



State of Illinois  
Department of Natural Resources



# *Illinois Digest of* *Hunting and Trapping* **REGULATIONS** *2017-2018*



*Use through July 31, 2018 or until the 2018-2019 digest is printed.*



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Thank you for taking time to review the annual *Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations*.

As director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, I am pleased to welcome you to the 2017-18 hunting and trapping season in Illinois.

This digest includes a detailed review of Illinois hunting and trapping season dates, possession limits, hunting zone boundaries, statewide hunting regulations, license and permit information, sunrise and sunset tables, and other details you should find helpful.

New or amended regulations for 2017-18 are in shaded print to highlight them. Make sure you are familiar with all the regulations before heading to the field.

The digest also contains information on Illinois public hunting areas, frequently asked questions, and on efforts to maintain healthy wildlife populations.

All of us who hunt and trap value the opportunities we enjoy in the outdoors in Illinois. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is committed to protecting our wildlife resources, and to expanding hunting opportunities. We recognize the important role hunters and trappers play in managing wildlife. We thank you for taking part in these activities, and for buying the licenses and permits that support our programs.

Thanks again for your interest and support, and best wishes for a great season.

Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

### Hunter Recruitment and Retention Program: Call for Mentors

In 2017, the IDNR and Illinois Natural History Survey initiated a new statewide program focused on increasing perennial participation of the Illinois public in hunting and trapping. This program was initiated to reverse a long-term decline in hunting and trapping in Illinois. Reversing this trend is important to carry on the hunting heritage and to increase Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act funds required to maintain and improve wildlife populations and habitat, and hunter and trapper resources (e.g., shooting ranges).

The program will hold several hunter workshops around the state in 2017, which will focus on training first-time hunters. Trapping workshops will likely begin in 2018 or 2019. The 2-day hunter workshops will cover all aspects of hunting, from the history of hunting and wildlife behavior to using equipment and processing harvested game. Workshops will include a live hunting activity for participants. Experienced hunters are needed to serve as volunteer mentors for hunter workshop participants. Mentors will be needed to help demonstrate hunting skills and equipment and for helping mentees during live hunting activities.

Contact us if you are interested in becoming a mentor and promoting healthy wildlife populations, habitat and our hunting heritage in Illinois. Phone 217-300-5352, email: [hunt-trap@illinois.edu](mailto:hunt-trap@illinois.edu); website: <https://publish.illinois.edu/hunttrapillinois>.

This publication is a summary of Illinois hunting and trapping regulations prepared for your convenience. It is designed as a guide to help you understand the laws and regulations for hunting and trapping in Illinois. It also provides information such as seasons, bag limits, and required permits for these opportunities in Illinois. It is not a legal document and is not intended to cover all hunting and trapping laws and regulations. Neither does this document contain the exact wording of the Illinois' Adopted Administrative Rules (available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/adrules/pages/default.aspx](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/adrules/pages/default.aspx)) or the Wildlife Code of the Illinois Compiled Statutes (available at [www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs2.asp?ChapterID=43](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs2.asp?ChapterID=43)).

## Youth Hunting Opportunities

### Statewide Youth Hunting Seasons

Youth must be accompanied by an adult.

- Youth Firearm Deer Hunting Season – Oct. 7 - 9, 2017 (see pages 2 and 19)
- Spring Youth Wild Turkey Hunting Season – March 31 - April 1, 2018, and April 7 - 8, 2018 (Statewide) (see pages 2 and 22)
- Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season – Dates vary by zone, usually the weekend or two weekends before regular duck season (see page 2)

### Youth Dove, Waterfowl and Controlled Pheasant Hunts on State Sites

- Youth Controlled Pheasant Hunts (ages 10 - 17) – Various dates (see page 33)
- Youth Waterfowl Hunts (ages 10 - 17) – Various dates (see page 34)
- Youth Dove Hunts (ages 10 - 17) – At nine state sites (see page 34)

### ON THE COVER

A bobwhite quail on Birch Creek Farm in Greene County, Illinois. Photo courtesy of Lorna Sifford of Alhambra.



Illinois Department of  
Natural Resources

*Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations*

Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding sources civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175.

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## 2017-2018 Illinois Hunting Information

**New Regulations for 2017-2018** – New laws, new programs and pending legislative changes are indicated by **light tan shading**. Prior to undertaking activities subject to change, review information published at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov), your local newspaper's outdoor writer's column or check with your local DNR office for more information.

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### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Target Illinois Poachers	(877) 2DNRLAW (236-7529)
<b>Chicago Office</b>	
<b>Department of Natural Resources</b>	
James R. Thompson Center • Suite 4-300 • 100 West Randolph St.	
Chicago, IL 60601	(312) 814-2070
<b>Springfield Offices</b>	
<b>Department of Natural Resources</b>	
One Natural Resources Way • Springfield, IL 62702-1271	
<b>Special Hunting Permits</b>	(217) 782-7305
<b>License Office</b>	(217) 782-2965
<b>Wildlife Resources</b>	(217) 782-6384
<b>Law Enforcement</b>	(217) 782-6431
<b>Telecommunications Device for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired (TTY)</b>	(217) 782-9175

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### DNR Website Index



Illinois Department of Natural Resources	( <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov">www.dnr.illinois.gov</a> )
Office of the Director	( <a href="http://dnr.state.il.us/director/">http://dnr.state.il.us/director/</a> )
Hunting and Licensing	( <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/GettingStarted.aspx">www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/GettingStarted.aspx</a> )
State Parks	( <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Parks">www.dnr.illinois.gov/Parks</a> )
Fur Hunting	( <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/furbearer">www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/furbearer</a> )
Trapping	( <a href="http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/trapping">www.dnr.illinois.gov/trapping</a> )
Online Trapper Education	( <a href="http://www.trappered.com">www.trappered.com</a> )

# 2017-2018 Season Dates and Limits Information

Small Game	SPECIES	DATES (INCLUSIVE) AND ZONES	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
	Rabbit (Cottontail & Swamp)	Nov. 4, 2017 - Feb. 15, 2018 (Statewide)	Sunrise to sunset	4	10 <sup>a</sup>
	Cock Pheasant	Nov. 4, 2017 - Jan. 8, 2018 (North) Nov. 4 2017 - Jan. 15, 2018 (South)		2	6 <sup>a</sup>
	Hungarian (Gray) Partridge			2	6 <sup>a</sup>
	Quail (Bobwhite)			8	20 <sup>a</sup>
	Squirrel (Fox and Gray)	Aug. 1, 2017 - Feb. 15, 2018 (Statewide) Closed Nov. 17 - 19 and Nov 30 - Dec.3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	5	10 <sup>a</sup>
Woodchuck (Groundhog)	June 1, 2017 - March 31, 2018 Closed Nov. 17 - 19 and Nov 30 - Dec.3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	No Limit			

