except on Oct. 17 (7:00 a.m. until ½ hour after sunset).

License and Permits: Firearms or Archery Hunting License and a Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp.

Legal Firearms: See firearms and ammunition regulations on page 12.

Special Conditions

- **Federal Regulations:** In addition to Connecticut hunting laws, migratory bird hunters are subject to all Federal Laws and Regulations.
- **Crow Hunting:** While crow hunting from a stationary position, a hunter is exempt from the fluorescent orange clothing regulation (see page 14).

WOODCOCK, SNIPE, AND RAIL HUNTING

Season Dates See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

Bag Limits See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

Hunting Hours See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

- **Cottontail Rabbit:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
- **Snowshoe Hare:** Jan. 1–31 and Nov. 21 – Dec. 31
- **European Hare:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
- **Woodchuck:** March 16 – Nov. 16

Bag Limits

- **Gray Squirrel:** Daily (8); Season (40)
- **Cottontail Rabbit:** Daily (3); Season (25)
- **Snowshoe Hare:** Daily (2); Season (10)
- **European Hare:** Daily (1); Season (10)
- **Woodchuck:** No Limit

Hunting Hours*: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except on Oct. 17 (7:00 a.m. until ½ hour after sunset).

License and Permits Firearms or Archery Hunting License

Legal Firearms See firearms and ammunition regulations on page 12.

Special Conditions None

FOX AND COYOTE HUNTING

Species Red Fox, Gray Fox, Coyote

Season Dates

- **Red & Gray Foxes:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
- **Coyote:** Jan. 1 – Dec. 31

Bag Limits

- **Red and Gray Foxes (combined Daily and Season Limits):** Daily (3); Season (30)
- **Coyote:** Daily (No Limit); Season (No Limit)

License and Permits Firearms or Archery Hunting License and a Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp.

Legal Firearms Shotguns are the only firearms which may be used. Shotguns must be capable of holding no more than 3 shells. See ammunition regulations for shotguns on page 12.

Special Conditions

- **Federal Regulations:** In addition to Connecticut hunting laws, migratory bird hunters are subject to all Federal Laws and Regulations.
- **Non-Toxic Shot:** Non-toxic shot is required for hunting rails. The maximum size shot allowed is BB for steel and #2 for other federally approved non-toxic shot types.

WATERFOWL HUNTING

Species Duck, Merganser, Goose, Coot

Season Dates See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

Bag Limits See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

Hunting Hours See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

License & Permits Firearms or Archery Hunting License and Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp. Junior Hunters (ages 12–15) are no longer exempt and must obtain the Connecticut Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp. A Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp also is



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Hunting Hours*: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except on Oct. 17 (7:00 a.m. until ½ hour after sunset).

License & Permits Firearms or Archery Hunting License

Legal Firearms See firearms and ammunition regulations on page 12.

Special Conditions Foxes and coyotes taken by hunting must be reported by telephone (1-877-337-4868) or online at www.ct.gov/deep/Hunting. Or, they can be pelt tagged (see Pelt Tagging on page 44).

RACCOON AND OPOSSUM HUNTING

Season Dates Jan. 1–18 and Oct. 17 – Dec. 31

Bag Limits

- **Raccoon**: Daily (5); Season (No Limit)
- **Opossum**: Daily (No Limit); Season (No Limit)

Hunting Hours No restrictions on state-owned lands open to hunting and on private lands where landowners have given permission.

License and Permits Firearms or Archery Hunting License

Legal Firearms See firearms and ammunition regulations on page 12. Also, when hunting at night, rifles or handguns using ammunition larger than .22 caliber rimfire or shotgun shells larger than #2 shot may not be used.

Special Conditions It is illegal to take raccoons or opossums with the use of a light from a motor vehicle.

required for hunters 16 years or older. See page 10 for information about obtaining the Connecticut stamp. Note: federal waterfowl stamps are not valid unless signed in ink on the face of the stamp.

Legal Firearms Shotguns are the only firearms which may be used. Refer to the *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide* for regulations regarding the number of shells a shotgun may hold.

Special Conditions

- **Non-Toxic Shot**: Non-toxic shot is required for hunting waterfowl, coot, and rails. The maximum size shot allowed is BB for steel and #2 for other federally approved non-toxic shot types.
- **Possession of Lead Shot**: Possessing lead shot while waterfowl hunting is prohibited.
- **Federal Regulations**: In addition to Connecticut hunting laws, waterfowl hunters are subject to all Federal Laws and Regulations.
- **No Hunting Buffer Zone**: While hunting in tidal areas from land or from floating blinds anchored to land or rock positions, the no hunting buffer zone around permanent buildings is 250 feet (see 500-foot regulation on page 12).
- **Fluorescent Orange Clothing**: While hunting waterfowl from boats or stationary positions, a hunter is exempt from the fluorescent orange clothing regulation (see page 14).
- **Junior Waterfowl Hunter Training Days**: See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*.

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Turkey Hunting

* The regulation concerning bag limits for the spring and fall firearms turkey seasons may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.

TURKEY HUNTING SEASONS

Hunters may pursue wild turkeys during the Spring, Fall Archery, and Fall Firearms seasons. Spring hunters may hunt with archery equipment and/or shotguns. **Spring archery** hunters must purchase a Small Game and Deer Archery Permit and Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp. **Spring shotgun** hunters must purchase a Firearms Hunting License and Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp. **Spring turkey archery and firearms hunting bag limits and season lengths are not separate;** whereas fall archery and fall firearms are separate seasons with their own unique bag limits and season timeframes. **Fall archery** turkey hunters must purchase a Small Game and Deer Archery Permit and Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp. **Fall firearms** turkey hunters must purchase a Firearms Hunting License and a Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp. Licensing and stamp costs are listed on pages 8–10. Specific laws and regulations for each turkey season are below.

SPRING TURKEY SEASONS

Season Dates

- April 29 – May 30 State Land, Private Land, and Landowner

Bag Limits*

- State Land: 2 Bearded birds
- Private Land: 3 Bearded birds

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to 12 noon. (The regulation concerning hunting hours for the spring turkey season may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the season starts.)

License and Permits CT Residents: Firearms hunting license or Small Game and Deer Archery Permit and a Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp.

Non-residents: 3-day out-of-state bird hunting license or non-resident firearms hunting license and a Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp.

Legal Firearms Shotguns, 20 gauge or larger, with: #4, 5, 6, 7, 7½ shot, or any combination. Shotguns must not be capable of holding more than 3 shells.

Legal Bows See page 13 for a description of legal bows and arrows for turkey hunting. Mechanical string release devices are permitted.

Special Conditions

- **State Land Hunting:** See tables on pages 40–43 for state lands open for spring turkey hunting.
- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **Decoys:** Decoys may be used, but live decoys are prohibited.
- **Free Landowner Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp:** Only available to persons owning 10 or more contiguous acres of land. This stamp does not allow the harvest of turkeys over standard bag limits.
- **Junior Turkey Hunter Training Days:** Saturday, April 18 through Saturday, April 25, 2020 (excluding Sunday). See page 6 for details.

FALL ARCHERY TURKEY SEASONS

Season Dates

- Jan. 1 – Jan. 31 Private Lands (Zones 11–12)
- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31 Private Lands (All Zones)
- Sept. 15 – Nov. 17 State Land
- Dec. 23 – Dec. 31
- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31 State Land Bowhunting Only Areas

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Bag Limit 2 Either Sex

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License and Permits Small Game and Deer Archery Permit and Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp.

Legal Bows See page 13 for a description of legal bows and arrows for turkey hunting. Mechanical string release devices are permitted.

Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **Decoys:** Decoys may be used, but live decoys are prohibited.
- **State Land Hunting:** See tables on pages 40–43 for listing of lands open to fall bow hunting.
- **Free Landowner Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp:** Only available to persons owning 10 or more contiguous acres of land. This stamp does not allow the harvest of turkeys over standard bag limits.
- **Fanning:** Use of a turkey fan to sneak in on turkeys is discouraged.

FALL FIREARMS TURKEY SEASONS

Season Dates

- Oct. 3 – Oct. 31 State Land, Private Land, and Landowner

Bag Limits*

- **State Land:** 1 Either Sex
- **Private Land:** 2 Either Sex

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License and Permits Firearms hunting license or a 3-day out-of-state bird hunting license, and a Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp.

Legal Firearms Shotguns, 20 gauge or larger, with: #4, 5, 6, 7, 7½ shot, or any combination. Shotguns must not be capable of holding more than 3 shells.

Special Conditions

- **State Land Hunting:** See table on pages 40–43 for open state land hunting areas.
- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **Decoys:** Decoys may be used, but live decoys are prohibited.
- **Free Landowner Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp:** Only

available to persons owning 10 or more contiguous acres of land. This stamp does not allow the harvest of turkeys over standard bag limits.

TURKEY HUNTING PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- The use of bait, electronic calling devices, live decoys or animals (including dogs) to hunt wild turkeys is prohibited. Except that a dog may be used to hunt turkey during the fall firearms season on private lands only.
- You may not call turkeys for another hunter. Exceptions:
 - If you have a current Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp with or without unused tags remaining, you may call for another hunter on state land.
 - If you have a current Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp with or without unused tags remaining and a signed consent form for a private land parcel, you may call for another hunter hunting on that private land parcel.
- You may not attempt to take turkeys by participating in a cooperative drive.
- You may not shoot turkeys from a building or other permanent structure.
- You may not shoot turkeys roosting in trees.

TAGGING & REPORTING TURKEY KILLS

Immediately upon killing a turkey, complete and sign a Harvest Tag and keep it with the carcass at all times. The Harvest Tag must remain with the turkey until it is cut up for consumption. See pages 27–30 and 34 for more information on Harvest Tags and reporting.

TURKEY HUNTER SURVEYS

Anybody who obtains a Connecticut Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp may be asked to respond to a survey concerning their turkey hunting activities. Even if you did not hunt, you should complete the survey. Information gathered from the survey is important to the management of Connecticut's wild turkey population. Surveys may be conducted by mail, telephone, or the internet.

CE/FS WILD TURKEY HUNTING SAFETY SEMINARS

- **March 2020** — Western side of the state
- **April 2020** — Eastern side of the state

Both experienced and first-time turkey hunters will benefit from attending one of these seminars which provide information on safe hunting practices, specialized equipment, calls and decoys, site setup, and more. A DEEP Wildlife Division biologist will also present information about wild turkey biology, population trends, and management history in Connecticut. Seminar participants will have an opportunity to pattern their shotguns for turkey hunting following classroom instruction. To do so, participants must bring the shotgun they intend to use during the spring season, ammunition, a shotgun choke appropriate for turkey hunting, and eye and ear protection. Registration is required and begins 30 days prior to the seminar. Check the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting for specific dates, times, and locations of each seminar.

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Deer Hunting Seasons

DEER HUNTING SEASONS

DEEP provides hunters with a variety of opportunities to harvest deer in Connecticut. Unique deer seasons are based on equipment used to harvest deer. These seasons include: Archery, Private Land Shotgun/Rifle/Revolver, State Land Shotgun, Private and State Land Muzzleloader, and Free Landowner. To participate in the archery deer season, a hunter must purchase a Small Game and Deer Archery Permit. All firearms season hunters must first purchase a Firearms Hunting License and a separate permit which corresponds to a specific equipment type. To hunt with a revolver, a hunter must purchase a Firearms Hunting License, Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Deer Permit, and a Revolver Deer Endorsement. Licensing and permit costs are listed on pages 8–10. Specific laws and regulations for each deer season are below.

(A new regulation MAY prohibit the possession and use of commercial natural-based deer urine or other bodily fluids. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the deer seasons start.)

ARCHERY DEER

Season Dates

- Jan. 1 – Jan. 31 – Private Lands (Zones 11–12)
- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31 – Private Lands (All zones)
- Sept. 15 – Nov. 17 – State Land
Dec. 23 – Dec. 31
- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31 – State Land Bowhunting Only Areas

Bag Limits 2 Either Sex and 2 Antlerless (4 Total); additional bag of 1 Either Sex and 1 Antlerless (2 Total) during the Jan 1–31 season on private lands in Zones 11 and 12.

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License and Permits Small Game and Deer Archery Permit. Must show proof of completion of the CE/FS bowhunting course (since 1982) or its equivalent from another state or country when purchasing a small game and deer archery permit. A previous Connecticut bowhunting permit purchased in 2002 or later also qualifies.

Legal Bows See page 13 for a description of legal bows and arrows for deer hunting. Mechanical string release devices are permitted. There is no minimum acreage requirement for bowhunting.

Special Conditions

- **Possession of a Firearm:** Possession of a firearm while bowhunting is prohibited.
- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for the current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **State Land Hunting:** See tables on pages 40–43 for listing of lands open to archery deer hunting. Certain state lands that do not allow firearms deer hunting are designated as bowhunting only areas. These lands are open to deer bowhunting during the state

land shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons (Nov. 18 – Dec. 22).

- **Fluorescent Orange:** Bowhunters are required to wear 400 sq. in. of fluorescent orange from Nov. 18 – Dec. 31. Bowhunters may remove fluorescent orange clothing while in a tree stand at least 10 feet off the ground.
- **Decoys:** Decoys may be used during the early and late archery deer seasons, but must be covered with 400 sq. in. of fluorescent orange during transport. Decoys cannot be used during the Nov. 18–Dec. 31 time period.
- **Replacement Tags:** Available for this permit type. See page 26 for details.
- **Notice:** Saturday, November 7 through Saturday, November 14, 2020 (excluding Sunday) are Junior Deer Hunter Training Days and junior hunters with firearms deer permits may be hunting with firearms. See page 6 for details.
- **Sunday Archery Deer Hunting:** Archery deer hunters (including landowners hunting with a bow during the Free Landowner Deer Season) can hunt on Sundays on **private land only** in **ALL** Deer Management Zones. All archery deer hunting on Sundays must take place at least 40 yards away from blazed hiking trails.

PRIVATE LAND SHOTGUN/RIFLE/REVOLVER

Season Dates

Nov. 18 – Dec. 8

Bag Limits Statewide: 1 Either Sex and 1 Antlerless; **Zone 7:** 1 Extra Antlerless; **Zones 11 and 12:** 2 Extra Antlerless; **Zones 2 and 4a:** 1 Either Sex (“Antlerless Only” tag NOT valid).

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License and Permits Firearms hunting license and Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Deer permit. Note: Revolver Deer Endorsement is also required if using a revolver.

Legal Firearms 12, 16, or 20 gauge breech loading shotgun loaded with single soft alloy projectile ammunition. Rifled or smoothbore barrels allowed. Centerfire rifle 6mm (.243 caliber) or larger or revolver .357 caliber or larger may be used if the landholding is 10 or more acres and the landowner has authorized use on the consent form. To use a revolver, you must also have Revolver Deer Endorsement for the current season. Muzzleloading rifle or shotgun, .45 caliber minimum. Single projectile loaded from muzzle end. Telescopic sights and shotgun converters are permitted. No minimum acreage required for shotguns or muzzleloaders.

Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See page 27–30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for the current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **Replacement Tags:** Available for this permit type. See page 26 for details.
- **Junior Deer Hunter Training Days:** Saturday, November 7 through Saturday, November 14, 2020 (excluding Sunday). See page 6 for details.

PRIVATE LAND MUZZLELOADER

Season Dates

Dec. 9 – Dec. 31

Bag Limits Statewide: 1 Either Sex and 1 Antlerless; **Zone 7:** 1 Extra Antlerless; **Zones 11 and 12:** 2 Extra Antlerless; **Zones 2 and 4a:** 1 Either Sex (“Antlerless Only” tag NOT valid).

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License and Permits Firearms hunting license and private land muzzleloader deer permit.

Legal Firearms Muzzleloading rifle or shotgun, .45 caliber minimum. Single projectile loaded from muzzle end. Telescopic sights and shotgun converters are permitted. No minimum acreage required for muzzleloaders.

Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **Replacement Tags:** Available for this permit type. See page 26 for details.

STATE LAND MUZZLELOADER

Season Dates

Dec. 9 – Dec. 22

Bag Limits 1 Either Sex

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License and Permits Firearms hunting license and state land muzzleloader deer permit.

Legal Firearms Muzzleloading rifle or shotgun .45 caliber minimum. Single projectile loaded from muzzle end. Telescopic sights and shotgun converters are permitted.

Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **State Land Hunting:** See tables on pages 40–43 for listing of state lands open to muzzleloader deer hunting.

FREE LANDOWNER DEER SEASON

Available for persons owning 10 or more acres of land.

Season Dates

Nov. 2 – Dec. 31

Bag Limits

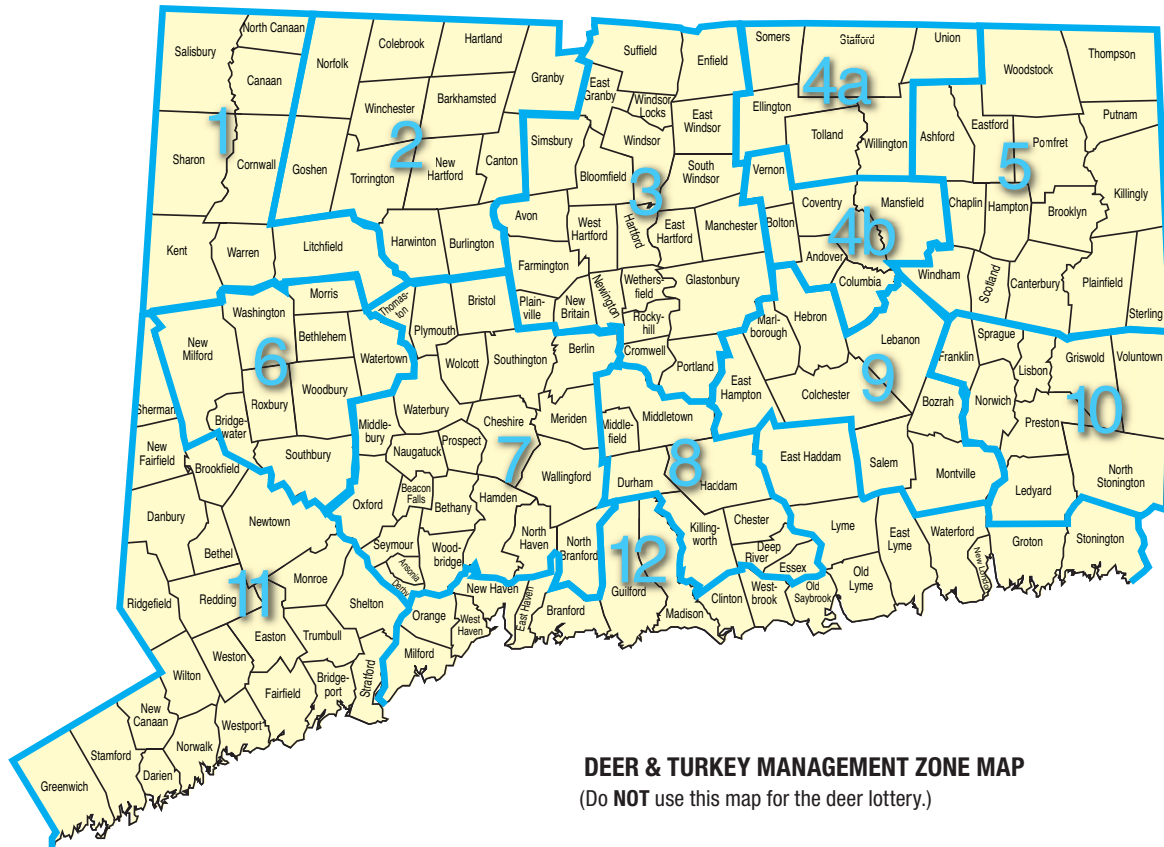
1 Either Sex and 1 Antlerless (2 total)

Hunting Hours

½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License and Permits

Free Landowner Deer Permit. Appropriate hunting license required if landowner does not live on qualifying property. Note: Revolver Deer Endorsement is also required if using a revolver. For hunting with a bow or crossbow, landowners must have a certificate indicating successful completion of a Connecticut Conservation Education/Firearms Safety bowhunting course (or recognized equivalent).



DEER & TURKEY MANAGEMENT ZONE MAP

(Do NOT use this map for the deer lottery.)



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Deer Hunting Seasons

Legal Firearms

12, 16, or 20 gauge shotgun loaded with single soft alloy projectile ammunition. Rifled or smoothbore barrels allowed. Centerfire rifle 6mm (.243 caliber) or larger, revolver .357 caliber or larger, or muzzle-loader (.45 caliber minimum). To use a revolver, you must also have Revolver Deer Endorsement for the current season.

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Legal Bows

See page 13 for a description of legal bows and arrows for deer hunting. Mechanical string release devices are permitted.

Special Conditions

Free Landowner Permits are available only to persons owning 10 or more contiguous acres of land. Additional permits are available for their spouses, lineal descendants, parents, grandparents and siblings.

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27-30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Fluorescent Orange:** Landowners hunting deer on their own land are not required to wear 400 sq. in. of fluorescent orange, but their spouse, lineal descendants, parents, grandparents and siblings are required to do so.
- **Sunday Archery Deer Hunting:** Archery deer-hunters can hunt on Sundays on private land only in ALL Deer Management Zones. All archery deer hunting on Sundays must take place at least 40 yards away from blazed hiking trails.

STATE LAND NO-LOTTERY

The regulation concerning the No-lottery A and B seasons may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.

Season Dates

- Nov. 18 – Nov. 27 No-Lottery "A" Permits
- Nov. 28 – Dec. 8 No-Lottery "B" Permits

Bag Limits 1 Either Sex

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License and Permits Firearms hunting license and either a State Land No-Lottery "A" Permit or a State Land No-Lottery "B" Permit. You may buy only one type of State Land Shotgun Deer Permit. So, you should not purchase a State Land No-Lottery Permit if you plan on applying for a State Land Lottery or Controlled Hunt Lottery Permit.

Legal Firearms 12, 16, or 20 gauge breech loading shotgun loaded with single soft alloy projectile ammunition. Rifled or smoothbore barrels allowed. Shotgun must not be capable of holding more than 3 shells. Muzzleloading rifle or shotgun, .45 caliber minimum. Single projectile loaded from muzzle end. Telescopic sights and shotgun converters are permitted.

Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27-30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Open Areas:** See pages 40–43 for areas open for the No-Lottery "A" and "B" seasons.
- **Junior Deer Hunter Training Days:** Saturday, November 7 through Saturday, November 14, 2020 (excluding Sunday). See page 6 for details.



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CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)

CWD is a naturally occurring disease of the brain and nervous system in cervids (species in the deer/elk/moose family) that attacks the brain, producing small lesions that eventually result in death. Mule deer, white-tailed deer, moose, elk, and reindeer appear to be naturally susceptible to CWD.

Where is CWD found? Prior to 2005, the disease had only been found in North America west of IL. In 2005, CWD was documented in captive and free-ranging herds in NY and in free-ranging herds in WV. CWD has NOT been found in New England, including CT. States and Canadian provinces where CWD has been confirmed include: CO, WY, UT, NM, MT, SD, KS, MN, WI, IL, NE, OK, NY, WV, MI, VA, MD, MO, ND, IA, PA, OH, TX, AR, MS, TN, MI, Alberta, Quebec (captive herd), Ontario, and Saskatchewan.

What is CT doing about CWD? Connecticut banned the importation of live cervids across state lines. In 2005, an emergency regulation was passed banning importation of whole carcasses or parts thereof of any deer or elk from wild or captive herds from other states or Canadian Provinces where CWD has been confirmed. The importation ban does not apply to de-boned meat, cleaned skullcaps, hides, or taxidermy mounts. The regulation became permanent in 2007. From 2003-2011, DEEP tested hunter and vehicle-killed deer as part of a nationwide CWD monitoring and surveillance program. Due to a loss of funding, only deer exhibiting symptoms of CWD were tested from 2012-2013. From 2014-2016, CWD testing resumed thanks to a cooperative effort between the Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge and DEEP, and with financial assistance from the USFWS National Wildlife Refuge System. Although additional funding sources were lost in 2017, the DEEP continues to collect samples to test for CWD.

How do I know if an animal has CWD? As CWD advances, infected animals display abnormal behavior, such as staggering or standing with poor posture; become emaciated; and appear to be in poor health. The only efficient method for diagnosis is to dispatch the animal and examine brain tissue and lymph nodes for lesions. Anyone observing a deer exhibiting CWD symptoms should notify DEEP at 860-424-3011 or 860-424-3333 (24 hours). If the animal is dispatched, keep the head intact so that a brain sample can be collected for testing.

What precautions should CT hunters take? Concern over CWD should not limit hunter willingness to harvest deer. No evidence exists that CWD affects humans or is present in the state. Even in states where CWD is found, no one has ever contracted CWD. As a precaution, public health officials recommend that humans avoid consuming meat from deer suspected of being infected with CWD. The CWD prion can be found within the meat of deer in the terminal stages of CWD. Higher levels of infected prions accumulate in tissues, such as the brain, spinal cord, spleen, lymph nodes, tonsils, and eyes, and as a precaution, contact with these items should be minimized. Wearing latex gloves and de-boning meat should also minimize potential exposure. **Hunters should also minimize the use of natural-based deer lures, and avoid placing deer lures on cloths, skin, ground, or vegetation where deer can reach them. (A new regulation MAY prohibit the possession and use of commercial natural-based deer urine or other bodily fluids. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the deer seasons start.)**

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Deer Lottery

A lottery is conducted to award a limited number of permits for deer hunting on certain state lands and controlled hunt areas. To hunt these areas you must apply for a deer lottery permit.

The regulation concerning the Lottery A and B seasons may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.

STATE LAND AND CONTROLLED HUNT LOTTERY

Season Dates

- Nov. 18 – Nov. 27 Lottery “A” Season#
- Nov. 28 – Dec. 8 Lottery “B” Season#

Bag Limits 1 Either Sex on State Land Areas; variable on Controlled Hunt Areas

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License & Permits Firearms hunting license and a state land lottery permit or a controlled hunt area lottery permit. Only one of these permit types may be bought each year. Lottery permits for state land and controlled hunt areas may be applied for starting January 1. Persons rejected for a Lottery Permit may obtain a State Land No-Lottery Permit.

Legal Firearms 12, 16, or 20 gauge breech loading shotgun loaded with single soft alloy projectile ammunition. Rifled or smoothbore barrels allowed. Shotgun must not be capable of holding more than 3 shells. Muzzleloading rifle or shotgun, .45 caliber minimum. Single projectile loaded from muzzle end. Telescopic sights and shotgun converters are permitted.

Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27-30 and 34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Junior Deer Hunter Training Days:** Saturday, November 7 through Saturday, November 14, 2020 (excluding Sunday). See page 6 for details.

ARCHERY-ONLY CONTROLLED HUNT LOTTERY

Archery-only lottery distributes a limited number of permits, providing access to controlled hunt areas and allowing landowners to develop hunt programs that may consist of hunters attending a mandatory pre-hunt meeting and/or passing a background check. The archery-only lottery will not affect the hunter's ability to receive a firearms lottery permit nor will it impact the ability to bow hunt other state lands. In the future, when multiple archery-only lottery areas are available, like the firearms lottery, bowhunters will only be allowed to receive one archery-only area permit.

Follow existing deer lottery application instructions for the archery-only controlled hunt lottery. The archery-only lottery will run through **February 29** and no permits will be available to youth hunters 12 to 17 years old.

Season Dates

- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31

Bag Limits 2 Either Sex and 2 Antlerless; hunters will use the Archery Deer Permit tags.

Hunting Hours ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

License & Permits Archery Deer/Small Game License. Only one of this permit type may be

LOTTERY “A” SEASON AREAS

AREA	LOCATION	TOWN(S)	QUOTA	ACRES
Area 27	Camp Columbia SF	Morris	22	470
Area 51	Yale Forest ^	Union*	230	7,700
Area 53	NU-Maromas (Co-op)	Middletown	70	1,400
Area 54	NU-Skiff Mt. (Co-op)	Sharon	35	710
Area 58	MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Valentine/Pine Hill Block** ^	New Hartford*	40	1,400
Area 64	MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir - East Block** ^	Barkhamsted*	40	4,282
Area 67	MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir - West Block** ^	Barkhamsted*	40	3,700

LOTTERY “A” AND “B” SEASON AREAS

AREA	LOCATION	TOWN(S)	QUOTA	ACRES
Area 26	Trout Brook Valley SP	Easton	15	330
Area 28	Naugatuck SF - Quillinan Reservoir Block	Ansonia	25	511
Area 52	Bristol Water Co.^	Harwinton	75	4,500
Area 56	Centennial Watershed SF^^	Easton*	170	3,450
Area 60	Tankerhoosen WMA	Vernon	20	449
Area 62	Aldo Leopold WMA	Southbury	20	553
Area 63	Mohawk SF - Ziegler/Johnson Tract	Cornwall*	15	329

LOTTERY ARCHERY-ONLY AREAS

AREA	LOCATION	TOWN(S)	QUOTA	ACRES
Area 66	MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Sweetheart Mt. Block** ^	Canton*	30	500

* and adjacent town or towns

** **Special Requirements:** To apply for Areas 58, 64, 66, and 67 hunters must be at least 18 years of age. Hunters selected for these 4 MDC areas will be required to attend a mandatory pre-hunt meeting on Sept. 10, 2020, at 6:30 PM, at the Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area (341 Milford St., Burlington); pass a background check conducted by MDC; and sign a waiver of liability before receiving access for hunting. If a hunter cannot meet these requirements, please do not apply. Successful hunters will receive pre-hunt information by August 15. If notification is not received by this date, hunters must contact michael.gregonis@ct.gov.

^ No access during Junior Deer Hunter Training Days. Harvest of coyotes and foxes prohibited.

^^ No access during Junior Deer Hunter Training Days except for junior hunters and mentors who have both been awarded a permit for this area.

received each year. Lottery permits for archery-only controlled hunt areas may be applied for starting on January 1. Persons rejected in the archery-only lottery may hunt any state or controlled hunt area that is open to bowhunting. The archery-only controlled hunt lottery is completely separate from the firearms deer lottery.

Legal Bows See page 13 for a description of legal bows and arrows for deer hunting. Mechanical string release devices are permitted.

DEER LOTTERY APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Starting January 1, lottery permit applications can be submitted online, or at select DEEP locations (79 Elm St, Hartford; Franklin WMA, North Franklin; Sessions Woods WMA, Burlington; Eastern District HQ, Marlborough; Marine HQ, Old Lyme; Western District HQ, Harwinton).

ADULT licensed firearms hunters over the age of 17 can apply individually or as a group. The maximum number of hunters in a group is four. Applicants may apply for up to six areas and can designate a preference for either the “A” or “B” season.

Upon submission of your application, you will know instantly whether you are successful. If successful, the permit for the area and season will automatically be added to your “shopping cart.” If you apply as a group, the associated permit will also be added to each group member's

“shopping cart.” The permit may be purchased at the time of selection or at a later date. Each group member is responsible for purchasing their own permit. All permits must be purchased by **February 29**. If a permit is not purchased by that date, it will be **forfeited**.

YOUTH licensed firearms hunters (12 through 17 years old) can only apply individually. All youths will apply by means of a separate lottery program called Youth Lottery Permits. Applicants can apply and receive their area of choice, unless quotas are filled. Youth permits are purchased at the end of the transaction. We recommend that the adult hunter participate in the lottery first before purchasing the Youth Lottery Permit. This will ensure that the youth and adult receive a permit for the same area. All sales are final and DEEP is unable to switch hunting areas or refund fees.