Deer & Turkey	SPECIES	DATES (INCLUSIVE) AND ZONES	HOURS	LIMIT
	Firearm Deer (Handgun, Muzzleloader & Shotgun)	Nov. 17 - 19; Nov 30 - Dec. 3, 2017	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	One deer per firearm permit <sup>f</sup>
	Deer (Muzzleloading rifles only)	Dec. 8 - 10, 2017(also allowed Nov 30 - Dec. 3)		One deer per muzzleloading rifle permit <sup>f</sup>
	Special CWD Deer Season	Dec. 28 - 31, 2017 and Jan. 12 - 14, 2018		One deer per valid deer permit <sup>g</sup>
	Late-Winter Antlerless Deer (Handgun, Muzzleloader & Shotgun)			One antlerless deer per permit
	Deer (Archery in counties with a firearm season and west of Rt. 47 in Kane County)			Oct. 1 - Nov. 16, Nov. 20 - Nov. 29, and Dec. 4, 2017 - Jan. 14, 2018
	Deer (Archery in Cook, DuPage, Kane [east of Route 47] and Lake counties)	Oct. 1, 2017 - Jan. 14, 2018		One deer
	Youth Firearm Deer Season	Oct. 7 - 9, 2017 and Nov. 17 - 19, 2017		
	Youth Turkey Season (1 permit per year)	March 31 - April 1, 2018 and April 7 - 8, 2018 (Statewide)	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.	One gobbler or bearded hen, counts toward maximum of 3 spring permits
	Turkey (Spring Shotgun or Archery)	April 9 - May 10, 2018 <sup>b</sup> (South) April 16 - May 17, 2018 <sup>b</sup> (North)	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	One gobbler or bearded hen per permit, maximum of 3
Turkey (Fall Shotgun Season)	Oct. 21 - 29, 2017	One either-sex turkey per permit, maximum of 2		
Turkey (Fall Archery)	Oct. 1, 2017 - Jan. 14, 2018, except closed during firearm deer season in counties open to firearm deer hunting	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset		One either-sex turkey per permit, maximum of 2

Migratory Game Birds & Waterfowl	SPECIES	DATES (INCLUSIVE) AND ZONES	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
	Dove <sup>c</sup>	Sept. 1 - Nov. 14, 2017; Dec. 26, 2017 - Jan. 9, 2018	Sunrise to sunset	15 <sup>c</sup>	45 <sup>c</sup>
	Rail (Sora & Virginia only)	Sept. 9 - Nov. 17, 2017		25	75
	Common Snipe	Sept. 9 - Dec. 24, 2017		8	24
	Woodcock	Oct. 21 - Dec. 4, 2017		3	9
	Crow	Oct. 28, 2017 - Feb. 28, 2018	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	No Limit	
	Teal	Sept. 9 - 24, 2017 (All Zones)	Sunrise to sunset	6	18
	Early Canada Geese	Sept. 1 - 15, 2017	(North and Central)	5	15
			(So. Central and South)	2	6
	Youth waterfowl ( <b>see Special Regulations</b> )	Oct. 14 - 15, 2017 (North) Oct. 21 - 22, 2017 (Central) Nov. 4 - 5, 2017 (South Central) Nov. 11 - 12, 2017 (South)	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	All species open, see bag limits for each*	
	Ducks	Oct. 21 - Dec. 19, 2017 (North) Oct. 28 - Dec. 26, 2017 (Central)		6*	18*
	Mergansers	Nov. 11, 2017 - Jan. 9, 2018 (So. Central)		5*	15*
	Coots	Nov. 23, 2017 - Jan. 21, 2018 (South)		15	45
	Canada Geese	Oct. 21, 2017 - Jan. 18, 2018 (North) Oct. 28 - Nov 5, 2017 and Nov. 12, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (Central)		2	6
Nov. 11, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (So. Central) Nov. 23, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (South)					
Snow Geese (Snow/Blue and Ross' Geese)	Oct. 21, 2017 - Jan. 18, 2018 (North) Oct. 28, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (Central) Nov. 11, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (So. Central)	20		Unlimited	
Brant	Nov. 23, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (South)	1	3		

# 2017-2018 Season Dates and Limits Information *(continued)*

Waterfowl (Cont.)	SPECIES	DATES (INCLUSIVE) AND ZONES	HOURS	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
	White-fronted Geese (Specklebellies)	Oct. 23, 2017 - Jan. 18, 2018 (North) Nov. 5, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (Central) Nov. 11, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (So. Central) Nov. 23, 2017 - Jan. 31, 2018 (South)	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	2	6
	Conservation Order Light Geese (see Special Regulations)	Jan. 19 - March 31, 2018 (North) Feb. 1 - March 31, 2018 (Central, So. Central and South)	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	Unlimited	Unlimited

**2017 – 2018 Illinois Waterfowl Season** (please refer to the Illinois Digest of Waterfowl Hunting Regulations for more regulations)

**\*Bag Limit – DUCKS** – Bag limits on ducks are as follows: The basic daily bag limit shall be 6 ducks of any species including all teal species, (except mergansers); however, no more than 4 shall be mallards (no more than 2 hen mallards) and not more than 3 wood ducks, 3 scaup, 2 redheads, 2 canvasback, 2 black ducks and not more than 1 pintail and 1 mottled duck. The daily bag limit for all mergansers is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers. The possession limit for ducks and mergansers is three (3) times the daily bag limit by species and sex.

### Special Regulations

#### Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days Regulations

1.) Youth hunters must be 17 years of age or younger and must have a hunting license and HIP registration/certification unless hunting on property where they reside. No stamps are required for youths under 16. State and federal waterfowl stamps are required for all hunters age 16 and older, even those hunting with a Youth License, unless exempt (see page 8). Hunters aged 18 years and older may not hunt waterfowl and coots during the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days, even if hunting with a Youth License.

#### Conservation Order Light Goose Season Regulations (Spring Snow Goose Season)

1.) Unplugged shotguns may be used. There is no limit to the number of shells that may be placed in a shotgun. 2.) Electronic calling devices may be used. 3.) No federal duck stamp required. 4.) Illinois duck stamp and hunting license required.

Furbearers – Hunting	SPECIES	DATES (INCLUSIVE) AND ZONES	HOURS	SPECIAL REGULATIONS
	Raccoon, Opossum, Fox (Red and Gray), and Bobcat	Nov. 10, 2017 - Feb. 15, 2018 Closed Nov. 17 through 6 p.m. Nov. 19 and closed Nov 30 through 6 p.m. Dec. 3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	Unrestricted except Nov. 10 opens 1/2 hour before sunrise <sup>d</sup>	Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to take a bobcat. Limit one bobcat per person per season. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of taking a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
	Coyote and Striped Skunk	Year round (Statewide) Closed Nov. 17 through 6 p.m. Nov. 19 and closed Nov. 30 through 6 p.m. Dec. 3 in counties open for firearm deer hunting <sup>d,e</sup>	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hr. after sunset; open 24 hours Nov. 10, 2017 - March 15, 2018 <sup>d,e</sup>	

Furbearers – Trapping	SPECIES	DATES (INCLUSIVE) AND ZONES	LIMIT	SPECIAL REGULATIONS
	Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel, Mink, Muskrat, Fox (Red and Gray), Coyote, Badger and Bobcat	Nov. 10, 2017 - Feb. 15, 2018	For badger, 2 per person per season in north zone and 1 per person per season in south zone; for bobcat, 1 per person per season.	Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to take a bobcat. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of taking a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
	Woodchuck (Groundhog)	June 1 - Sept. 30, 2017 (Statewide)	None	
	Beaver	Nov. 10, 2017 - March 31, 2018		
	River Otter	Nov. 10, 2017 - March 31, 2018	5 per person per season (statewide)	Must purchase Otter Registration Permit within 48 hours after each otter is trapped. Must affix official CITES tag to each pelt.