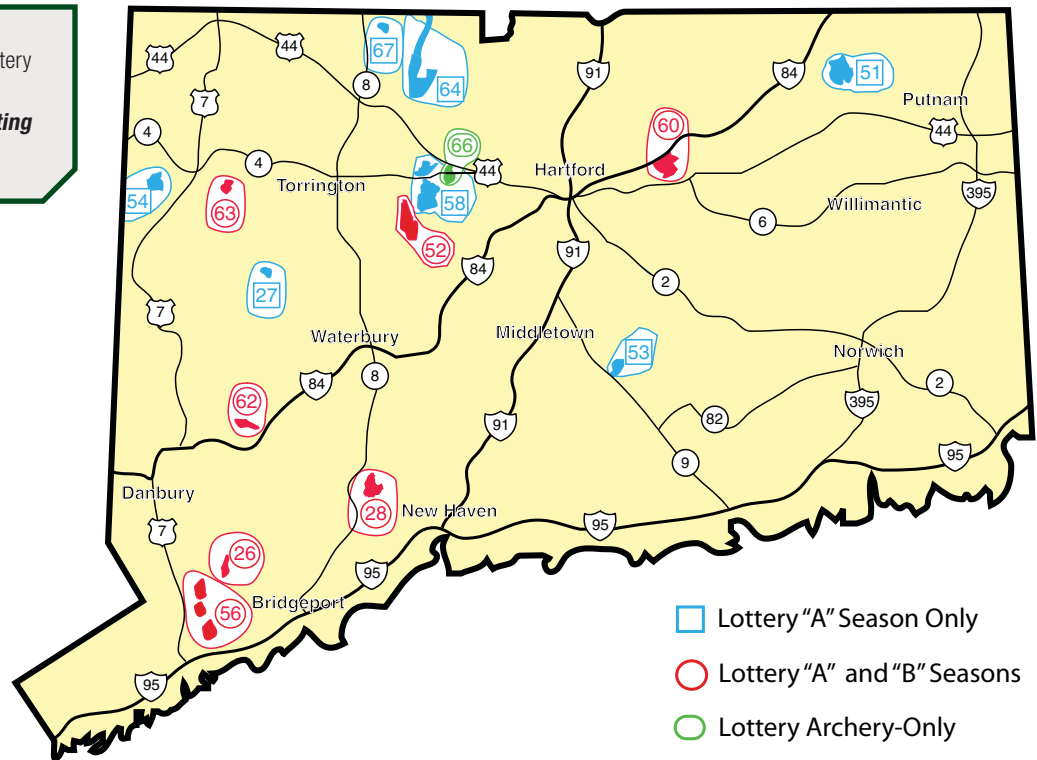
Reminder: Select lottery permits not purchased by February 29 will be made available on a first-come, first-serve basis starting March 15. Unsold lottery permits can be purchased online or at select DEEP offices up until sold out or the season ends. All unsold lottery permits must be purchased at the end of the transaction. Additional information about the deer lottery may be found at www.ct.gov/deep/Hunting. Questions can be directed to michael.gregonis@ct.gov or call the Deer Program at 860-418-5957.



DEER LOTTERY HUNTING AREA MAP

The regulation concerning the Lottery A and B seasons may change.

Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.



**"Celebrate the deer
hunting tradition
by attending a**



event near you."

~ Travis "T-Bone" Turner

Whitetails Unlimited spokesperson
and co-host of Michael
Waddell's *Bone Collector* TV Show.

**For information, please call WTU's New England
Field Director Bill Bailey at (413) 244-2304.
www.whitetailsunlimited.com**

REPLACEMENT TAGS

In deer management zones 11 and 12, two types of supplemental tags are available: Replacement Antlerless Tags and Earn-a-buck Tags.

Replacement Antlerless Tags: For a hunter to receive a replacement antlerless tag, he or she must go to one of several vendor Replacement Tag Deer Check Stations. A current list of check stations is available on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting or by calling the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011. Hunters must also complete the following:

1. Report the deer harvest and obtain a confirmation number within 24 hours of harvest;
2. Bring the antlerless deer carcass or head to a check station within 72 hours of harvest;
3. Submit the deer harvest tag with a confirmation number to the vendor;
4. Sign the replacement antlerless tag that is received from the vendor.

“Earn-A-Buck” Tags: If you register a total of 3 antlerless deer from private land during the same season, you may qualify for a replacement either-sex tag.

Note: Antlerless deer harvested in other zones may be brought to a check station for the purpose of receiving replacement tags; however, the replacement tags (both Antlerless and Earn-a-buck) may **ONLY be used in zones 11 or 12**. Replacement tags are available in zones 11 and 12 during the private land archery season, shotgun/rifle season, and muzzleloader season. Consult the Deer Management Zone Map for a description of zones (see page 21). All replacement tags will be issued in limited numbers based on a zone’s deer population management goals.

DEER HUNTING PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- Hunting with or allowing any dog in your charge to hunt, pursue, or kill deer.
- Hunting deer or any other wildlife while in or on a motor vehicle, snowmobile, or all terrain vehicle (See *Hunting Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities* for special exemptions).
- Hunting deer by aid or use of a light.
- Taking or attempting to take any deer with the aid of real or artificial bait in Zones 1 to 10, or on state lands in Zones 11 and 12. (Any food, mineral, or chemical product designed to be eaten by deer is considered bait.)
- Use of a decoy during the shotgun/rifle and muzzleloader deer seasons.
- Taking of spotted fawns.

BAITING AND USE OF ATTRACTANTS

Attractants allowed during the statewide deer hunting seasons.

- Deer decoys during the early and late archery seasons only.

HEMORRHAGIC DISEASE

In October 2017, the first ever cases of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) were confirmed in Connecticut. At the time, dead deer were reported in Portland, Middletown, Chester, Haddam, and Lyme all displaying symptoms associated with EHD. Symptoms of hemorrhagic disease in deer include swollen head, neck, tongue, or eyelids with a bloody discharge from the nasal cavity; erosion of the dental pad or ulcers on the tongue; and hemorrhaging of the heart and lungs, causing respiratory distress. The virus also creates high feverish conditions, causing infected deer to sometimes be found near water sources. Not all symptoms are necessarily present in every infected deer.

EHD is transmitted by tiny biting flies (midges). All documented outbreaks of EHD tend to occur during late summer and early fall due to an increase in midge numbers and cease with the onset of a hard frost, which kills the midges carrying the virus.

Anyone who observes deer appearing emaciated, behaving strangely, or lying dead along the edge of waterbodies during summer are asked to report the information, along with the closest address, to DEEP’s 24-hour Emergency Dispatch Center at 860-424-3333, the DEEP Wildlife Division at 860-418-5921, or send an email to Andrew.labonte@ct.gov.

- All types of scent attractants (i.e., doe in heat, buck lure, urine, tarsal glands, food smells, smoke pole) that provide no substance for deer to consume. Hunters are encouraged to minimize the use of natural-based deer lures, and avoid placing deer lures on cloths, skin, ground, or vegetation where deer can reach them. **(A new regulation MAY prohibit the possession and use of commercial natural-based deer urine or other bodily fluids. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the deer seasons start).**
- All types of sound attractants (i.e., doe calls, buck calls, antler rattling, electronic calls).
- Hunting over planted fields where normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation is used.

In addition to the attractants listed above, the following are allowed ON PRIVATE LANDS ONLY in Deer Management Zones 11 and 12 during the archery, shotgun/rifle, and muzzleloader deer seasons.

- Minerals or chemicals that may be safely consumed by deer (i.e., salt lick)
- Artificial or natural foods placed, scattered, distributed or deposited (i.e., hay, grains, fruit, nuts—any foods that may be safely consumed by deer)

NOTE: It is strongly recommended that individuals hunting on private lands in Zones 11 and 12 consult with landowners prior to placing bait.

DEFINITION OF ANTLERLESS DEER

Some deer tags allow the harvest of antlerless deer only. An antlerless deer is defined as any deer which has no visible antlers. “Button Bucks” are considered antlerless deer. Either sex deer tags allow the harvest of antlered or antlerless deer.

TAGGING AND TRANSPORTING DEER

Immediately upon killing a deer, complete and sign a Harvest Tag and keep it with the carcass at all times until it is cut up and packaged for consumption. Deer do not have to be open to view during transport. See pages 27–30 and 34 for more information on Harvest Tags and reporting.

DEER HUNTER SURVEY

Anybody who obtains a deer permit may be asked to respond to a survey concerning their deer hunting activities. Even if you did not hunt, you should complete the survey. Information gathered from the survey is important to the management of Connecticut’s white-tailed deer population. Surveys may be conducted by mail, telephone, or the internet.

TREE STANDS ON STATE PROPERTIES

The construction or placement of permanent tree stands involving damage to any tree or shrub is prohibited. The use of portable tree stands (climber, ladder, or hang-on) is permissible. However, all tree stands must be removed from state properties at the conclusion of the hunting season. The use of a full-body safety harness when using a tree stand is strongly recommended.

BOWHUNTING SAFETY TIPS

- Hunt and shoot within your own physical limitations.
- Only point the bow and arrow in a safe direction.
- Only nock an arrow when it is safe to shoot.
- Be sure of your target and what is in front of it, immediately behind it, and beyond it.
- Check the bowstring regularly, and replace it if it becomes worn or frayed.
- Prior to each use, check your bow for cracks, dents, breaks, separating laminates, peeling glass, and defects in mechanical parts.
- Handle arrows carefully. Protect yourself and the arrow points with a covered arrow quiver.
- Cross obstacles and rough terrain with an arrow securely stored in a quiver.
- Use a haul line to raise and lower your bow; never climb a tree stand carrying a bow.



TAGGING AND REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately upon making your kill, complete a Deer/Turkey Harvest Tag. The Harvest Tag must be kept with your deer or turkey until it is processed for consumption. While transporting your kill, you may keep the Harvest Tag in your pocket or wallet. However, if you leave the kill, the completed Harvest Tag must remain with the animal.
2. All turkeys and deer taken must be reported within 24 hours via the internet at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting or by telephone at the toll-free number, 1-877-337-4868. To report your deer or turkey, you will need to know the 3-digit number code of the town in which the animal was killed. The table on page 29 lists Connecticut's 169 towns and their identifying numbers. If you killed your deer or turkey on state land, you will also need to know the 3-digit number code of the public hunting area. See the Public Hunting Area tables on pages 30 or 40-43 to locate the 3-digit number code for each public hunting area and also find out what may be legally hunted on these areas.

How do I report my deer and turkey kills and get a confirmation number?

You can report your kill on the Department's website or by calling the toll free number 1-877-337-4868. After reporting, you will be given a confirmation number to write on your Harvest Tag. This confirmation number serves as proof that you have legally reported your kill. You may find that submitting harvest reports online is easier than using the telephone reporting system. The telephone reporting system uses a live attendant that will ask you a series of questions to obtain harvest information. On the website, you answer questions by using convenient drop-down menus. Other advantages of using the website are that you can review reports you have previously submitted and print out copies of these reports.

Reporting by Telephone: Call 1-877-337-4868 (1-877-DEP-HUNT)

Reporting on the Internet: Go to www.ct.gov/deep/hunting and look for the link for reporting deer and turkey harvests.

HARVEST REPORT INFORMATION

Before reporting your harvest, use this form to make sure you have all of the information you need to accurately report your harvest.

NUMBER OF HOURS HUNTED	_____ Hours
NUMBER OF DEER OBSERVED	____ Fawns ____ Does ____ Bucks
CONSERVATION ID#	_____ (5 or 6 digits on license)
4-DIGIT YEAR OF YOUR BIRTH	____ _ (e.g. 1960)
PERMIT TYPE/SEASON	_____ (e.g. Archery Deer, Spring Turkey, etc.)
2-DIGIT MONTH OF KILL	____ _ (01 to 12)
2-DIGIT DAY OF KILL	____ _ (01 to 31)
3-DIGIT TOWN CODE	____ _ (see table on page 29)
3-DIGIT PUBLIC HUNTING AREA CODE	____ _ if applicable (see tables on pages 30 or 40-43)
LAND TYPE	_____ (Private or State)
TAG TYPE	_____ (e.g. Antlerless, Either Sex, etc.)
TYPE OF HUNTING IMPLEMENT	_____ (e.g. Rifle, Shotgun, Bow, etc.)
AGE/SEX DESCRIPTION	See Turkey Age/Sex Description Questions on next page.
NUMBER OF POINTS	____ _ (00 to 24) if applicable

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LOOK UP AND WATCH OUT! FOR OVERHEAD HAZARDS

Several years of storms, drought, and insect infestations have severely damaged a significant number of Connecticut's trees. A "hazard tree" has a structural defect that makes it likely to fail in whole or in part. Such a tree can fall without warning!

Follow these guidelines to manage risks associated with hazard trees:

- Be aware of your surroundings. Avoid dense patches of dead or distressed trees.
- Be particularly watchful when it is windy or when branches are covered with snow.
- Look up while on trails.
- Avoid parking, picnicking, camping, hiking, and hunting in areas where dead trees or dead limbs could fall.







Learn more at www.ct.gov/deep/tree damage.

TURKEY IDENTIFICATION GUIDELINES

Use the chart below to identify the age and sex of your turkey before reporting your harvest.

Example Age Class - Adult Male Turkey:

Beard longer than 6 inches; spur longer than 1/2 inch; outer two wing feathers rounded with barring to the tip; breast feathers black-tipped; tail fan smooth in shape.

FALL TURKEY		SPRING TURKEY	EXAMPLE: ADULT MALE
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Tom <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Tom or Jake <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Hen <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Hen <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure of Sex/Age		<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Tom <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Tom or Jake <input type="checkbox"/> Bearded Hen <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure of Sex/Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult Tom <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Tom or Jake <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Hen <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Hen <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure of Sex/Age
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<input type="checkbox"/> Spur longer than 1/2 inch <input type="checkbox"/> Spur shorter than 1/2 inch		<input type="checkbox"/> Spur longer than 1/2 inch <input type="checkbox"/> Spur shorter than 1/2 inch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spur longer than 1/2 inch <input type="checkbox"/> Spur shorter than 1/2 inch
<input type="checkbox"/> Outer two wing feathers pointed with no barring <input type="checkbox"/> Outer two wing feathers rounded with barring to the tip		n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> Outer two wing feathers pointed with no barring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outer two wing feathers rounded with barring to the tip
<input type="checkbox"/> Breast feathers black-tipped <input type="checkbox"/> Breast feathers buff-tipped		n/a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Breast feathers black-tipped <input type="checkbox"/> Breast feathers buff-tipped
n/a		<input type="checkbox"/> Tail fan smooth in shape <input type="checkbox"/> Middle tail feathers longer than others	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tail fan smooth in shape <input type="checkbox"/> Middle tail feathers longer than others

WHAT TO DO WHEN APPROACHED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICER



Each year, Connecticut Environmental Conservation (EnCon) Police Officers check thousands of hunters, anglers, boaters, and visitors at our state parks, wildlife management areas, and forests. A compliance check by an EnCon Police Officer is an opportunity for outdoor enthusiasts to have positive interactions with officers while enjoying all the outdoor recreation opportunities Connecticut has to offer. EnCon Police Officers can help explain laws and also provide information about outdoor opportunities and conditions in your area.

EnCon Police Officers are concerned with enforcement of Connecticut laws and regulations that are intended to keep people safe, protect personal property, and conserve the State's natural resources. There are a few actions you can take to ensure your experience with an EnCon Officer is positive for both you and the officer.

The way hunters should handle their firearms when approached by a law enforcement officer differs from how they should handle them for safety purposes in other circumstances.

When Hunting:

EnCon Officers are concerned with firearms safety and compliance with hunting regulations when checking hunters. When approached by an officer, you are expected to follow all basic firearms handling rules.

- Control the muzzle - keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction.
- Do not attempt to load or unload your firearm while being approached by an EnCon Officer.
- Comply with all instructions directed to you by the EnCon Officer.