<sup>a</sup> On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily bag limit.

<sup>b</sup> South — 1st season — April 9 - 13; 2nd season — April 14 - 19; 3rd season — April 20 - 25; 4th season — April 26 - May 2; 5th season — May 3 - 10  
North — 1st season — April 16 - 20; 2nd season — April 21 - 26; 3rd season — April 27 - May 2; 4th season — May 3 - 9; 5th season — May 10 - 17

<sup>c</sup> The daily bag and possession limits include mourning doves and white-winged doves in the aggregate. There is no bag limit on Eurasian-collared doves and ringed turtle doves, but they may be taken only during the established season dates and hours and using only legal methods for mourning doves. Hunters may not remain in the field for the purpose of taking Eurasian-collared doves or ringed turtle doves after they reach their daily bag limit for mourning/white-winged doves.

<sup>d</sup> During the Archery Deer Season bow hunting hours for coyote, striped skunk, raccoon, opossum, red fox and gray fox will be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

<sup>e</sup> Hunters with unfilled firearm deer permits may take coyotes during firearm deer season by shotgun with slugs, muzzleloader or handgun from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

<sup>f</sup> No hunter, regardless of the quantity or type of permits in his/her possession, may harvest more than two antlered deer during a year, including the youth, archery, muzzleloader and firearm seasons. For the purpose of this bag limit, deer seasons are considered to be in the same year if their opening dates are within the same 12-month period that begins July 1.

<sup>g</sup> Antlered deer bag limit does not apply to this season.

## Trapper Education Classes Scheduled

**Aldersgate Church, Marion** – Sept. 30, 2017. Call (217) 273-6453

**Livingston County, Fairbury** – Sept. 16, 2017. Call (815) 419-5204

**Phillips Park Visitor Center, Aurora** – Oct. 1, 2017. Call (630) 851-7119

## Trapper Education

**F**irst-time trappers, born on or after Jan. 1, 1998, are required to complete a trapper education course before purchasing a license. This requirement can be met by completing an online study course at [www.trapped.com](http://www.trapped.com), or completing a Trapper Education Class. Schedules for instructor-taught courses can be accessed by calling (800) 832-2599 Ameritech Relay (800) 526-0844 or at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety). Residents 18 years of age and under are not required to complete a trapper education course if they purchase a Youth Trapping License and are supervised by a parent, grandparent, or guardian while trapping.

## Season Dates – Rules of Thumb

Many hunters need to plan vacations and hunting trips in advance of the annual distribution of the *Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations*. For such planning purposes, here are the general rules of thumb used for setting annual season dates. Although there are no guarantees that these season dates will be used in future years, this is the best information available for those who must make plans well in advance of announcements of official season dates.

**Rabbit** – First Saturday in November through Feb. 15.

### Pheasant, Quail and Partridge –

**North** – First Saturday in November through Jan. 8.

**South** – First Saturday in November through Jan. 15.

**Squirrel** – Aug. 1 - Feb. 15, except closed during firearm deer seasons.

**Woodchuck** – June 1 - March 31, except closed during firearm deer seasons.

**Deer – Archery** – Oct. 1 through the first Sunday after Jan. 13 (closed during firearm deer season except in Cook, DuPage, Kane [that portion east of Hwy. 47] and Lake counties).

**Firearm** – The Friday, Saturday and Sunday immediately before Thanksgiving and the first four-day weekend (Thursday–Sunday) after Thanksgiving.

**Youth Firearm Deer Season** – The Saturday, Sunday, and Monday that includes the second Monday of October.

**Muzzleloader** – The third three-day weekend (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) following Thanksgiving. Hunting also allowed during the second firearm deer season.

**Late Winter Antlerless Deer and Special CWD Deer** – The first Thursday–Sunday after Dec. 25; and the first Friday–Sunday after Jan. 11.

**Turkey – Spring Youth Turkey** – The two consecutive weekends prior to the opening of South Zone's first season.

**Spring South Zone** – Begins on the first Monday in April after April 2 and ends 32 days later. Lengths for each season (in days) are 5, 6, 6, 7 and 8, respectively.

**Spring North Zone** – Same as South Zone except one week later.

**Fall Gun** – The nine days beginning on Saturday of the second complete two-day weekend (Saturday and Sunday) after Oct. 10.

**Fall Archery** – Oct. 1 through the first Sunday after Jan. 13 (closed during firearm deer seasons).

### Early Canada Goose – Sept. 1 - 15

**Teal** – nine or 16 days, opens on 1st or 2nd Saturday in Sept.

**Rail** – Opens with teal season and runs for 70 days.

**Snipe** – Opens with teal season and runs for 107 days.

**Woodcock** – 45 days beginning on the third Saturday in October.

**Furbearer Hunting and Trapping** – Season dates listed for the 2017-2018 season will be used as guidelines.

**Crow** – Oct. 28 - Feb. 28.

**Dove** – 90 day season. Split season opens Sept. 1 and runs approximately 75 days; reopens the day after Christmas and runs the remainder of the 90 days.

## Waterfowl Hunting Zones

**NOTE:** These zone lines apply only during the September Canada Goose season. Check the 2017-18 Digest of Waterfowl Hunting Regulations for zones used during the regular goose and duck seasons.

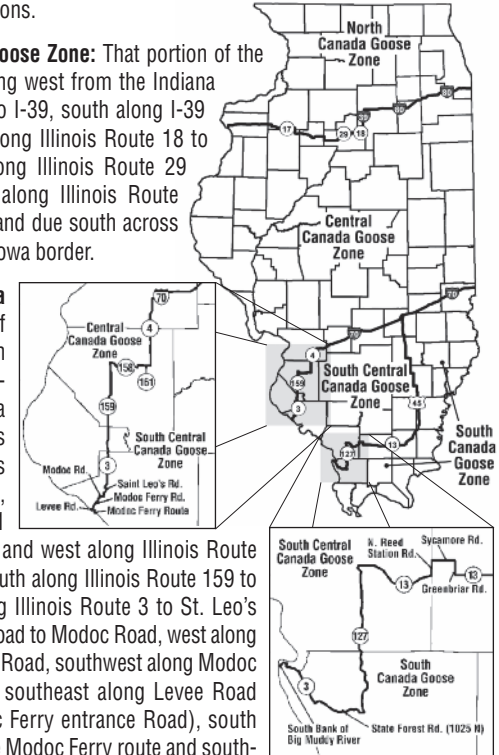
**North September Canada Goose Zone:** That portion of the state north of a line extending west from the Indiana border along Interstate 80 to I-39, south along I-39 to Illinois Route 18, west along Illinois Route 18 to Illinois Route 29, south along Illinois Route 29 to Illinois Route 17, west along Illinois Route 17 to the Mississippi River, and due south across the Mississippi River to the Iowa border.

**Central September Canada Goose Zone:** That portion of the state south of the North Goose Zone line to a line extending west from the Indiana border along I-70 to Illinois Route 4, south along Illinois Route 4 to Illinois Route 161, west along Illinois Route 161

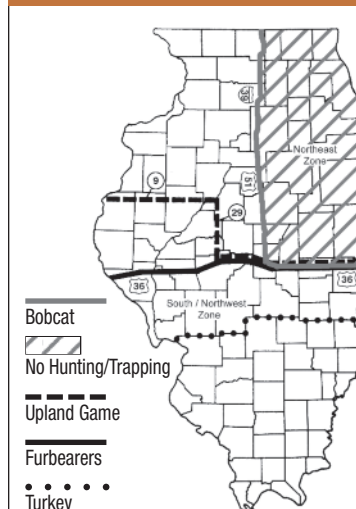
to Illinois Route 158, south and west along Illinois Route 158 to Illinois Route 159, south along Illinois Route 159 to Illinois Route 3, south along Illinois Route 3 to St. Leo's Road, south along St. Leo's road to Modoc Road, west along Modoc Road to Modoc Ferry Road, southwest along Modoc Ferry Road to Levee Road, southeast along Levee Road to County Route 12 (Modoc Ferry entrance Road), south along County Route 12 to the Modoc Ferry route and southwest on the Modoc Ferry route across the Mississippi River to the Missouri border.

**South Central September Canada Goose Zone:** The remainder of the state between the south border of the Central Zone and the north border of the South Zone.

**South September Canada Goose Zone:** That portion of the state south and east of a line extending west from the Indiana border along Interstate 70, south along U.S. Highway 45, to Illinois Route 13, west along Illinois Route 13 to Greenbriar Road, north on Greenbriar Road to Sycamore Road, west on Sycamore Road to N. Reed Station Road, south on N. Reed Station Road to Illinois Route 13, west along Illinois Route 13 to Illinois Route 127, south along Illinois Route 127 to State Forest Road (1025 N), west along State Forest Road to Illinois Route 3, north along Illinois Route 3 to the south bank of the Big Muddy River, west along the south bank of the Big Muddy River to the Mississippi River, west across the Mississippi River to the Missouri border.



## Upland Game, Furbearers & Turkey Zones



### Bobcat:

Taking bobcats is prohibited in an area bounded by Interstate 39/Route 51 on the west side and U.S. Route 36 on the south side. Bobcats may be taken in the remainder of the state.

### Upland Game:

Cock pheasant, quail, Hungarian partridge: Divided by U.S. Route 36 from the Indiana state line to Springfield, Illinois Route 29 from Springfield to Pekin, and Illinois Route 9 from Pekin to Dallas City, then due west to the Mississippi River.

### Furbearers:

Hunting (Raccoon, Opossum) and trapping: Divided by U.S. Route 36.

### Turkey:

North Zone includes that portion of Illinois north of Crawford, Jasper, Effingham, Fayette, Bond and Madison counties. South Zone includes the remainder of the state.

# Westwoods Lodge

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DNR GUIDE



**SUPPORT THE FUTURE OF HUNTING AND FISHING IN ILLINOIS**

**DONATE \$5.00 to the Illinois Conservation Foundation (ICF) when you renew your hunting and fishing license.**


Proceeds go to support youth hunting and fishing programs, wing shooting clinics, conservation field trips and other important projects that benefit our outdoor heritage.



2017 Privileges	Expires March 31, 2018
	Unless Otherwise Noted
225 SR Sportsman Combo Hunt / Fish	\$12.75
970 Habitat Electronic Stamp	\$5.00
901 HIP Certification	\$0.00
<b>075 ICF Donation</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>

Signature X \_\_\_\_\_  
Licensee is authorized to exercise only the privileges purchased...  
Licensee certifies to the truth of all statements including but not limited to...  
residency, hunter education and not being delinquent on a child support order...  
further certifies that the privilege(s) has not been suspended in this state, or by...  
any other state or federal agency.



ILLINOIS CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

www.ilcf.org



Register Today - [www.ilcf.org](http://www.ilcf.org)

## 2017 Director's Hunt

Hunt Dates: November 20-21, 2017

Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area





*a place where memories and traditions last a lifetime*



# Harpole's HEARTLAND LODGE

PIKE COUNTY ILLINOIS



- Upland & Waterfowl Hunts
  - Whitetail & Turkey Hunts
  - Corporate & Family Retreats
  - Bed & Breakfast & Overnight Stays
  - ATV & Horseback Riding
- 217/734-2526  
Heartlandlodge.com  
Info@Heartlandlodge.com





# License, Permit, Stamp Information

All hunting and trapping licenses and state stamps are effective mid-January of the issuing year through March 31 of the following year. (In other words, the 2017 license is valid through March 31, 2018.) Every person holding a hunting and/or trapping license shall have it, including all appropriate stamps, in his/her possession for immediate presentation for inspection to any authorized law enforcement officer while hunting or trapping.

Hunting and trapping licenses, both resident and non-resident, and state stamps may be obtained from a Departmental license vendor at various locations throughout the state or at a DNR office (see page 1).