Connecticut's EnCon Police Officers want each interaction with an outdoor enthusiast to be a pleasant experience. Please be polite and courteous. By promptly complying with all requests as directed by the officer, you can help ensure a safe, pleasant, and productive experience. Take advantage of the opportunity to ask the officer questions. EnCon Officers are an excellent source of information about Connecticut laws and regulations, and the surrounding area. They can assist in making your outdoor experience in Connecticut more enjoyable.

Town Reporting Codes

TOWNS 3-DIGIT NUMBER CODES FOR REPORTING YOUR HARVEST

001	Andover	044	East Haven	086	Montville	128	Simsbury
002	Ansonia	045	East Lyme	087	Morris	129	Somers
003	Ashford	046	Easton	088	Naugatuck	130	Southbury
004	Avon	047	East Windsor	089	New Britain	131	Southington
005	Barkhamsted	048	Ellington	090	New Canaan	132	South Windsor
006	Beacon Falls	049	Enfield	091	New Fairfield	133	Sprague
007	Berlin	050	Essex	092	New Hartford	134	Stafford
008	Bethany	051	Fairfield	093	New Haven	135	Stamford
009	Bethel	052	Farmington	094	Newington	136	Sterling
010	Bethlehem	053	Franklin	095	New London	137	Stonington
011	Bloomfield	054	Glastonbury	096	New Milford	138	Stratford
012	Bolton	055	Goshen	097	Newtown	139	Suffield
013	Bozrah	056	Granby	098	Norfolk	140	Thomaston
014	Branford	057	Greenwich	099	North Branford	141	Thompson
015	Bridgeport	058	Griswold	100	North Canaan	142	Tolland
016	Bridgewater	059	Groton	101	North Haven	143	Torrington
017	Bristol	060	Guilford	102	North Stonington	144	Trumbull
018	Brookfield	061	Haddam	103	Norwalk	145	Union
019	Brooklyn	062	Hamden	104	Norwich	146	Vernon
020	Burlington	063	Hampton	105	Old Lyme	147	Voluntown
021	Canaan	064	Hartford	106	Old Saybrook	148	Wallingford
022	Canterbury	065	Hartland	107	Orange	149	Warren
023	Canton	066	Harwinton	108	Oxford	150	Washington
024	Chaplin	067	Hebron	109	Plainfield	151	Waterbury
025	Cheshire	068	Kent	110	Plainville	152	Waterford
026	Chester	069	Killingly	111	Plymouth	153	Watertown
027	Clinton	070	Killingworth	112	Pomfret	154	Westbrook
028	Colchester	071	Lebanon	113	Portland	155	West Hartford
029	Colebrook	072	Ledyard	114	Preston	156	West Haven
030	Columbia	073	Lisbon	115	Prospect	157	Weston
031	Cornwall	074	Litchfield	116	Putnam	158	Westport
032	Coventry	075	Lyme	117	Redding	159	Wethersfield
033	Cromwell	076	Madison	118	Ridgefield	160	Willington
034	Danbury	077	Manchester	119	Rocky Hill	161	Wilton
035	Darien	078	Mansfield	120	Roxbury	162	Winchester
036	Deep River	079	Marlborough	121	Salem	163	Windham
037	Derby	080	Meriden	122	Salisbury	164	Windsor
038	Durham	081	Middlebury	123	Scotland	165	Windsor Locks
039	Eastford	082	Middlefield	124	Seymour	166	Wolcott
040	East Granby	083	Middletown	125	Sharon	167	Woodbridge
041	East Haddam	084	Milford	126	Shelton	168	Woodbury
042	East Hampton	085	Monroe	127	Sherman	169	Woodstock
043	East Hartford						

YOU CAN HELP...

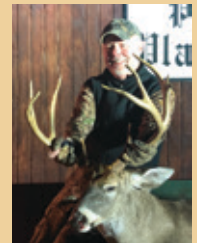
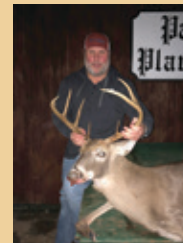
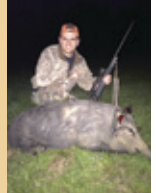
You can help the Wildlife Division keep track of

**Bobcat • Black Bear • Fisher • Moose •
Ruffed Grouse • Wild Turkey Broods**


Include the date, time, and exact location where the animals were observed. Report bear and moose online at www.ct.gov/deep/Wildlife. Report bobcats and fisher at deep.ctwildlife@ct.gov; and ruffed grouse at deep.Franklin@ct.gov. Find out how to participate in the Annual Wild Turkey Brood Survey at www.ct.gov/deep/wildlifecitizenscience.



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WILDLIFE DIVISION



Hunt prime land in Barbour & Bullock Counties.

- Highest deer density in Alabama. Coyotes and bobcats (no charge, no limit with paid deer hunt)
- 6,000 acre family-owned plantation.  NO LEASED LAND.
- 50 Food Plots with elevated shooting houses surrounded by pines and oak bottoms.
- Daytime and nighttime trophy wild hog hunting on 8,000 acres
- New cottages with private bedrooms and baths.
- First class lodge. All meals included.

**To plan your hunt, call J. Paul Taylor
877-539-5699 • www.pa-ko.com**

WWW.CT.GOV/ DEEP/HUNTING

Check the DEEP's website for the latest information about hunting, fishing, and trapping in Connecticut. Our website also has information, fact sheets, and stories about all of Connecticut's wildlife.

www.ct.gov/deep/hunting

- Hunting Area Maps
- Special Hunting Seasons
- New Hunting Areas
- New Regulations
- Special Events



**Be sure of your
target and beyond.**

Hunting Area Codes

WESTERN CONNECTICUT - FAIRFIELD, HARTFORD, LITCHFIELD & NEW HAVEN COUNTIES 3-DIGIT NUMBER CODES FOR REPORTING HARVESTS

308	Aldo Leopold WMA	318	Great Swamp Flood Control Area	230	Peoples State Forest
201	Algonquin State Forest	214	Hancock Brook Lake (federally owned)	323	Pequonnock Valley
202	American Legion State Forest	215	Housatonic River WMA	324	Pootatuck State Forest
203	Barber Pond WMA	216	Housatonic State Forest	325	Quinnipiac River Marsh
309	Bennett's Pond State Park	217	John Minetto State Park	326	Quinnipiac River State Park
204	Black Rock Lake	218	Mad River Dam Flood Control Area	231	Robbins Swamp WMA
205	Bloomfield Flood Control Area (Site 1)	219	Mattatuck State Forest	232	Roraback WMA
206	Bloomfield Flood Control Area (Site 2)	343	MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir - East Block	268	Scantic River State Park
4	Bristol Fish and Game	346	MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir - West Block	233	Sessions Woods WMA
329	Bristol Water Company	220	MDC - Colebrook Reservoir/Hogback Dam	19	Seymour Fish and Game Club
207	Camp Columbia State Forest	221	MDC - Greenwoods Pond	234	Simsbury WMA
208	Cedar Swamp WMA	330	MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Valentine/Pine Hill Block	---	South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority
310	Centennial Watershed State Forest	345	MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Sweetheart Mt. Block	27	Stanley Works Coop WMA
209	Centennial Watershed State Forest (Canaan Block)	14	Meriden Rod and Gun Club	---	Stewart B. McKinney NWR - Great Meadows Marsh
310	Centennial Watershed State Forest - Monroe Parcel (Hattertown Rd.)	341	Mohawk State Forest - Clark Pond Tract	235	Sucker Brook Flood Control Area
311	Centennial Watershed State Forest (formerly Bpt. Hydr.) - Shelton Parcel	342	Mohawk State Forest - Ziegler/Johnson Tract	22	Suffield Sportsmen's Association
312	Charles E. Wheeler WMA	222	Mount Riga State Park	236	Suffied WMA
313	Collis P. Huntington State Park	223	Nassahegon State Forest	237	Sunnybrook State Park (west of Newfield Rd.)
210	CT Light & Power (borders Newgate WMA)	319	Naugatuck State Forest	238	Thomaston Dam (federally owned)
314	East River Marsh WMA	320	Naugatuck State Forest (Great Hill Block)	239	Topsmead State Forest (north and west of Rte. 118)
315	East Swamp WMA	321	Naugatuck State Forest (Quillinan Reservoir Block)	327	Trout Brook Valley State Park
211	East Twin Lakes Water Access Area	224	Nepaug State Forest	240	Tunxis State Forest
6	East Windsor - Enfield Area	225	Newgate WMA	24	Wallingford Town Owned Area
332	Enders State Forest (Worthen Parcel ONLY)	226	Nod Brook Management Area	241	Whiting River Flood Control Area
316	George C. Waldo State Park	227	Northfield Brook Lake (federally owned)	242	Wood Creek Flood Control Area
213	Goshen WMA	262	NU - Kings Island Coop WMA	328	Wooster Mountain State Park
317	Great Harbor WMA	228	NU - Skiff Mtn. Coop WMA	243	Wyantenock State Forest
		229	Paugnut State Forest		
		322	Paugussett State Forest		

EASTERN CONNECTICUT - MIDDLESEX, NEW LONDON, TOLLAND & WINDHAM COUNTIES 3-DIGIT NUMBER CODES FOR REPORTING HARVESTS

272	Assekunk Swamp WMA	282	Lebanon Coop Mgmt. Area	295	Quinebaug River WMA (Aspinook Pond)
244	Babcock Pond WMA - Waterfowl Hunting Blind	283	Little River Fish and Wildlife Area	265	Ragged Rock Creek WMA
273	Barn Island WMA	284	Lord's Cove WMA	266	Raymond Brook Marsh WMA
274	Bartlett Brook WMA	255	Mansfield Hollow Lake (excluding State Park)	296	Red Cedar Lake (Camp Mooween)
275	Bear Hill WMA	256	Mansfield State - Leased Field Trail Area	279	Roger Tory Peterson Wildlife Area (formerly Great Island WMA)
276	Beaver Brook State Park	339	Meadow Brook WMA	297	Rose Hill WMA
277	Bigelow Hollow State Park	338	Menunketesuck WMA (formerly Chapman's Pond WMA)	298	Ross Marsh WMA
245	Bishops Swamp WMA	257	Meshomasic State Forest	299	Ross Pond State Park
337	Black Pond WMA	258	Messerschmidt Pond WMA	267	Salmon River Cove and Haddam Neck WMA
2	Bolton Area	259	Millers Pond	300	Salmon River State Forest (including Holbrook Pond)
347	Candlewood Hill WMA	285	Mohegan State Forest	301	Selden Neck State Park (Selden Island)
246	Cockaponset State Forest	260	Mono Pond	269	Shenipsit State Forest
247	Cromwell Meadows WMA	286	Natchaug State Forest	333	Silvio O. Conte NWR-Salmon River Division (federal land)
248	Durham Meadows WMA	261	Nathan Hale State Forest Mgmt. Area	302	Spignesi WMA
249	Eightmile River WMA	287	Nehantic State Forest	20	Sprague Town Land PR Area
250	Ellithorpe Flood Control Area	288	Nipmuck State Forest	303	Sugarbrook Field Trial Area
212	Flaherty Field Trial Area	17	Norwich Fish and Game Assoc. (South)	304	Talbot WMA
278	Franklin Swamp WMA	289	Nott Island WMA	334	Tankerhoosen WMA
280	Harkness Memorial State Park (Verkade Property)	263	NU - Maromas Coop WMA	270	Wangunk Meadows (off Rte. 17a)
11	Hebron Area	264	Nye Holman State Forest	305	West Thompson Dam (federal land)
9	Higganum - Haddam Rod and Gun Club	290	Pachaug State Forest	271	Wopowog WMA
251	Higganum Meadows WMA	291	Pease Brook WMA	306	Yale Forest (owned by Yale University)
252	Higganum Reservoir	---	Plum Bank WMA	307	Zemko Pond WMA
302	James V. Spignesi WMA	292	Pomeroy State Park		
281	Killingly Pond State Park	293	Quaddick State Forest		
253	Kollar WMA	294	Quinebaug River WMA		
254	Larson Lot WMA				

MESSAGE FROM THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION POLICE



The mission statement of the Connecticut Environmental Conservation (EnCon) Police is Natural Resource Protection and Public Safety through Education, Outreach and Enforcement.

Since 1895, EnCon Police Officers, traditionally known as Game Wardens, have passionately enforced fish and game laws in Connecticut. Today, EnCon Officers are just as passionate about hunting. The feeling of a crisp fall morning and the changing leaves pumps just as much adrenaline within us as it does any hunter anticipating the upcoming hunting season.

As we move toward the future, many old traditions become a thing of the past; however, EnCon Police Officers continue to honor the tradition of Connecticut's sportsmen and women and value the role they play in environmental conservation. We challenge those who hunt to be mentors and engage today's youth to participate in junior hunting programs. Should you have the opportunity to meet an EnCon Officer in the field or out and about, I encourage you to engage in conversation. Positive communication is essential in creating



relationships and gaining trust in a combined effort to protect our state's natural resources. Report fish and game violations to our 24-hour, toll-free line at 1-800-842-4357.

Connecticut has an abundance of fish and game opportunities. Enjoy the hunting season and, most importantly, be safe!

Acting Colonel Keith Williams
State Environmental Conservation Police

www.Facebook.com/CTEnConPolice

Report Fish and Wildlife Violations to DEEP's 24-hour Dispatch Center at 1-800-842-HELP

All calls are confidential.



FETCH

Your Tickets

Don't let the next DU event pass you by. When you attend your local event, you can have a great time while helping us fill the skies with waterfowl. To find an event near you, visit ducks.org/events.


**DUCKS
UNLIMITED**

White-tailed Deer and Disease Concerns in Connecticut

Connecticut's white-tailed deer population is faced with several existing and potential diseases, some of which could pose a serious threat, while others may only impact a smaller number of individuals. It is important to know what these diseases are and how they may or may not affect people; what precautions should be taken when handling harvested deer; and how to identify the symptoms (or the cause). The Northeast Wildlife Disease Cooperative is an excellent resource for obtaining important news, research results, and information about various diseases affecting not only deer, but other species of wildlife in our area of the country: <https://www.northeastwildlife.org/>.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE): EEE is an infectious, often fatal disease in horses, pigs, and humans that is transmitted by biting mosquitos. Wild ruminants, such as deer, can also become infected, but EEE rarely causes death. Only three states have reported mortality in deer associated with EEE (GA, WI, MD), although a few other states have reported finding EEE in deer populations (ME, MA, VT, RI). Symptoms of EEE in deer include walking in circles, lack of awareness, muscle paralysis, lethargy, and incoordination. It is possible, although rare, that humans could become infected with the EEE virus through their eyes, open skin wounds, or lungs when coming into contact with brain or spinal cord material from an infected deer. Follow deer handling recommendations provided on page 23.

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease: In October 2017, the first ever cases of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) were confirmed in Connecticut. At the time, dead deer were reported in Portland, Middletown, Chester, Haddam, and Lyme all displaying symptoms associated with EHD. EHD is one of the most important infectious diseases affecting white-tailed deer and it spreads through a bite from an infected midge.



Cutaneous fibromas are gray or black tumors found in the skin of white-tailed deer. The tumors are most often found on the front half of the animal, more specifically on the head, neck, and shoulders.

No infected animals were reported in 2018 and 2019. The disease progresses rapidly in infected deer, which exhibit such symptoms as a swollen head, neck, tongue, or eyelids; bloody discharge from the nasal cavity; ulcers on the tongue; and hemorrhaging of the heart and lungs followed by death within three to five days. The virus also creates high feverish conditions, causing infected deer to sometimes be found in or near water sources.

Concern over EHD should not limit hunter willingness to harvest deer during the hunting season. The disease does not infect humans, and people are not at risk by eating venison from or handling infected deer, or by being bitten by infected midges. The disease rarely causes illness in domestic animals, such as cattle, sheep, goats, horses, dogs, and cats. However, hunters are advised to exercise caution if they observe a deer that is behaving abnormally or appears sick and to avoid shooting, handling, or consuming that animal. When field dressing deer, hunters should wear latex or rubber gloves and disinfect any instruments that come in contact with the animal. More information on EHD is on the DEEP website at https://www.ct.gov/deep/LIB/deep/hunting_trapping/pdf_files/ehdv.pdf.