For information on where to buy a license or to obtain license, registration

License/Stamp/Permit	Fee	Available Online	Available from Vendors	Available by Phone	Paper Application Available
<b>Hunting License</b>					
Resident	\$12.50	X	X	X	
Veteran Resident	\$6.50 <sup>1</sup>	X	X	X	
Resident Senior	\$6.50 <sup>a</sup>	X	X	X	
Resident >75 years old Hunting License	\$1.50 <sup>n</sup>	X	X		
Apprentice, Resident or Non-resident	\$7.50 <sup>h</sup>	X	X	X	
Youth hunting license	\$7.50 <sup>m</sup>	X	X		
Resident Lifetime	\$360.00				X
Resident Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	\$26.25	X	X	X	
Veteran Resident Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish <sup>1</sup>	\$13.50	X	X	X	
Resident Senior Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	\$13.50 <sup>a</sup>	X	X	X	
Resident >75 years old Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	\$2.75 <sup>n</sup>	X	X		
Resident Lifetime Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	\$765.00				X
Non-resident <sup>b</sup>	\$57.75	X	X	X	
Non-resident (5 day) <sup>b</sup>	\$35.75	X	X	X	
<b>Trapping License</b>					
Resident	\$10.50	X	X	X	
Resident Youth <sup>o</sup>	\$7.50	X	X	X	
Non-resident (with state reciprocity)	\$175.50	X	X	X	
Non-resident (without state reciprocity)	\$250.50 <sup>i</sup>	X	X	X	
<b>Stamps</b>					
Electronic State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp	\$15.50 <sup>c</sup>	X	X	X	
Electronic Habitat Stamp	\$5.50	X	X	X	
Resident Super Senior Habitat Stamp	\$5.50	X	X	X	
<b>Deer Firearm Permit</b>					
Resident Lottery Either Sex (ES)	\$25.00 <sup>d</sup>	X			X
Resident Lottery ES, Antlerless Only (AO)	\$42.50	X			X
Resident Lottery AO	\$17.50 <sup>d</sup>	X			X
Resident OTC County ES	\$25.50		X		
Resident OTC County AO	\$18.00		X		
Non-resident Lottery ES	\$300.00 <sup>e</sup>	X			X
Non-resident Lottery ES, AO	\$325.00 <sup>e</sup>	X			X
Non-resident Lottery AO	\$25.00 <sup>e,f</sup>	X			X
Non-resident OTC County ES	\$300.50 <sup>e</sup>		X		
Non-resident OTC County AO	\$25.50 <sup>e</sup>		X		
<b>Deer Muzzleloader Permit</b>					
Resident Lottery ES	\$25.00	X			X
Resident Lottery ES, AO	\$42.50	X			X
Resident Lottery AO	\$17.50	X			X
Resident OTC County ES	\$25.50		X		
Resident OTC County AO	\$18.00		X		
Non-resident Lottery ES	\$300.00 <sup>e</sup>	X			X
Non-resident Lottery ES, AO	\$325.00 <sup>e</sup>	X			X
Non-resident Lottery AO	\$25.00 <sup>e,f</sup>	X			X
Non-resident OTC County ES	\$300.50 <sup>e</sup>		X		
Non-resident OTC County AO	\$25.50 <sup>e</sup>		X		
<b>Deer Landowner Permit</b>					
Resident Firearm ES	\$0.00				X
Resident Firearm AO	\$0.00				X
Resident Archery ES	\$0.00				X
Resident Archery AO	\$0.00				X
Non-resident Firearm ES	\$150.00 <sup>e</sup>				X
Non-resident Firearm AO	\$25.00 <sup>e,f</sup>				X
Non-resident Archery ES, AO	\$210.00 <sup>e</sup>				X
<b>Deer Archery Permit</b>					
Resident OTC Permit ES, AO	\$26.00		X		
Resident OTC Permit AO	\$15.50		X		
Resident Single ES	\$15.00				X <sup>1</sup>
Non-resident OTC AO (hunter has an ES archery permit)	\$25.50 <sup>e</sup>		X		
Non-resident OTC AO (hunter without an ES archery permit)	\$100.50 <sup>e</sup>		X		
Non-resident ES, AO	\$410.00	X		X	
Non-resident OTC Archery ES, AO	\$411.00 <sup>e,g</sup>	X <sup>k</sup>	X	X <sup>k</sup>	

## Illinois Resident Armed Forces Special Pass

Illinois resident military, guard or reserve members who have recently served abroad may be eligible for a waiver of fees for fishing, hunting and camping. Eligible persons MUST APPEAR IN PERSON at DNR's Springfield office. See details at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) or call (217) 782-2965.

and permit forms, or to buy a license or stamp over the Internet immediately, visit [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov). See below for details. Federal Migratory Waterfowl Stamps may be obtained at any U.S. Post Office, DNR offices and various license vendors.

### Lost, Stolen or Destroyed License Replacement

- Licenses purchased via the Internet can be reprinted at no charge by visiting [www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR). Vendor transactions will incur a fee.
- Replacement licenses, permits and stamps are available for \$3 from DNR's Springfield and Chicago office (see page 1).
- Vendors can issue replacement licenses with a DNR Direct terminal. There is a \$3 replacement fee per item plus a small transaction fee.

License/Stamp/Permit	Fee	Available Online	Available from Vendors	Available by Phone	Paper Application Available
<b>Deer Youth Firearm Permit</b>					
Resident & Non-resident OTC ES	\$10.50	X	X		
<b>Deer Late-winter Firearm Permit</b>					
Resident OTC County AO	\$18.00		X		
Resident Special Hunt Area	\$17.50	X			
<b>Deer Special Chronic Wasting Disease Permit</b>					
AO	\$5.50		X		
<b>Turkey Archery Fall Permit</b>					
Resident	\$5.50 <sup>d</sup>		X		
Non-resident	\$75.50 <sup>e</sup>	X <sup>k</sup>	X	X <sup>k</sup>	
<b>Turkey Shotgun Fall Permit</b>					
Resident	\$15.00 <sup>d</sup>	X			X
Non-resident	\$125.00 <sup>e</sup>	X			X
<b>Turkey Shotgun/Archery Spring Permit</b>					
Resident	\$15.00 <sup>d</sup>	X			X
Non-resident	\$125.00 <sup>e</sup>	X			X
<b>Turkey Youth Spring Permit</b>					
Shotgun/Archery SHA Lottery	\$10.00	X			
Shotgun/Archery OTC, Resident or Non-resident	\$10.50	X	X		
<b>Turkey Landowner Permit</b>					
Resident Fall Shotgun	\$0.00				X
Resident Fall Archery	\$0.00				X
Resident Spring	\$0.00				X
Non-resident Fall Shotgun	\$37.50 <sup>e</sup>				X
Non-resident Fall Archery	\$25.00 <sup>e</sup>				X
Non-resident Spring	\$37.50 <sup>e</sup>				X
<b>Otter Registration Permit</b>	\$5.50	X	X	X	
<b>Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit</b>	\$5.50 <sup>p</sup>	X			
<b>Bobcat Registration Permit</b>	\$5.50	X			

<sup>a</sup> Required of all hunters 65 or older.

<sup>b</sup> Licensed non-resident hunters can buy ammunition in Illinois.

<sup>c</sup> Federal Waterfowl Stamps can be purchased at <https://www.fws.gov/birds/get-involved/duck-stamp/buy-duck-stamp.php>

<sup>d</sup> Resident landowner/tenant (39.5 acres minimum) may be eligible for free hunting permits. Call (217) 782-7305 for details.

<sup>e</sup> Non-residents also need a non-resident hunting license and habitat stamp to hunt deer and turkey.

<sup>f</sup> Applicants must purchase an either-sex permit to be eligible for a discounted antlerless-only permit.

<sup>g</sup> Does not include vendor's transaction fee for permits purchased via Internet/telephone using a credit card.

<sup>h</sup> See footnote 12 page 8.

<sup>i</sup> The fee for non-resident trapping is \$175.50 except for persons whose home state (Hawaii; fee is \$250.50) does not allow non-resident trapping.

<sup>j</sup> Paper-only applications must be submitted to the Permits office by Sept. 1.

<sup>k</sup> Available online or by phone only until Aug. 31.

<sup>l</sup> Illinois veterans who served overseas or were mobilized by the President of the United States and have a form DD214 can take their form to DNR's Springfield or Chicago office and ask to be certified as qualifying for half-price licenses. A box will be checked on their POS account to allow future purchases of annual licenses for half price from any license vendor. This does not apply to lifetime licenses.

<sup>m</sup> See footnote 14 page 8.

<sup>n</sup> License will not be available for purchase until October. State waterfowl and habitat stamp are free.

<sup>o</sup> Resident youth age 18 and under may trap while supervised by a parent, grandparent, or guardian who is 21 or older. Completion of trapper education course waived for Resident Youth Licenses.

<sup>p</sup> Lottery Sept 1-30; non-refundable application fee.

## DNR Direct

**DNR DIRECT** is an automated, state-of-the-art license/permit/stamp vending system allowing residents and non-residents the ability to purchase licenses/stamps and apply for permits at a local vendor.

You also have the ability to purchase licenses/stamps and apply for permits using a credit card over the Internet at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR). License and stamp purchases print immediately on your printer. Reprints are available for lost/stolen licenses and stamps. Transaction receipts are issued immediately for permit applications.

License/stamp/HIP purchases also may be made by phone at 1-888-6PERMIT (673-7648).



# Regulations for Hunting/Trapping Licenses and Stamps

- A resident license/stamp may be obtained by persons who have been a resident of Illinois 30 days prior to purchase (see Resident definition page 10).
- Federal stamps must be signed in ink across the face of the stamp. Lifetime License holders who are required to purchase state stamps must sign the stamps and have them in their possession while hunting.
- All hunting licenses and State stamps are effective Jan. 1 of the issuing year through March 31 of the following year. Every person holding a hunting or trapping license shall have it, including all appropriate stamps, in his/her possession for immediate presentation for inspection to any authorized law enforcement officer.
- This information is based on laws in effect as of May 1, 2016 and is subject to change.

## RESIDENTS NEED: All deer and turkey hunters must have a valid deer or turkey permit, regardless of other license exemptions

License/Stamp Type	(2) Hunting License	(12) Resident Apprentice Hunting	(14) Youth Hunting License	(13) Senior Hunting License	(2) Sportsman Combination Hunting & Fishing License	(13) Senior Sportsman Combination Hunting & Fishing License	(3) Trapping License	(3) (4) Youth Trapping License	(5) Federal Waterfowl Stamp	(5) State Waterfowl Stamp	(6) State Habitat Stamp	(7) Harvest Information Program (HIP)
Under 16	X	X	X				X	X				X
16 – 18	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X
19 – 64	X	X			X		X		X	X	X	X
65 and Over		X		X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Disabled (8)							X		X		X	
Disabled Veteran (9)							X		X			
Former POW	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X
Armed Forces (10)	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Armed Forces (10a)							X		X		X	
Landowner (11)									X		X	

## NON-RESIDENTS NEED: All deer and turkey hunters must have a valid deer or turkey permit, regardless of other license exemptions

License/Stamp Type	(1) (2) Hunting License	(1) (12) Non-Resident Apprentice Hunting	(3) (4) Trapping License	(5) Federal Waterfowl Stamp	(5) State Waterfowl Stamp	(6) State Habitat Stamp	(7) Harvest Information Program (HIP)
Under 16	X	X	X				X
16 – 64	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
65 and Over	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Disabled (8)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Disabled Veteran (9)			X	X			
Former POW	X	X	X	X	X		X
Landowner	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

- (1) Non-residents hunting deer or turkey need a non-resident hunting license and State Habitat Stamp in addition to their valid deer or turkey permits, unless otherwise exempt.
- (2) Hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1980 must show proof that they have successfully completed a Hunter Education Course provided by Illinois DNR or a valid certificate issued by another state. You may contact the Safety Education Section for verification, 1-800-832-2599.
- (3) First-time trappers born on or after Jan. 1, 1998 are required to complete a trapper education course before purchasing a license. Residents 18 years of age and under are not required to complete a trapper education course if they purchase a Youth Trapping License and are supervised by a parent, grandparent, or guardian while trapping.
- (4) Trappers under 16 years of age must have their parent's written permission prior to obtaining a license.
- (5) Required for any person 16 years of age or older to hunt waterfowl (including teal) and coots except toe-clipped,

hand-reared mallards on licensed Game Breeding and Hunting Preserve Areas.

- (6) Required to hunt or trap any species of wildlife protected by the Wildlife Code. Habitat Stamps are not required to hunt migratory waterfowl, coots and hand-reared toe-clipped mallards and hand-reared game birds on licensed game breeding and hunting preserve areas as well as hand-reared pheasants on Department-controlled pheasant hunting areas. Hunters who purchased a lifetime hunting license prior to 1993 are exempt.
- (7) All licensed hunters must register with HIP (National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program) if they intend to hunt migratory birds (doves, ducks, geese, snipe, woodcock, coots or rails). If you decide to hunt migratory game birds after you buy your hunting license you can register with HIP via DNR DIRECT or by calling 1-888-6PERMIT. Hunters with a lifetime license are NOT exempt. (see page 23)
- (8) In order for disabled persons who are Illinois residents to hunt without a license, the person must be able to show

(available from the Secretary of State through the driver's license examining station). Appropriate disability classifications are P2O, P2A, H2O, H2A.

- (9) In order for disabled veterans (residents or non-residents) to hunt without a license, the veterans must be able to show proof of disability with a veterans' disability card (at least 10% service related) available from local Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Offices. Disabled veterans are exempt from purchasing a Habitat Stamp regardless of the percentage of disability.
- (10) All persons on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces are considered Illinois residents (see Resident definition, p. 8).
- (10a) A person on active duty in the Armed Forces, who entered the service from Illinois and is an Illinois resident, may, while on ordinary or emergency leave, hunt without a license; however, a Federal Waterfowl Stamp and State Habitat Stamp are required.
- (11) Resident landowners or resident tenants and their children, parents, brothers and sisters permanently residing on their Illinois land may hunt or trap on their farmlands, where they reside, without a license (you still need a Habitat and/or Federal Waterfowl Stamp depending on which species you are hunting).
- (12) The Apprentice Hunter License is a one-time, non-renewable license for residents and non-residents. It allows persons aged 17 and under to go hunting with a parent, grandparent or guardian who has a valid Illinois resident or non-resident hunting license. Those 18 and older will be able to go hunting with any family member or friend who is a validly licensed Illinois resident or non-resident hunter who is 21 years of age or older. A hunter safety course is not required to purchase this license.
- (13) Age 65 and older.
- (14) Any resident youth hunter age 18 and under may purchase a Youth Hunting License, which does not require the hunter to have a Hunter Education Card. A youth hunter with this license must hunt while supervised by a parent, grandparent, or guardian who is 21 years of age or older and has a valid Illinois hunting license. The youth hunter shall not hunt or carry a hunting device unless the youth is accompanied by and under close personal supervision of these individuals.