Bovine Tuberculosis (TB): TB can infect most animals and is caused by a bacteria that affects the respiratory system. Although rare in deer, it is a chronic progressive disease that can cause gradual debilitation and emaciation, coughing, nasal discharge, and difficulty breathing. Only two states have reported TB in deer (MI, MN). Although the threat of humans contracting TB from deer is very rare, a man recently contracted TB most likely from inhaling infectious pathogens while removing the deer's organs. Follow deer handling recommendations provided on page 23.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD): CWD is a naturally-occurring disease of the brain and nervous system in deer, elk, and moose that belongs to a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. This disease attacks the brains of deer, elk, and moose, producing small lesions that eventually result in death. CWD does not cause an immediate widespread die-off of deer, but there may be long-term impacts to the herd if the disease is allowed to spread. There are no proven solutions to eradicating the disease once present in wild populations. The method of CWD transmission is unknown; however, strong evidence suggests that abnormally-shaped proteins called "prions" are responsible. The agent responsible for this disease may spread directly through animal to animal contact or indirectly through soil or other surface to animal contact. It is thought that the most common mode of transmission from an infected animal is via saliva and feces. CWD can spread from region to region by the movement of captive deer or through the improper disposal of a harvested deer transported from a CWD-infected area. CWD has been documented in 25 states and 4 Canadian provinces; the disease has not been found in Connecticut or New England. However, the Wildlife Division has been testing hunter-harvested and road-killed deer to monitor for CWD. Connecticut and many other states have taken measures to prevent the spread of CWD, such as banning the importation of live cervids (species in the deer/elk family) across state lines. In addition, an emergency regulation prohibits hunters from transporting into Connecticut any deer, elk, or moose carcasses or parts thereof from any state where

CWD has been documented, unless the meat has been de-boned. A list of states where CWD has been documented and a description of precautions hunters should take can be found on page 23 of this guide or on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting. One of the most important precautions is to minimize the use of natural urine-based lures. (A possible new regulation MAY prohibit the possession and use of commercial natural-based deer urine or other bodily fluids. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the 2020 deer seasons start.) Avoid placing lures on clothes, skin, ground, or vegetation where deer can reach them. Up-to-date information can be found on the Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance website at <http://cwd-info.org/>.

Cutaneous Fibromas: The Wildlife Division frequently receives questions concerning deer with odd warty growths. These are most often harmless tumors caused by a viral skin condition called cutaneous fibroma. Tumors are gray or black in color, range from 0.25 inches to over 8 inches in diameter, and they may grow alone or in groups on the skin of white-tailed deer. Most tumors consist of smooth peeling skin; however, it is not uncommon for tumors to also have a warty appearance. The tumors are most often found on the front half of the animal, more specifically on the head, neck, and shoulders, but can occur anywhere on the deer's skin.

Cutaneous fibromas are caused by a virus found only in white-tailed deer; they are not a danger to humans, pets, or livestock. Fibromas are transmitted from deer to deer by insect bites; scratches from sharp objects, such as barbed wire fences, briars, or branches; or other close contact of open wounds between animals. The virus typically lasts about 2 months and, outside of appearance, rarely causes any health issues in the infected deer. However, large tumors on the head may result in eating difficulties or impaired vision. The tumors are rarely attached to

any part of the animal underneath the skin, and are harmless to humans who may come into contact with the deer during the hunting season. Large open lesions on tumors may lead to bacterial infections, in which case the deer may be unsuitable for consumption. Bacteria-infected deer will be obvious due to a strong odor.

Rabies: This disease in mammals is caused by a virus affecting the central nervous system. Left untreated, rabies is almost always fatal. The disease is primarily transmitted through the bite of an infected animal; however, people may also be exposed from being scratched by a rabid animal or getting an animal's saliva in an open wound or mucous membrane (eyes, nose, or mouth). Raccoons, skunks, bats, foxes, dogs, and cats are most likely to get rabies. Rabbits, opossums, and squirrels are seldom affected. Although rare, white-tailed deer infected with rabies have been documented in Connecticut. Hunters and trappers can minimize their risk of exposure to rabies by following several common sense rules and knowing what to do if they or their pets are exposed (see page 46 of this guide or the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting).

Report Possibly Diseased Deer: The DEEP is encouraging anyone who observes deer appearing emaciated, behaving strangely, or lying dead along the edge of waterbodies to report the information, along with the closest address, to Andrew.labonte@ct.gov, the DEEP Wildlife Division at 860-418-5921, or the DEEP's 24-hour Emergency Dispatch Center at 860-424-3333. The Wildlife Division expects to continue collecting deer heads to test for CWD and blood samples for EHD (from towns along the Connecticut River) during the fall hunting seasons. Those interested in donating deer heads or blood samples from harvested deer should contact Andrew LaBonte (Andrew.labonte@ct.gov) at 860-418-5921.

NEW TICK CONCERNS

If apprehension about blacklegged (deer) ticks and their associated diseases (e.g., Lyme, babesiosis, ehrlichiosis) is not already high enough, additional tick-related concerns are on the horizon. The first confirmed, established breeding population of the lone star tick was documented in South Norwalk, Connecticut, in 2017. This southeastern species has been slowly expanding its range north, and the population in our state has been increasing, possibly due to milder winters over the past few years. Adult lone star ticks are brown with eight legs and similar in size to the American dog tick. Adult females have a silvery-white spot near the center of the back, while males have varied white streaks or spots around the top edge of the body. The lone star tick is very aggressive and non-specific when seeking hosts and will feed on a variety of birds, most frequently wild turkeys, small mammals (e.g., squirrels), larger mammals (e.g., coyote, white-tailed deer), and humans during various stages of its life cycle. Adult activity runs from April through August, peaking in June. Nymphs may be active from March to October, but peak activity is April through early July. Larvae are active mainly in August and September. The lone star tick is associated with a number of human and animal diseases, such as ehrlichiosis, southern tick-associated rash illness (STARI), spotted fever rickettsiosis, tularemia, theileriosis in deer (related to human babesiosis), and, more recently, red meat allergy. Bites from lone star ticks may produce or generate a hypersensitivity allergic response that causes a food allergy to a red meat protein called alpha-gal that is found in most mammals.

In 2018, the first case of a person being bitten by an exotic Asian long-horned tick was documented in Fairfield County. This invasive species was originally discovered in New Jersey in 2017 and has now been found in 8 other states (AR, CT, MD, NC, NY, PA, VA, and WV). It is a major pest on livestock and feeds on a wide variety of mammals, including humans.

However, it is currently not known if this tick will transmit pathogens, such as those that cause Lyme disease, babesiosis, anaplasmosis, and/or the Powassan virus. Continued research and monitoring will be conducted by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to fully understand the risk this tick species presents.



Photo credit: Jesse Nivolo, CT DEEP

Young male deer with lone star tick infestation in South Norwalk, CT.

Harvest Tags

DEER / TURKEY HARVEST TAGS

This page has **Harvest Tags** that deer and turkey hunters must use to identify their harvest. Photocopies or handwritten versions of these **Harvest Tags** may also be used. Handwritten versions of these tags must also be signed and include your Conservation ID#, your name, date of kill, time of kill, town of kill and the permit type used. Additional copies of these **Harvest Tags** are available on the DEEP's website, www.ct.gov/deep/hunting.

Immediately upon harvesting a deer or turkey, complete and sign a **Harvest Tag** and keep it with the carcass at all times. Harvested deer and turkey must be reported within 24 hours via the internet at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting or by calling 1-877-337-4868. After reporting your harvest, you will be given a report confirmation number to write on the tag. Keep the tag, completed with all information, with the carcass until it is cut up for consumption.

LEAD BULLET FRAGMENTS IN WILD GAME

There have been concerns about the potential risk of exposure to lead fragments in deer meat harvested with lead ammunition. These considerations have prompted the DEEP, in consultation with the Connecticut Department of Public Health, to provide additional guidance for hunters and consumers of venison. If you would like additional information concerning the health risks of exposure to lead, contact the Department of Public Health at <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH> or call 860-509-7740.

2020

Connecticut Department of
Energy & Environmental Protection
DEER/TURKEY HARVEST TAG

2020

Conservation ID#: _____

Name: _____

Date of Kill: ____ / ____ / ____ Time: _____

Town of Kill: _____

PERMIT / SEASON (check the appropriate boxes)

Antlerless Tags cannot be used in Zones 2 and 4a during the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle and Muzzleloader seasons.

DEER ☐ Antlerless ☐ Either Sex
☐ Private – Shotgun/Rifle/Revolver ☐ State – Lottery
☐ Private – Muzzleloader ☐ State – No Lottery
☐ Archery (Bow) ☐ State – Muzzleloader
☐ Landowner

SPRING TURKEY – Bearded birds only

☐ Private Land ☐ State Land ☐ Landowner

FALL TURKEY

☐ Private – Firearms ☐ Landowner – Firearms
☐ State – Firearms ☐ Landowner – Archery (Bow)
☐ Archery (Bow)

Signature: _____

- Harvested deer and turkeys must be reported within 24 hours via the internet at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting or by calling 1-877-337-4868. After reporting, you must write your report Confirmation Number below.

Confirmation #: _____

2020

Connecticut Department of
Energy & Environmental Protection
DEER/TURKEY HARVEST TAG

2020

Conservation ID#: _____

Name: _____

Date of Kill: ____ / ____ / ____ Time: _____

Town of Kill: _____

PERMIT / SEASON (check the appropriate boxes)

Antlerless Tags cannot be used in Zones 2 and 4a during the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle and Muzzleloader seasons.

DEER ☐ Antlerless ☐ Either Sex
☐ Private – Shotgun/Rifle/Revolver ☐ State – Lottery
☐ Private – Muzzleloader ☐ State – No Lottery
☐ Archery (Bow) ☐ State – Muzzleloader
☐ Landowner

SPRING TURKEY – Bearded birds only

☐ Private Land ☐ State Land ☐ Landowner

FALL TURKEY

☐ Private – Firearms ☐ Landowner – Firearms
☐ State – Firearms ☐ Landowner – Archery (Bow)
☐ Archery (Bow)

Signature: _____

- Harvested deer and turkeys must be reported within 24 hours via the internet at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting or by calling 1-877-337-4868. After reporting, you must write your report Confirmation Number below.

Confirmation #: _____

2020

Connecticut Department of
Energy & Environmental Protection
DEER/TURKEY HARVEST TAG

2020

Conservation ID#: _____

Name: _____

Date of Kill: ____ / ____ / ____ Time: _____

Town of Kill: _____

PERMIT / SEASON (check the appropriate boxes)

Antlerless Tags cannot be used in Zones 2 and 4a during the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle and Muzzleloader seasons.

DEER ☐ Antlerless ☐ Either Sex
☐ Private – Shotgun/Rifle/Revolver ☐ State – Lottery
☐ Private – Muzzleloader ☐ State – No Lottery
☐ Archery (Bow) ☐ State – Muzzleloader
☐ Landowner

SPRING TURKEY – Bearded birds only

☐ Private Land ☐ State Land ☐ Landowner

FALL TURKEY

☐ Private – Firearms ☐ Landowner – Firearms
☐ State – Firearms ☐ Landowner – Archery (Bow)
☐ Archery (Bow)

Signature: _____

- Harvested deer and turkeys must be reported within 24 hours via the internet at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting or by calling 1-877-337-4868. After reporting, you must write your report Confirmation Number below.

Confirmation #: _____

Private Land Consent Form

HUNTING ON PRIVATE LAND CONSENT FORM

- All hunters are required to have landowner permission when hunting on private land.
- Private land deer and turkey hunters must carry the form below, signed and dated for the current season. This is required of both archery and firearms hunters.
- You may have a landowner sign a dated consent form before you purchase your license, permits, and stamps, but you must purchase all required license, permits, and stamps, before you hunt.
- Landowners who allow, without fee, the recreational use of their property are protected from liability by Connecticut law (C.G.S. 52-557g).

- Properties must be at least 10 acres in size for rifle or revolver use to be authorized.
- Landowners must designate calendar year, seasons, and choice of hunting implements.
- Where baiting of deer is permitted, it is strongly recommended that individuals consult with landowners prior to placing bait.

Photocopies of these forms may be used, but to be valid, must have original signatures and dates.

CONSENT TO HUNT DEER OR TURKEY ON PRIVATE LAND DURING THE _____ CALENDAR YEAR			
Name of the landowner listed on deed	Last	First	M.I.
Location of Property	Street	Town	No. of Acres
Hunter's Information (please print)	Name	First	M.I.
	Address		
	Town	State	Zip Code
	Conservation ID#		
I know and understand the boundaries of the above listed properties, and that this form is valid only during the calendar year for which it was signed by the landowner. I also understand that any person making a written false statement on this form shall be subject to arrest as provided for in Section 53A-157 of 1975 Rev. of C.G.S.		I hereby grant the person named above permission to hunt on my property during the calendar year indicated. I have also indicated the seasons and hunting implements that may be used.	
Signature of Permittee		Date	Signature of Landowner
			Date

CONSENT TO HUNT DEER OR TURKEY ON PRIVATE LAND DURING THE _____ CALENDAR YEAR			
Names of the landowner listed on deed	Last	First	M.I.
Location of Property	Street	Town	No. of Acres
Hunter's Information (please print)	Name	First	M.I.
	Address		
	Town	State	Zip Code
	Conservation ID#		
I know and understand the boundaries of the above listed properties, and that this form is valid only during the calendar year for which it was signed by the landowner. I also understand that any person making a written false statement on this form shall be subject to arrest as provided for in Section 53A-157 of 1975 Rev. of C.G.S.		I hereby grant the person named above permission to hunt on my property during the calendar year indicated. I have also indicated the seasons and hunting implements that may be used.	
Signature of Permittee		Date	Signature of Landowner
			Date



State of Connecticut
DEEP—Wildlife Division

Cross off hunting that is NOT authorized:

- (1) Deer Hunting
- (2) Spring Turkey Hunting
- (3) Fall Turkey Hunting
- (4) Sunday Archery Deer Hunting

Cross off hunting implements NOT authorized:

- (1) Bow and Arrow/Crossbow
- (2) Shotgun
- (3) Muzzleloader (*Deer Only*)
- (4) Centerfire Rifle (*Deer Only*)
- (5) Revolver (*Deer Only*)



State of Connecticut
DEEP—Wildlife Division

Cross off hunting that is NOT authorized:

- (1) Deer Hunting
- (2) Spring Turkey Hunting
- (3) Fall Turkey Hunting
- (4) Sunday Archery Deer Hunting

Cross off hunting implements NOT authorized:

- (1) Bow and Arrow/Crossbow
- (2) Shotgun
- (3) Muzzleloader (*Deer Only*)
- (4) Centerfire Rifle (*Deer Only*)
- (5) Revolver (*Deer Only*)

Public Hunting Areas

PERMIT-REQUIRED HUNTING AREAS

Access to Permit-Required Hunting Areas is regulated by agreement with private landowners, towns, state agencies, water companies, universities, non-profits, and cooperating sportsmen's clubs. Most Permit-Required Hunting Areas are open to the public from the third Saturday in October through the last day of February for small game and waterfowl hunting by special permit and are subject to certain restrictions. Hunting during any other period requires landowner permission unless specifically noted in this guide as open. Access to some DEEP-owned lands is also regulated through a permit system. Maps describing each Permit-Required Area are available on the DEEP website (www.ct.gov/deep/HuntingAreaMaps). Permit-Required Hunting Areas are posted with yellow plastic signs designating the properties under agreement. A listing of Permit-Required Hunting Areas appears on pages 40–43. Note: Some areas are only accessible with a permit issued directly from the entity that owns or manages the property. See the Permit-Required sections on pages 41 and 43 of this guide.