# Permit Application Periods/Deadlines

Permit Type	Application Period or Deadline
<b>Firearm and Muzzleloader Deer (page 17)</b>	
First Lottery (Residents-only)	April 30, 2017
Second Lottery	June 30, 2017
Third (Final) Lottery	August 18, 2017
Late Winter Antlerless Season (Special Hunt Areas)	November 27, 2017
<b>Spring Wild Turkey (pages 21 &amp; 22)</b>	
First Lottery (Residents-only)	December 1, 2017
Second Lottery	January 11, 2018
Third Lottery	February 9, 2018
<b>Fall Wild Turkey (page 22)</b>	
First Lottery (Residents-only)	July 3, 2017
Second Lottery	August 21, 2017
Third (Final) Lottery	September 18, 2017
<b>Furbearers (page 28)</b>	
Bobcat (Online-only)	September 1 - 30, 2017
<b>Upland Game (pages 32 &amp; 33)</b>	
Controlled Pheasant Hunts	various dates
Free Upland Game Permit Hunts (Online-only)	August 31, 2017
<b>Waterfowl (page 33) Online-only</b>	
First Lottery (Residents-only)	August 31, 2017
Second Lottery	September 14, 2017
Third Lottery	September 28, 2017
Youth Waterfowl (paper applications)	Aug 31 - Oct 1
<b>Dove (page 34) Online-only</b>	
First Lottery (Residents-only)	June 1 - 30, 2017
Second Lottery	July 7 - 21, 2017
Third (Final) Lottery	July 28 - August 25, 2017

## Role of Hunters as Stewards of Wildlife and Habitat

- The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, also known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, was enacted by congress in 1937 in response to hunter and firearm industry concern of overexploitation and loss of wildlife and habitat.
- Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act funds come from a 10–11% excise tax on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment.
- Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act funds are collected by the U.S. Department of the Interior that allocates funds to state wildlife management agencies for hunter education programs, shooting ranges, and improving game and non-game wildlife populations, including habitat management and research.
- The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act has been crucial in successfully managing many species, including white-tailed deer, turkeys, waterfowl, and numerous non-game wildlife in Illinois.
- Between July 1, 2016 and June 30th, 2017, the IDNR was allocated 16.1 million dollars, which was used for numerous benefits to outdoor enthusiasts.
- Increasing the number of people hunting and trapping is critical to sustaining Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act monies needed to maintain healthy wildlife populations, habitat and our rich heritage of outdoor recreation in Illinois.
- By purchasing hunting licenses and equipment, you are a steward of wildlife and habitat in Illinois. The IDNR thanks you for your stewardship and hopes you continue to hunt, and introduce 'first-timers' to those activities.



# White-tailed Deer Illinois

Provides users with valuable insights into white-tailed deer life history and management. The site also contains information on deer stakeholder groups, how deer hunting regulations are set, depredation/population control permits, scientific research activities related to deer and deer hunting and much more.

### Unique Features

- A searchable database of deer-vehicle accidents, and ability to plot accidents on a state road map.
- A searchable database of annual deer harvest data and Illinois Department of Transportation annual deer-vehicle accident rate data.
- An online form for reporting sick and diseased deer to speed the process for tracking EHD and CWD.

[deer.wildlifeillinois.org](http://deer.wildlifeillinois.org)

White-tailed Deer Illinois is a collaborative effort led by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration, and the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center. Funding for White-tailed Deer Illinois was made available through Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-147-T.



The National Great Rivers Research & Education Center



# Statewide Regulations

## DEFINITIONS

**Case:** Any case, firearm carrying box, shipping box, or container acceptable under Article 24 of the Criminal Code of 2012.

**Daily Limit:** The maximum number or amount of species that can be lawfully taken by one person in one calendar day.

**DNR:** Department of Natural Resources.

**Floating Blind:** A floating blind is any watercraft or floating structure that is capable of carrying a person and which is camouflaged, disguised or altered in appearance to offer a place of concealment. Such floating blind may be mechanically powered as long as such power is used only for movement to and from the place of hunting and no attempt is made to hunt during such movement.

**Freshly Killed:** Any carcass, remains or parts of the body of any dead mammal or bird that has not been prepared for immediate consumption or storage for later consumption.

**Furbearing Mammals:** Mink, muskrat, raccoon, striped skunk, weasel, opossum, beaver, red fox, gray fox, badger, bobcat, river otter and coyote.

**Game Birds:** Bobwhite quail, Hungarian partridge, chukar partridge, ring-necked pheasant and wild turkey.

**Game Mammals:** Cottontail and swamp rabbits, white-tailed deer, fox and gray squirrel and woodchuck (groundhog).

**Green Hide:** Any hide or pelt which has not been tanned.

**Gun:** Shotgun, rifle, handgun or airgun.

**Hunt:** The act of a person possessing a weapon or being accompanied by a dog or bird of prey for the purpose of taking species protected by the Illinois Wildlife Code in any location such species may inhabit.

**Land Set:** Any trap or similar device not placed or set in contact with flowing or impounded water.

**Migratory Game Birds:** Mourning dove, Eurasian collared dove, white-winged dove, ringed-turtle dove, sora rail, Virginia rail, American woodcock, common snipe, American coot, ducks, geese, swans and American crow.

**Possession Limit:** The maximum number or amount of species that can be lawfully held or possessed by one person at any time.

**Resident:** "Resident" means a person who in good faith makes application for any license or permit and verifies by statement that he or she has maintained his or her permanent abode in this state for a period

of at least 30 consecutive days immediately preceding the person's application, and who does not maintain permanent abode or claim residency in another state for the purposes of obtaining any of the same or similar licenses or permits covered by this Code. A person's permanent abode is his or her fixed and permanent dwelling place, as distinguished from a temporary or transient place of residence. Domiciliary intent is required to establish that the person is maintaining his or her permanent abode in this state. Evidence of domiciliary intent includes, but is not limited to, the location where the person votes, pays personal income tax or obtains a drivers license. Except for the purposes of obtaining a Lifetime License, any person on active duty in the Armed Forces shall be considered a resident of Illinois during his or her period of military duty.

**Sale:** To sell, barter or otherwise offer goods to another for consideration. The term sale includes serving the same as a part of a meal by any restaurant, hotel or other commercial establishment.

**Take:** To hunt, shoot, pursue, lure, kill, destroy, capture, gig or spear, trap or ensnare, harass or to attempt to do so.

**Transport or Ship:** To convey by means of parcel post, express, freight baggage or shipment by common carrier of any description; or by automobile, motorcycle or other vehicle of any kind; or by water or aircraft of any kind or by any other means of transportation.

**Trap:** To capture, or attempt to capture, by setting or placing a leg-hold trap, body-gripping trap, cage or live-trap or other similar device permitted by the Illinois Wildlife Code to capture, hold or kill any protected wildlife.

**Vehicle:** Any device capable of transporting a person on land, on ice, on water, in water or in the air.

**Wildlife:** Any bird or mammal living in a state of nature without the care of man, including all protected wildlife.

**Water Set:** Any trap or similar device that is placed or set in contact with flowing or impounded water.

squirrel, eastern cottontail rabbit, swamp rabbit, white-tailed deer, muskrat, beaver, raccoon, opossum, least weasel, long-tailed weasel, mink, striped skunk, red fox, gray fox, river otter, bobcat, badger and coyote.

Wild mammals and parts thereof, including their green hides, are protected throughout the year and include: grey/timber wolves, flying squirrel, red squirrel, white squirrel, eastern woodrat, golden mouse, rice rat, bats, mountain lion and black bear.

It shall be unlawful for any person to take any other living wild animal not covered above without the permission of the landowner or tenant.

It is unlawful to take, possess, sell or offer for sale any such wild birds (dead or alive) and parts thereof (including their nests and eggs), or such wild mammals (dead or alive) and parts thereof, including their green hides, contrary to the provisions of the Illinois Wildlife Code.

It is unlawful to bring into Illinois for the purpose of holding, releasing, propagating or selling any other living wild animal not listed under the Protected Species section above without first obtaining a DNR permit. Contact Division of Wildlife Resources (217) 782-6384.