Daily Permits and Mandatory Survey: Permittees are required to submit a hunter survey when using these areas. Hunter surveys are attached to the permit or are available online.

Issuance of Daily Permits:

- Permits are issued free-of-charge to any persons holding valid hunting licenses and who are not eligible for "season" permits.
- Each permit is valid for one licensed sportsman (unless it is a goose field or waterfowl blind permit, or weekend pheasant permit) for a specified time frame and location.
- Daily permits are first-come, first-serve. Once the quota is met, no more permits can be made available for that day.
- Junior hunters may hunt on Permit-Required Areas when accompanied by a licensed person at least 18 years of age. Junior hunters need their own permit unless they are hunting pheasants with an AM/PM Saturday permit holder.
- Permits will be issued 3 to 5 days in advance.

Online Issuance of Permits: Daily permits for most Permit-Required Hunting Areas can be obtained for free online. These permits are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Only one online permit can be obtained per selected hunting date. The listing of Permit-Required Areas on the next page indicates which areas have online permitting.

Firearms Restrictions: Rifles of any caliber or shotgun ammunition larger or heavier than #2 shot and hunting with any pistol or revolver of any caliber are prohibited on Permit-Required Hunting Areas, except by landowners, lineal descendants, and regular employees. Waterfowlers hunting from a boat, blind, or stationary position may use up to and including BB size steel shot.

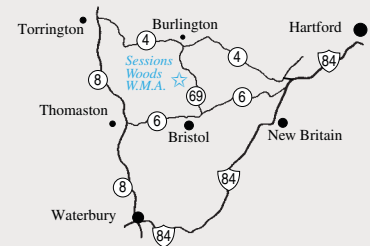
VISIT SESSIONS WOODS

341 Milford Street (Route 69), Burlington, CT
For more information, call 860-424-3011

Learn About Connecticut's Wildlife

- Exhibit Area
- Self-guided hiking trails
- Demonstrations of wildlife management techniques
- Beaver marsh, observation tower, waterfall

Sportsmen helped pay for the DEEP Wildlife Division's acquisition of the Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area through Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act funds. The exhibits, trails, and educational programs at Sessions Woods show citizens how to have a positive impact on Connecticut's wildlife and other natural resources.



Firewood Regulations in Effect! Stop the Spread of Invasive Pests

For more information about the regulations, go to
www.ct.gov/deep/forestry





PERMIT-REQUIRED AREA DAILY PERMITS - STATE-OWNED, STATE-LEASED, AND STATE-MANAGED LANDS

Daily permits for most Permit-Required Hunting Areas can be obtained for free online. These permits are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Only one online permit can be obtained per selected hunting date. To see which areas have online permitting, consult the Permit Vendor List or Public Hunting Area Maps. To get an online permit for most areas, you must log into your hunter profile on the Online Sportsmen Licensing System at www.ct.gov/deep/Sportsmenlicensing. Once there, you will need to select the OTHER or the BIRDS AND WATERFOWL tab at the top of the page. You should then see a list that includes DAILY PERMITS. If you select ADD, you will see 4 days worth of permits, along with a list of areas where permits are still available. You can add one permit per day to your cart. You must CHECK OUT to add the daily permit to your license. There is no fee, but you will need to reprint your license and carry it with you to verify that you have a permit for the correct location and date.

Refer to tables on pages 40–43 to see what types of hunting are permitted.

WESTERN CONNECTICUT

- **Bristol Fish and Game Association (1,663 acres)**
Open from the third Sat. in October until the Sat. after Thanksgiving.
— Online Permitting Only
- **Centennial Watershed State Forest, Garder Rd., Monroe Block (93 acres)**
Small Game and Waterfowl Only
— Online Permitting Only
- **Meriden Rod and Gun Club (1,364 acres)**
— Fishing Factory II
1426 Meriden-Waterbury Road (Rte. 322)
Southington, CT: 860-621-8145
— Online Permitting Available
- **NU-Skiff Mountain Cooperative WMA (710 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Pequonnock Valley (176 acres)**
Hunting on Mon., Wed., Fri. and Sat. only from Oct. 17 through the third Saturday in December.
— Online Permitting Only
- **Quinnipiac River State Park (340 acres)**
Daily permits not required before third Saturday in October or after first Saturday in December.
— Online Permitting Only
- **Sessions Woods WMA (771 acres)**
Waterfowl blind permittees may bring 1 guest.
— Online Permitting Only
— Hunters with a waterfowl hunting permit must hang a sign when using the blind at the marsh. Pick up the sign at the Sessions Woods main office (Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM-4:00 PM) no more than 3 days in advance of a scheduled hunting date.
- **Seymour Fish and Game Club (94 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Stanley Works Cooperative WMA (1,100 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Suffield Sportsmen's Association (1,164 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Trout Brook Valley (327 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only.
— Call 860-424-3011 for game combo.
- **Wallingford Town Owned Area (840 acres)**
Hunting on Mon., Wed. and Sat. only from Oct. 17, 2020 through Feb. 28, 2021, and Thanksgiving Day.
— Online Permitting Only

EASTERN CONNECTICUT

- **Bolton Area (238 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **East Windsor-Enfield Area (1,530 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Hebron Area (454 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Higginum-Haddam Rod and Gun (33 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Lebanon Coop. Mgmt. Area (214 acres) Goose Field Permits**
Goose field permittees may bring up to 2 guests
— Online Permitting Only
- **Lebanon Coop. Mgmt. Area Marsh Permits**
(Small game and waterfowl)
— Online Permitting Only
- **Norwich Fish and Game (700 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **NU-Maromas Coop. Area (1,400 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Sprague Town Land PR Area (620 acres)**
Game bird and migratory bird hunting only.
Steel shot must be used for all species
— Online Permitting Only
- **Woodstock Landowners (200 acres)**
— Online Permitting Only
- **Yale Forest (7,700 acres)**
Open for small game, waterfowl, and turkey hunting with a season permit. This area is not open for Junior Hunter Training Days.
— JT's Fly Shop
664 Buckley Hwy.
Union, CT: 860-684-1575

SATURDAY PHEASANT HUNTING PERMITS

Saturday AM/PM permits are required Oct. 17 – Nov. 14, 2020 at Cromwell Meadows WMA, Durham Meadows WMA, Simsbury WMA, Nathan Hale SF, Naugatuck SF - Hunter's Mnt. Block, and Skiff Mountain Coop WMA. Specific details about these permits are at www.ct.gov/deep/pheasanthunting. Obtain permits at www.ct.gov/deep/Sportsmenlicensing.

MOSQUITO ADVISORY

2019 was an active year in Connecticut for detecting mosquitoes infected with eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) – 4 human cases of EEE infection were reported, resulting in 3 fatalities. Before venturing out during the fall hunting seasons (late summer and early fall are the peak times for EEE presence), visit the Connecticut Mosquito Management Program website at <https://portal.ct.gov/mosquito> to obtain weekly surveillance updates of mosquito and virus activity and information on precautionary and control methods against mosquitoes.

HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY

This program allows hunters to donate their game to charitable food organizations. The meat must be processed and refrigerated. Whole deer may also be donated through participating processors. For information on where you can donate, call one of the following Hunters for the Hungry contacts:

Bob Jean
860-608-8555
Oakdale

Scott Ragoni
732-310-1665
Greenwich

TREE STAND SAFETY RULES

A hunter who improperly uses a tree stand for hunting may suffer a serious injury or death. Follow these tree stand safety rules:

- Always use a full-body safety harness or fall-restraint system.
- Only use equipment that is in good condition.
- Avoid hunting from heights greater than 15 feet.
- Maintain a short tether between you and the tree.
- Always use a haul line to raise and lower your hunting equipment.

HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



Connecticut laws provide special provisions for hunters with disabilities as do many programs administered by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Questions concerning special permits should be directed to the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011.

CGS Sec. 26-29b: provides a free hunting license (permits and stamps not included) to individuals who have permanently lost the use of a limb. Non-residents are eligible for this free license if their state provides the same privilege to Connecticut residents. Verification of the disability, signed by a licensed physician must be presented.

CGS Sec. 26-74: allows a person to obtain a special permit to hunt legally from an all-terrain vehicle so long as they do not possess or shoot a loaded hunting implement while the vehicle is in motion. Note: 4-wheel drive trucks, vans, SUVs, etc. are not considered all-terrain vehicles. Eligible persons must be paraplegic or suffer from the loss of or the loss of the use of both lower extremities.

State Land Access for Disabled Hunters: Disabled hunters wanting to access state land with all-terrain vehicles or who have questions about free hunting licenses or shooting from an ATV should contact the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3639 for more information.

DOG TRAINING & FIELD TRIAL AREAS

Hunting is permitted on these areas when field trial events are not scheduled. **During field trials these areas are closed to all other uses.** Check the DEEP website, www.ct.gov/deep/hunting, for a listing of scheduled events. See tables on pages 40–43 for types of hunting allowed and locations of areas.

Dog Training Areas

The following areas have been established as Dog Training Areas where hunting dogs may be trained with the use of live birds. Game birds

may not be shot on these areas except during the open hunting season.

Only artificially propagated game birds (pheasants, chukar partridge, quail, ducks) and pigeons of either sex may be liberated. All birds liberated shall be full winged and capable of maintaining normal flight and shall be in a condition suitable to maintain themselves in the wild. No birds or animals are to be shot except during the open season; use of blank cartridges will be permitted.

- Nod Brook Wildlife Management Area
- Flaherty Field Trial Area
- Pease Brook Wildlife Management Area

Field Trial Areas

The following areas have been established as state-regulated Field Trial Areas. Field trial clubs sanctioned by AKC, NAVHDA, or CAS-DFTA may obtain permits to use these areas for field trials.

- Nod Brook Wildlife Management Area
- Flaherty Field Trial Area
- Mansfield Field Trial Area (State-leased)
- Sugarbrook Field Trial Area

Dates for state land and state-leased areas are scheduled in December of the preceding year. Any group wishing to use one of the above listed areas should contact Laurie Fortin at 860-424-3963 or laurie.fortin@ct.gov in the month of December.

PLEASE REPORT SIGHTINGS OF THIS BEETLE

The non-native Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) has been attacking trees in the United States. Tunneling by beetle larvae girdles tree stems and branches. Repeated attacks lead to dieback of the tree crown and, eventually, death of the tree. The ALB probably travelled to the United States inside solid wood packing material from China.

The ALB has one generation per year. Adult beetles are usually present from July to October, but can be found later in the fall if temperatures are warm. Adults usually stay on the trees from which they emerged or they may disperse short distances to a new host to feed and reproduce.

Adult beetles are $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, with a shiny jet black body and mottled white spots on the back. The long antennae are $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the body length with distinctive black and white bands on each segment. The feet have a bluish tinge.

For more information regarding the ALB, visit the DEEP Forestry Division's webpages at www.ct.gov/deep/forestry.

To report any suspected findings, contact:

Deputy State Entomologist Dr. Victoria Smith
203-974-8474 or

CT State Entomologist Dr. Kirby Stafford
203-974-8485.





THANK A LANDOWNER!

Private landowners create recreational opportunities by granting outdoor users access to their property. This access is a privilege, so please remember to take time every year to extend your appreciation to private landowners who offered you access for fishing, hunting, hiking, or wildlife watching opportunities on their properties. If you have been recreating on local land trust or other private non-profit conservation lands, be sure to include those groups on your thank you list as well. Following are some suggestions for hunters, anglers, and other outdoor users when thanking private property owners who allow access for outdoor recreation:

- Express your appreciation thoughtfully and personally. If you are mentoring a new or junior hunter, angler, birder, or naturalist, include him or her in the process of thanking the landowner.
- Consider providing the landowner with some of your fish or game harvest, or share images or a list of the wildlife you saw on their property.
- Send a personal note or card thanking the landowner for the opportunity to use his or her land. Consider giving a small gift, such as a gift certificate, gift basket, or a subscription to *Connecticut Wildlife* magazine. In the case of a non-profit landowner, make a donation to their organization.
- Offer to help with tasks around the property, or identify, clean up, and properly dispose of any illegal dumping that has occurred.

Document and report suspicious or illegal activities on the property to the DEEP Environmental Conservation Police at 1-800-842-HELP (24 hours, toll-free) or deep.EnConPolice@ct.gov.

THE HUNTER'S PLEDGE

Hunting provides unique challenges and rewards. However, the future of this great tradition depends on each hunter being responsible and ethical.

Therefore, as a hunter, I pledge to:

- Show respect for the laws.
- Show respect for other hunters.
- Show respect toward landowners and always obtain permission to hunt on private land.
- Show respect for non-hunters.
- Show respect for the land and wildlife resources.
- Familiarize myself with the areas where I plan to hunt and know the activities that occur there.
- Wear at least 400 square inches of fluorescent orange when required for hunting.
- Dress appropriately and be prepared for any sudden weather changes.
- Call out "Hunter here!" loudly to make my location known if I see another hunter.
- Take responsibility for my actions while hunting.

SAVE ON YOUR TAXES!

Use your state income tax refund to help save Connecticut's wildlife and plants. Their future is on the line – the "Endangered Species/Wildlife" Fund line on your tax return. Just check the box to make a donation and show your support. Your gift is deductible from next year's federal income tax.



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION



FLY RIGHT CHARTERS



The Lowcountry Awaits

PROFESSIONAL FISHING GUIDE
FLY AND CONVENTIONAL

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www.flyrightcharters.com

Make Hunting & Fishing Dreams Come True!

Hunt of a Lifetime is a nonprofit organization that grants hunting and fishing dreams to children, age 21 and under, who have been diagnosed with life threatening illnesses.



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Public Hunting Areas

The following areas are open to public hunting. The key to the left specifies what type of hunting is permitted. Special stamps and permits are needed when hunting some species. Consult season descriptions for the species you are hunting. Consult page 12 for firearms restrictions. Some portions of these properties may be closed to hunting. Obey all postings. Maps for many of these areas are available on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/HuntingAreaMaps. It is recommended that you check the Public Hunting Area Map on the DEEP website for the most current hunting area information as changes or updates may occur after this guide is printed.

Access: Public hunting areas marked by an asterisk (*) have notes at the end of this section. Important notes are highlighted in red.

Western Connecticut - Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, & New Haven Counties									
●	●	●	▲	●	●	62			
➤	➤	➤	▲/● or ➤/●	●	●		AB		
AB	AB	AB	●	●	●		AB		
B	B	B	●	●	●		B		
F	F	F	●	●	●		F		
(▲ and ➤ areas are open for archery hunting during the shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons) # The regulation concerning the A and B deer seasons may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.									
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, STATE FORESTS, AND STATE PARKS							CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES
●	●	●	▲	●	●	62		Aldo Leopold WMA	553
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Algonquin State Forest	1,198
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	American Legion State Forest	1,185
			▲					Barber Pond WMA	70
	●		▲					Bennett's Pond State Park	460
●	●		▲/●	●	●	27A	B	Camp Columbia State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	600
●	●		▲	●				Cedar Swamp WMA	268
						56		Centennial Watershed State Forest	3,479
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Centennial Watershed State Forest (Canaan Block)	164
			▲					Centennial Watershed State Forest - Monroe Parcel (Hattertown Rd.)	35
			▲					Centennial Watershed State Forest (formerly Bpt. Hydr.) - Shelton Parcel	102
	●							Charles E. Wheeler WMA	625
			▲					Collis P. Huntington State Park	1,031
●	●							East River Marsh WMA	249
●	●		▲	●				East Swamp WMA	76
●	●		▲					East Twin Lakes Water Access Area	99
●	●		▲	●				Enders State Forest (Worthen Parcel ONLY)	352
			▲					George C. Waldo State Park	149
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Goshen WMA	965
	●							Great Harbor WMA	176
●	●	●	▲	●				Housatonic River WMA	490
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Housatonic State Forest	11,284
●	●		▲	●				John A. Minetto State Park	576
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Mattatuck State Forest	4,491
➤			▲	➤				Mohawk State Forest - Clark Pond Tract - ARCHERY ONLY	120
●	●		●	●	●	63		Mohawk State Forest - Ziegler/Johnson Tract	302
			▲					Mount Riga State Park	301
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Nassahegon State Forest	1,140
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Naugatuck State Forest	4,175
●	●		▲	●				Naugatuck State Forest (Great Hill Block)	238
●			▲/●	●	●	28		Naugatuck State Forest*(Quillinan Reservoir Block) (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas)	581
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Nepaug State Forest	1,364
●	●		▲	●				Newgate WMA	425
●	●							Nod Brook WMA Closed during field trials -Dog Training Area	125
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Paugnut State Forest	1,701
●	●		▲/●	●	●		AB	Paugussett State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	2,102
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Peoples State Forest	3,108
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Pootatuck State Forest	1,032
	●							Quinnipiac River Marsh WMA	655
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Robbins Swamp WMA	1,638
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Roraback WMA	1,972
●	●	●	▲	●				Simsbury WMA	373
●	●	●	▲	●				Suffield WMA	212
●	●		▲	●				Sunnybrook State Park (west of Newfield Rd.)	447
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Topsmead State Forest (north and west of Rte. 118)	193
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Tunxis State Forest	10,242
●	●		▲	F				Wooster Mountain State Park (Fall firearms turkey hunting only)	444
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Wyantenock State Forest	4,118



Small Game	Waterfowl	Pheasants	Fall Archery Deer/Turkey	Spring and Fall Firearms Turkey	Muzzleloader Deer	Deer Lottery Area #	No-Lottery Shotgun Deer #	Western Connecticut - Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, & New Haven Counties			
●	➤	AB	B	F	●	▲	➤	●	▲	●	●
								Hunting Permitted			
								Archery ONLY			
								No-Lottery A and B Seasons			
								No-Lottery B Season Only			
								Fall Firearms Turkey Hunting ONLY			
								Designated Fall Deer/Turkey Bowhunting Only Area			
								Some Sections Open to Archery ONLY (see map)			
								Special Conditions Apply			
								Daily/Season Permit Required (see page 36)			
								The regulation concerning the A and B deer seasons may change			
								Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.			
								(▲ and ➤ areas are open for archery hunting during the shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons)			
STATE-LEASED, FLOOD CONTROL, AND OTHER PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
●	●		▲	*				204	Thomaston, Watertown	400	
●	●		▲	●				205	Bloomfield	285	
						52		329	Bristol	4,319	
●	●		▲	F				210	East Granby	207	
➤/●			▲	➤/●				318	Ridgefield	383	
*	●		●	●			AB	214	Plymouth	593	
●	●	●	▲	●				218	Winchester	463	
						64A		343	Barkhamsted, Hartland	4,282	
						67A		346	Barkhamsted, Hartland	3,700	
●	●		●	●	●		AB	220	Colebrook, Hartland, etc.	4,516	
●	●	●	▲					221	New Hartford	198	
						58B		330	New Hartford	1,488	
						66		345	Canton	500	
			▲					227	Thomaston	201	
	○							262	Enfield, Suffield	174	
●	●		▲	●				235	Winchester	152	
*	*	●	▲	F				238	Thomaston, Harwinton, etc.	850	
●	●		▲	●				241	North Canaan	183	
●	●		▲	●				242	Norfolk	107	
PERMIT-REQUIRED AREAS (DAILY PERMIT REQUIRED TO HUNT ○ SEASONS)								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
○	○							206	Bloomfield	365	
○	○	○						4	Harwinton, Plymouth	1,397	
			○					310	Easton, Weston, etc.	4,333	
○	○							311	Monroe	93	
○	○	○						6	East Windsor, Enfield	1,176	
○	○	○						14	Meriden, Cheshire	1,364	
○	○	○	●	●	●	54A	B	228	Sharon	732	
○	○							323	Trumbull	162	
○	○		▲	●				326	North Haven	323	
○	○		▲	➤				268	East Windsor, etc.	589	
	○		○	○				233	Burlington	771	
○	○	○						19	Oxford	91	
			○						See below	4,327	
○	○							27	Kent, Cornwall	1,464	
	○								Stratford	173	
○	○	○						22	Suffield, East Granby	659	
○	○		○	○	○	26		327	Easton	300	
○	○	○						24	Wallingford	823	

Black Rock Lake: Portions of area open to hunting through cooperation of the Army Corps of Engineers. Firearms hunting limited to shotgun ammunition only. Firearms hunting prohibited between March 30 and the third Saturday in October. Target or trap shooting prohibited.

Bloomfield Flood Control Area Site 2: Site 2 is leased to the town of Bloomfield and a special permit from the town clerk is required to hunt small game under special restrictions. Only open from the third Saturday in October until the end of February. Site 3 is no longer open to hunting.

Centennial Watershed State Forest: Easton, Weston, Monroe, Newtown, Trumbull. Portions open to deer bowhunting by special access permits only. Access permits available from the Aquarion Water Company's Aspetuck Environmental Center, 714 Black Rock Road (Rte. 58), Easton. Consult the DEEP's website (www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) for updated information.

Hancock Brook Lake: Open to hunting through cooperation of the Army Corps of Engineers. Firearms hunting limited to shotgun ammunition only. Target or trap shooting prohibited.

Naugatuck State Forest – Quillinan Reservoir Block: No access or parking from Deerfield Lane or Ansonia Nature Center property. Area west of Clinton Road has been designated as a Deer Bowhunting Only area. Closed to waterfowl hunting.

NU-Kings Island Coop WMA: Special restrictions apply. Waterfowl hunting only. Area may be closed before the end of the waterfowl season. Access at Parsons Road boat launch.

Scantic River State Park: Three parcels open to bowhunting for deer or turkey. Two of the three parcels open for small game, waterfowl, and spring turkey bowhunting (see area map). From the third Saturday in October through the first Saturday in December, a daily permit for the East Windsor/Enfield Permit-Required Area is required to hunt small game and waterfowl.

South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority: Bowhunting for deer only is allowed each year on 3,233 acres in North Branford, 154 acres in Seymour and Ansonia, 420 acres in Prospect, and 520 acres in Bethany. Details on how to apply are at <https://www.nwater.com/conservation-stewardship/deer-and-water-quality>.




Stewart B. McKinney NWR: Permits are available by calling the Visitor Services Manager at 860-399-2513.

Thomaston Dam: Open to hunting through cooperation of the Army Corps of Engineers. Firearms hunting limited to shotgun ammunition only. Firearms hunting prohibited between March 30 and the third Saturday in October. Target or trap shooting prohibited.

Public Hunting Areas

The following areas are open to public hunting. The key to the left specifies what type of hunting is permitted. Special stamps and permits are needed when hunting some species. Consult season descriptions for the species you are hunting. Consult page 12 for firearms restrictions. Some portions of these properties may be closed to hunting. Obey all postings. Maps for many of these areas are available on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/HuntingAreaMaps. It is recommended that you check the Public Hunting Area Map on the DEEP website for the most current hunting area information as changes or updates may occur after this guide is printed.

Access: Public hunting areas marked by an asterisk (*) have notes at the end of this section. Important notes are highlighted in red.

Small Game	Waterfowl	Pheasants	Fall Archery Deer/Turkey	Spring and Fall Firearms Turkey	Muzzleloader Deer	Deer Lottery Area #	No-Lottery Shotgun Deer #	Eastern Connecticut - Middlesex, New London, Tolland, & Windham Counties						
								● Hunting Permitted	▲ Designated Fall Deer/Turkey Bowhunting Only Area					
								➤ Archery ONLY	▲/● or ➤/● Some Sections Open to Archery ONLY (see map)					
								AB No-Lottery A and B Seasons	* Special Conditions Apply					
								B No-Lottery B Season Only	○ Daily/Season Permit Required (see page 36)					
								S Spring Turkey Hunting ONLY	# The regulation concerning the A and B deer seasons may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.					
								(▲ and ➤ areas are open for archery hunting during the shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons)						
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, STATE FORESTS, AND STATE PARKS									CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES			
●			●	●			AB	Assekoni Swamp WMA	272	North Stonington	699			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Babcock Pond WMA - Waterfowl Hunting Blind 	244	East Haddam, Colchester	1,513			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Barn Island WMA	273	Stonington	1,039			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Bartlett Brook WMA	274	Lebanon	687			
●	●	●	▲	●				Bear Hill WMA 	275	Bozrah	365			
			▲	S				Beaver Brook State Park (Spring turkey hunting only)	276	Windham	304			
			▲					Bigelow Hollow State Park	277	Union, etc.	513			
●	●		▲	●				Bishops Swamp WMA	245	Andover	709			
	●		▲					Black Pond WMA	337	Middlefield	68			
●			●	●	●		AB	Candlewood Hill WMA	347	Groton	199			
●	●	●	▲/●	●	●		AB	Cockaponset State Forest (Incl. Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	246	Haddam, etc.	16,456			
●	●	●	▲	●				Cromwell Meadows WMA	247	Cromwell, Middletown	548			
●	●	●	▲	●				Durham Meadows WMA	248	Durham	515			
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Eightmile River WMA	249	East Haddam, Lyme	311			
●	●	●						Flaherty Field Trial Area Closed during field trials -Dog Training Area	212	East Windsor	506			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Franklin Swamp WMA	278	North Franklin	728			
●	●	●	▲	●				Higganum Meadows WMA	251	Haddam	256			
			▲					Higganum Reservoir	252	Haddam	131			
●	●		▲	●				Killingly Pond State Park	281	Killingly	174			
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Kollar WMA 	253	Tolland	896			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Larson Lot WMA	254	Colchester	206			
●	●		▲	●				Little River Fish and Wildlife Area	283	Hampton	49			
	●							Lord's Cove WMA	284	Lyme	265			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Meadow Brook WMA	339	Colchester	269			
➤			▲	➤				Menunketesuck WMA Archery Only (Formerly Chapman's Pond WMA)	338	Clinton, Westbrook	164			
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Meshomasic State Forest	257	Portland, etc.	9,384			
●	●		▲	●				Messerschmidt Pond WMA	258	Deep River, Westbrook	439			
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Millers Pond	259	Durham, Haddam	265			
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Mohegan State Forest	285	Scotland, etc.	937			
➤			➤					Mono Pond	260	Columbia	290			
●	●		▲/●	●	●		AB	Natchaug State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	286	Eastford, etc.	12,596			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Nathan Hale State Forest Mgmt. Area	261	Andover, Coventry	1,560			
●	●		▲/●	●	●		AB	Nehantic State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	287	East Lyme, etc.	4,348			
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Nipmuck State Forest	288	Union, etc.	9,546			
	●		▲	●				Nott Island WMA	289	Lyme	80			
●	●		▲/●	●	●		AB	Nye Holman State Forest* (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only Area)	264	Tolland, etc.	792			
●	●	●	▲/●	●	●		AB	Pachaug State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas -see map)	290	Voluntown, etc.	26,490			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Pease Brook WMA - Dog Training Area	291	Lebanon	213			
	●							Plum Bank WMA		Old Saybrook	168			
			▲					Pomeroy State Park	292	Lebanon	203			
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Quaddick State Forest	293	Thompson	574			
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Quinebaug River WMA	294	Canterbury, Plainfield	1,410			
	●		▲					Quinebaug River WMA (Aspinook Pond)	295	Canterbury	20			
	●							Ragged Rock Creek WMA	265	Old Saybrook	204			
	●							Raymond Brook Marsh WMA	266	Hebron	198			
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Red Cedar Lake (Camp Mooween)	296	Lebanon	593			
	●							Roger Tory Peterson Wildlife Area (formerly Great Island WMA)	279	Old Lyme	625			



Small Game	Waterfowl	Pheasants	Fall Archery Deer/Turkey	Spring and Fall Firearms Turkey	Muzzleloader Deer	Deer Lottery Area #	No-Lottery Shotgun Deer #	Eastern Connecticut - Middlesex, New London, Tolland, & Windham Counties			
								● Hunting Permitted	▲ Designated Fall Deer/Turkey Bowhunting Only Area		
								➤ Archery ONLY	▲/● or ➤/● Some Sections Open to Archery ONLY (see map)		
								AB No-Lottery A and B Seasons	* Special Conditions Apply		
								B No-Lottery B Season Only	○ Daily/Season Permit Required (see page 36)		
								S Spring Turkey Hunting ONLY	# The regulation concerning the A and B deer seasons may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the seasons start.		
								(▲ and ➤ areas are open for archery hunting during the shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons)			
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, STATE FORESTS, AND STATE PARKS								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Rose Hill WMA	297	Preston, Ledyard	792
●	●		▲	●				Ross Marsh WMA	298	Killingly, Sterling	285
			▲					Ross Pond State Park	299	Killingly	372
●	●		▲	●				Salmon River Cove and Haddam Neck WMA	267	East Haddam, Haddam	122
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Salmon River State Forest (including Holbrook Pond)	300	Colchester, etc.	6,980
	●		●		●			Selden Neck State Park (Selden Island)	301	Lyme	563
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Shenipsit State Forest	269	Stafford, etc.	7,170
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	James V. Spignesi WMA	302	Scotland	520
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Sugarbrook Field Trial Area <i>Closed During Field Trials</i>	303	Plainfield	192
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Talbot WMA	304	Scotland	504
●			●	●	●	60		Tankerhoosen WMA	334	Vernon	449
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Wangunk Meadows (off Rte. 17a)	270	Portland	643
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Wopowog WMA	271	East Hampton, Haddam	465
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Zemko Pond WMA	307	Salem	457
STATE-LEASED, FLOOD CONTROL, AND OTHER PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Ellithorpe Flood Control Area	250	Stafford	438
●	●	●	▲	●				Mansfield Hollow Lake (excluding State Park)	255	Mansfield, Chaplin, etc.	2,017
●	●	●	▲	●				Mansfield State-Leased Field Trial Area <i>Closed During Field Trials</i>	256	Mansfield	236
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Silvio O. Conte NWR - Salmon River Division (federal land)	333	Haddam	264
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	West Thompson Dam (federal land)	305	Thompson	1,272
PERMIT-REQUIRED AREAS (DAILY PERMIT REQUIRED TO HUNT ○ SEASONS)								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
○	○							Bolton Area <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	2	Bolton	238
			○					Harkness Memorial State Park* (Verkade Property) - <i>Park permit required</i>	280	Waterford	154
○	○							Hebron Area <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	11	Hebron	466
○	○							Higganum – Haddam Rod & Gun Club <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	9	Haddam	33
○	○		▲	●				Lebanon Coop Mgmt. Area*	282	Lebanon, Colchester	212
○	○	○						Norwich Fish & Game Assoc. (South) <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	17	Norwich	569
○	○		●	●	●	53A	B	NU – Maromas Coop WMA <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	263	Middletown	1,618
○	○							Sprague Town Land PR Area <i>Bird hunting and steel shot ONLY</i>	20	Sprague	620
○	○	○						Woodstock <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	25	Woodstock	200
○	○			○		51A		Yale Forest (owned by Yale University)* <i>Parking pass required</i>	306	Eastford, Union, Ashford	8,404

Harkness Memorial State Park: A portion of the park north of Rte. 213 (former Verkade property) is designated as a Deer Bowhunting Only area. Special access permits are required. Inquire at Park Manager's Office.

Lebanon Cooperative Management Area: Hunting only in area located south of Old Rte. 2 (Norwich Ave.). Area owned by the Dept. of Agriculture and leased for farming.

Nye Holman State Forest: Sections adjacent to field archery range in Tolland are closed to all firearms hunting and are designated Deer Bowhunting Only areas. Youth camping area is closed to all hunting.

Yale Forest Permit-Required Area: Area open from September 1 through February 28 for small game, waterfowl, and turkey hunting by seasonal access permit. Parking passes are also required. See vendor for details (Page 37). Night hunting and harvest of coyotes and foxes prohibited.



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www.ct.gov/deep/DiscoverOutdoorCT

Furbearer Trapping Seasons & Regulations

SPECIES	2020 DATES	SEASON LIMITS
River Otter*	Jan. 1 – March 15 & Nov. 8 – Dec. 31	8
Beaver*	Jan. 1 – March 31 & Dec. 1 – Dec. 31	No Limit
Mink*, Muskrat, Weasel, Coyote*, Gray Fox*, Red Fox*, Raccoon, Opossum, and Skunk	Jan. 1 – March 15 & Nov. 8 – Dec. 31	No Limits
Fisher (# Regulations concerning the season limit and carcass collection for fisher may change. Check www.ct.gov/deep/hunting before the season starts.)	Nov. 20 – Dec. 31	4*

* All beaver, fisher, river otter, red fox, gray fox, wild mink, and coyote pelts must be properly tagged before they are sold, exchanged, given away, otherwise disposed of, or retained for personal use. These pelts must be tagged by the last scheduled tagging date of the season. Fur dealers are prohibited from buying or selling untagged pelts of these species. **Foxes and coyotes taken by hunters, instead of being pelt tagged, may be reported by telephone (1-877-377-4868) or online at www.ct.gov/deep/Hunting.**

2020 PELT TAGGING SCHEDULE

- Natchaug Forest Hdqtrs. Mar. 22
Kingsbury Road, Eastford
- Southford Falls State Park Apr. 4
Rte. 188, Oxford
- Franklin WMA Apr. 5
Rte. 32, Franklin
- Sessions Woods WMA Apr. 5
Rte. 69, Burlington

Pelts will be tagged (at no cost) by DEEP representatives between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the locations and dates listed above. Pelts can be tagged at some DEEP field offices during weekdays by appointment. Call 860-424-3015 (Sessions Woods) or 860-418-5956 (Franklin) for weekday and other tagging options.

HELP NEEDED FOR BOBCAT RESEARCH PROJECT

Any Connecticut trapper who incidentally captures a bobcat with ear tags and/or a GPS collar should record the tag number before releasing the bobcat and then contact the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011 to report the bobcat. Trappers in the Farmington Valley who incidentally capture any bobcat during the **Fall 2020/Winter 2021 trapping seasons** should contact DEEP's 24-hour Dispatch Center at 860-424-3333 as soon as possible. DEEP biologists will arrange to meet trappers to immobilize, tag, and release the bobcat on site.

COYOTE LAND TRAPPING

From December 1 through January 31 there are special provisions for trapping coyotes on private land. Refer to PADDED METAL TRAP RESTRICTIONS section on page 46 for the requirements that must be met to trap coyotes on private land during this time period.

TAXIDERMISTS

Taxidermists can accept untagged animals or pelts, but are required to have them tagged by the next scheduled tagging date. Taxidermists must attach a paper tag to the animal or pelt listing the hunter or trapper's name, Conservation ID number, town of harvest, and date of harvest.

PELTS OF PROTECTED SPECIES

Any skin, pelt, or carcass of protected species, including Bobcat and Black Bear, may not be sold, purchased, or possessed unless:

1. It was legally acquired and,
2. In addition to any tag required by any other state or country, affixed with a separate tag bearing the following information: (a) Date acquired. (b) Name and address of the person from whom it was acquired. (c) Hunting or trapping license number under which it was harvested (if applicable). (d) State and/or country from which it was acquired.

CARCASS COLLECTIONS

Wildlife biologists are collecting carcasses of **fishers** to determine the age structure and productivity of the population. If you harvest fishers, you should turn the carcasses in at pelt tagging stations or call the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011 to arrange for a pick-up.

STATE LAND TRAPPING

Permits for trapping on selected state-owned land can be purchased for \$120.00 per unit. There are two units, one east and one west of the Connecticut River, which include many of the state forests and wildlife management areas. Information on applying for permits, requirements, and available properties is on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep/hunting or contact the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011.

LEGAL TRAPS AND METHODS

Furbearing animals for which there is an open trapping season may be taken by **Box Traps, Live Traps, Deadfalls, Padded and Unpadded Metal Traps, Smooth Wire Traps, and Species Specific Traps** subject to the following restrictions.

UNPADDED METAL TRAP RESTRICTIONS

1. May only be used below the surface of the water in a pond, lake, stream, spring hole, or tidal water.
2. Opening greater than 5 3/4" is prohibited, except that traps with an opening of up to 7 1/2" may be set for beaver in waters frequented by beaver.

PADDED METAL TRAP RESTRICTIONS

1. May only be used in the burrow of a wild animal or below the surface of the water in a pond, lake, stream, spring hole, or tidal water. Except that, any person who has completed a DEEP-approved coyote land trapping course (trapper must carry proof of course completion on their person) may use padded metal

traps on or below ground from December 1 through January 31 for the taking of coyotes on private land parcels of at least 10 contiguous acres where the landowner has given written permission explicitly for the use of such traps. When trapping coyotes in this manner, no visible bait may be used, pan tension must be two pounds or greater, and traps must be securely anchored to the ground.

2. Opening greater than 5 15/16" is prohibited, except that traps with an opening of up to 7 1/2" may be set for beaver in waters frequented by beaver.

SMOOTH WIRE TRAP RESTRICTIONS

1. May only be used below the surface of the water in a pond, lake, stream, spring hole, or tidal water. Except, smooth wire traps having an opening of 4 3/4" or less may extend above the surface of the water provided a portion of the trap frame remains in contact with the water.
2. Opening greater than 6 1/2" is prohibited, except that Conibears and similar smooth wire traps with an opening of up to 10" may be set for beaver in waters frequented by beaver.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED:

- The use of any type of snare.
- Traps placed, set, or tended within 10 feet of the waterline of a muskrat house or beaver house.
- Traps with serrations or teeth.

TRAPPERS ARE REQUIRED TO:

- Attach their name legibly to all traps.
- Obtain, and have in possession, the written permission of the landowner when trapping on their land. **Written permission must be renewed annually. (Permission slip on page 46.)**
- Tend all traps within a 24-hour period.

TRAP DEFINITIONS

Padded Metal Trap: A legal padded metal trap has all of the following features or characteristics:

1. Spring strength not exceeding 55 inch pounds with arms closed and 85 inch pounds with arms in the open position;
2. A gap between the arms of the trap in the closed position no less than 1/4 inch in width and no less than 4 inches in length;
3. Replaceable non-weather hardening, non-age hardening padding material not less than 3/32 inch thick covering the closing surfaces and securely affixed to the arms of the trap;
4. A chain no longer than 6 inches in length;
5. Swivels located at each end of the chain, and;
6. A shock absorbing spring incorporated into the anchoring chain.

Species Specific Trap: A legal species specific trap has all of the following features or characteristics:

1. Triggering and restraining mechanisms enclosed by a housing;
2. When set, triggering and restraining mechanism accessible only via a single opening;
3. An access opening measuring not greater than 2 inches in diameter or diagonally;
4. A triggering mechanism that can only be activated by a pulling force;
5. A swivel-mounted anchoring mechanism.

SHOOTERS & HUNTERS: HELP PREVENT WILDFIRES.

The target shooting and hunting community prides itself on being safe and responsible with firearms in all situations—from using them outdoors to storing them safely at home. Sometimes, however, unusual conditions such as extremely dry environments require an extra level of awareness and safety on the part of shooters.

Wildfires have many possible causes. The National Shooting Sports Foundation, the trade association for the firearms and ammunition industry, reminds all shooters that during dry and hot weather conditions their use of certain ammunition and targets could accidentally ignite a wildfire. NSSF reminds all target shooters and hunters, as well as other outdoor enthusiasts, to consider the potential consequences of their activities in fire-prone environments.

- **Make it a point to know the regulations and rules related to shooting in areas experiencing dry and hot conditions, whether on public or private land or at shooting ranges. Many national forests, for example, do not allow recreational shooting when fire restrictions are in effect.**
- **Consider the type of ammunition and targets you are using. Minimize the risk of fires by not using steel-jacketed ammunition, ammunition with steel-core components, tracer rounds or exploding targets in fire-prone areas.**
- **Remember that equipment, such as cars and ATVs, can have extremely hot exhaust systems that could ignite dry vegetation, so park only in designated areas.**
- **Extinguish and dispose of smoking materials safely.**
- **Follow guidelines to extinguish campfires.**
- **Warn others of potential dangers and behaviors for starting wildfires.**
- **Report any wildfire you see to authorities.**
- **Spread this message to other target shooters, hunters and outdoor enthusiasts.**



NSSF.ORG



Furbearer Trapping Seasons & Regulations

TRAPPING ON PRIVATE LAND CONSENT FORM

- All trappers are required to have landowner permission when trapping on private land.
- Written permission, signed and dated for the current season, must be carried on the person. The form below can be used to obtain permission.
- You may have a landowner sign a dated consent form before you purchase your trapping license, but you must purchase your license, before you trap.

- Landowners who allow, without fee, the recreational use of their property are protected from liability by Connecticut law (C.G.S. 52-557g).
- Trappers who have completed a DEEP-approved coyote land trapping course may use padded metal traps on or below the ground from December 1 through January 31 for the taking of coyotes on private land parcels of at least 10 contiguous acres where the landowner has given written permission explicitly for the use of such traps.

Photocopies of these forms may be used, but to be valid, must have original signatures and dates.

CONSENT TO TRAP ON PRIVATE LAND DURING THE _____ CALENDAR YEAR			
Name of the landowner listed on deed	Last	First	M.I.
Location of Property	Street	Town	No. of Acres
Trapper's Information (please print)	Last	First	M.I.
	Address		
	Town	State	Zip Code
	Conservation ID#		
<p>I know and understand the boundaries of the above listed properties, and that this form is valid only during the calendar year for which it was signed by the landowner. I also understand that any person making a written false statement on this form shall be subject to arrest as provided for in Section 53A-157 of 1975 Rev. of C.G.S.</p>		<p>I hereby grant the person named above permission to trap on my property during the calendar year indicated. I have also indicated whether or not the trapper is authorized.</p>	
Signature of Permittee		Date	Signature of Landowner
			Date



State of Connecticut
DEEP—Wildlife Division



Check if trapper is authorized to use padded metal traps for coyote land trapping.

RABIES: WHAT HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS SHOULD KNOW

- Rabies is a disease caused by a virus affecting the central nervous system. Left untreated, rabies is almost always fatal.
- Rabies is primarily transmitted through the bite of an infected animal; however, people may also be exposed by being scratched by a rabid animal or getting an animal's saliva in an open wound or mucous membrane (eyes, nose, or mouth).
- Only mammals get rabies. Raccoons, skunks, bats, foxes, dogs, and cats are most likely to get rabies. Rabbits, opossums, and squirrels are seldom affected.
- Since 1991, rabies has infected thousands of raccoons in Connecticut. Hunters and trappers can minimize their risk of exposure to rabies by following several common sense rules and by knowing what to do if they or their pets are exposed:
 - Avoid contact with animals appearing sick or acting abnormal, i.e. aggressive, paralyzed, disoriented, or unusually tame.
 - Wear disposable rubber gloves when dressing and skinning game, and clean up with soap and water promptly.
 - Make sure your dogs have current rabies vaccinations. If you have a cat as a household pet, be certain it is vaccinated as well.
- If you frequently handle high risk species, such as raccoons, skunks, or foxes, consider getting the human pre-exposure vaccine.
- If you are bitten or scratched or think that you have been exposed to rabies from a wild animal, wash the exposed area thoroughly with soap and water, and contact your doctor or emergency clinic immediately.
- If possible, without further injury or risk of exposure, capture, kill, or confine the wild animal without damaging the head, and contact your local health department for additional information.
- If your pet fights with a wild animal, attempt to secure the animal for rabies testing. Always wear gloves when handling your pet or treating its wounds under such circumstances. Notify your local Animal Control Officer and contact the pet's veterinarian for advice and/or treatment.
- Rabies virus is concentrated primarily in the saliva, brain, and spinal cord. Heat from thorough cooking will kill the rabies virus, making properly cooked meat from game animals safe. When preparing meat for cooking, wearing rubber gloves and cleaning up with soap and water is recommended.

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Sunrise – Sunset

	JAN		FEB		MAR		APR		MAY		JUN		JUL		AUG		SEP		OCT		NOV		DEC	
Date	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
1	7:18	4:30	7:03	5:06	6:25	5:42	6:33	7:17	5:47	7:50	5:18	8:19	5:20	8:29	5:45	8:08	6:17	7:23	6:48	6:33	6:24	4:45	6:59	4:21
2	7:18	4:31	7:02	5:07	6:23	5:43	6:31	7:18	5:45	7:51	5:18	8:20	5:21	8:29	5:46	8:07	6:18	7:22	6:49	6:30	6:25	4:43	7:00	4:21
3	7:18	4:32	7:01	5:08	6:22	5:44	6:29	7:19	5:44	7:52	5:17	8:21	5:21	8:29	5:47	8:06	6:19	7:20	6:50	6:28	6:26	4:42	7:01	4:20
4	7:18	4:33	7:00	5:09	6:20	5:45	6:28	7:20	5:43	7:53	5:17	8:22	5:22	8:29	5:48	8:05	6:20	7:18	6:51	6:26	6:27	4:41	7:02	4:20
5	7:18	4:34	6:59	5:11	6:18	5:47	6:26	7:21	5:42	7:54	5:17	8:22	5:22	8:28	5:49	8:03	6:21	7:16	6:52	6:25	6:28	4:40	7:03	4:20
6	7:18	4:35	6:58	5:12	6:17	5:48	6:24	7:22	5:40	7:55	5:17	8:23	5:23	8:28	5:50	8:02	6:22	7:15	6:54	6:23	6:30	4:39	7:04	4:20
7	7:18	4:36	6:57	5:13	6:15	5:49	6:23	7:23	5:39	7:56	5:16	8:24	5:24	8:28	5:51	8:01	6:23	7:13	6:55	6:21	6:31	4:38	7:05	4:20
8	7:18	4:37	6:56	5:15	7:13	6:50	6:21	7:24	5:38	7:57	5:16	8:24	5:24	8:27	5:52	8:00	6:24	7:11	6:56	6:20	6:32	4:36	7:06	4:20
9	7:18	4:38	6:55	5:16	7:12	6:51	6:19	7:26	5:37	7:58	5:16	8:25	5:25	8:27	5:53	7:58	6:25	7:10	6:57	6:18	6:33	4:35	7:07	4:20
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28	7:07	5:01	6:28	5:39	6:40	7:12	5:51	7:46	5:20	8:16	5:19	8:30	5:41	8:12	6:13	7:30	6:45	6:37	7:19	5:50	6:56	4:22	7:17	4:28
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30	7:05	5:03			6:36	7:15	5:48	7:49	5:19	8:18	5:20	8:29	5:43	8:10	6:15	7:27	6:47	6:33	7:21	5:47	6:58	4:21	7:18	4:29
31	7:04	5:04			6:35	7:16			5:19	8:19			5:44	8:9	6:16	7:25			7:22	5:46			7:18	4:30

Eastern Standard Time approximate for Central Connecticut and adjusted for Daylight Saving Time.

ADVANCED HUNTER EDUCATION SEMINARS AND CLINICS

The Wildlife Division's Conservation Education/Firearms Safety (CE/FS) Program offers hunting safety classes on firearms and archery hunting and trapping throughout the year. The classes are taught by a dedicated corps of certified volunteer instructors. The CE/FS Program is now offering Advanced Hunter Education seminars and clinics on such topics as waterfowl hunting, hunter marksmanship, small game hunting, venison processing, and wild turkey hunting. These seminars and clinics expand on the knowledge and skills of hunters and anyone else who wants more information about hunting. All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is required. Registration opens 30 days in advance of each seminar.

2020 Schedule:

Venison Processing – Two dates in February

Wild Turkey Hunting – March and April (see page 19)

Waterfowl Hunting – One date in September

Small Game Hunting – Two dates in September

Deer Hunter Marksmanship – Two dates in October

Go to www.ct.gov/deep/AdvancedHunterEdu for details and how to register.

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