## AUTHORITY OF STATE CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICERS (CPOs)

All Conservation Police Officers are empowered, pursuant to law, to enter all lands and waters to enforce the provisions of the Wildlife Code and Administrative Rules.

## FIREARM OWNER'S I.D. CARD (Issued by Illinois State Police)

Regardless of who owns the gun, Illinois residents who have a firearm or firearm ammunition in their possession also must have in their possession a valid Firearm Owner's I.D. (F.O.I.D.) Card, issued by Illinois State Police, unless they are:

- a licensed out-of-state sportsman hunting in Illinois.
- a resident who is hunting within a licensed commercial club (licensed by DNR), provided he/she is accompanied by a person who has a valid card.
- under the age of 21 and under the immediate control of a parent, guardian or responsible adult who has in his or her possession a valid F.O.I.D. card.

**DNR does not issue F.O.I.D. cards. Call the Illinois State Police at (217) 782-7980.**

## PROTECTED SPECIES

All wild birds (EXCEPT the house sparrow, European starling and domestic pigeon) and parts thereof (their nests and eggs) are protected.

Wild mammals and parts thereof, including their green hides, are protected EXCEPT as authorized by a hunting or trapping season, and include: woodchuck, gray squirrel, fox

## HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS

### Hunting Near Fires

*It is unlawful to hunt adjacent to or near any peat, grass, brush or other flammable substance when it is burning.*

### Hunting Devices and Ammunition Restrictions

*It is unlawful to:*

- hunt any protected species except with a gun or bow and arrow.
- use any shotgun larger than 10 gauge while taking or attempting to take any protected species. Barrel length shall not be less than 18 inches, and the overall length shall not be less than 26 inches.
- hunt with, or have in your possession while hunting, a shotgun shell with shot larger than lead shot size BB, steel shot size T or number BBB of any other non-toxic shot. Except: Shot size is unrestricted for furbearer hunting and deer may be taken with a shotgun no larger than 10 gauge or smaller than 20 gauge loaded with slugs.
- take any species of wild game except deer and fur-bearing mammals with a shotgun loaded with slugs.
- use a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined. Any shotgun having a capacity of more than three shells must be fitted with a one-piece plug that is irremovable without dismantling the shotgun or otherwise altered to render it incapable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined. Except: This does not apply on licensed hunting preserves unless hunting wild migratory game birds and does not apply during Conservation Order light goose (snow, blue and Ross' geese) seasons that occur after Canada goose season has closed.
- use a crossbow to take wild birds or mammals except as provided for certain disabled persons (see page 34 under Disabled Outdoor Opportunities—Special Permits), persons 62 years of age or older who carry a valid photo ID with proof of age, and youths with a youth hunting license and a valid archery deer permit may use a crossbow to hunt deer during the archery deer season from October 1 through the second Sunday following Thanksgiving; however, all hunters may use a crossbow beginning the second Monday following Thanksgiving. See “Hunting With Crossbows” box on this page.
- use a rifle, handgun or airgun to take game birds or migratory game birds.
- discharge a rifle, handgun or airgun on, over or into water or ice.
- use a gun equipped with a silencer.

- possess any rifle in the field during the gun deer season (Nov. 17 - 19 and Nov. 30 - Dec. 3, 2017) except muzzleloading rifles used by deer hunters only. Note: The lawful possession of rifles to take furbearing mammals and game mammals other than deer shall not be prohibited during the Youth Deer Season (Oct. 7 - 9, 2017), muzzleloader rifle-only deer season (Dec. 8 - 10, 2017) and the Late-winter Antlerless Only Deer Season, Dec. 28 - 31, 2017 and Jan. 12 - 14, 2018.

### Using Drones to Interfere With Legal Hunting

*It is unlawful to use a drone in a way that interferes with another person's lawful taking of wildlife or aquatic life. "Drone" means any aerial vehicle that does not carry a human operator.*

### Dogs — Deer and Turkey

*It is unlawful to allow your dog to chase, harass or kill deer. Dogs may be used for hunting except for deer and turkey. See page 15, "Hunting Deer with Dogs, Horses, Vehicles, Boats and Aircraft."*

### Maintaining Separate Bags

*It is unlawful to possess wildlife for which there is a daily or possession limit unless each hunter maintains his bag of such species separately and distinctly from those of all other hunters.*

### Possessing Another's Wildlife

*It is unlawful to receive or have in custody any protected species belonging to another person, except in the personal abodes of the donor or donee, unless such protected species are tagged with the hunter's name and address, the total number of species and the date such species were taken. (See "Gift of Migratory Game Birds" on page 23.)*

### Possession and Daily Bag Limits

*It is unlawful to possess wild game birds, wild game mammals or wild fur-bearing mammals or any parts thereof in excess of the legally established daily limit or possession limit, whichever applies.*

### Feeding Wildlife

*It is unlawful to make available food, salt, mineral blocks or other products for ingestion by wild deer or other wildlife in areas where wild deer are present at any time.*

Except:

- elevated bird/squirrel feeders providing seed, grain, fruit, worms or suet for birds or squirrels located within 100 feet of a dwelling devoted to human occupancy.
- incidental feeding of wildlife within active livestock operations.
- feeding of wild animals, other than wild deer, by hand as long as a reasonable attempt is made to clean up unconsumed food.

- feeders for wildlife other than deer so long as deer are excluded from the feed in and around the feeder by fencing or other barriers.
- standing crops planted and left standing as food plots for wildlife.
- grain or other feed scattered or distributed solely as a result of normal agricultural, gardening or soil stabilization practices.
- standing, flooded or manipulated natural vegetation or food/seed deposited by natural vegetation.
- grain or other feed distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, for purposes of dove hunting.
- food material placed for capturing or killing wildlife pursuant to 520 ILCS 5/2.37, 2.30, and 1.3.
- scientific permits issued pursuant to 17 Ill. Adm. Code 520 that allow food to attract wildlife.
- any other permits issued by DNR that require the attraction of wildlife for purposes of management, research or control.

## Hunting With Crossbows

Archery hunters have the option of using a crossbow during certain dates (see below). Specific crossbow hunting requirements remain in effect for a portion of the season. Only those hunters who are eligible to use a crossbow due to disability, or are age 62 or older, and youth hunters with a youth hunting license and archery deer permit (see crossbow eligibility requirements pages 17 & 34). However, beginning the second Monday following Thanksgiving until the close of archery deer season, all hunters, regardless of age or disability, may use a crossbow to hunt for any species of wildlife that can be legally taken by bow.

Crossbows used in hunting shall:

- a) have a minimum draw weight of 125.
- b) have a minimum overall length (from butt of stock to front of limb) of 24 inches.
- c) have a working safety.
- d) be used with fletched bolts or arrows of not less than 14 inches in length (not including point).
- e) use broadheads that may have fixed (must be metal or flint-, chert- or obsidian-napped) or expandable blades (must be metal), but they must be a minimum 7/8 inch diameter when fully opened.
- f) NOT use electronic tracking systems utilizing radio telemetry. Note: On state-owned and -managed hunting areas flu-flu arrows must be used for taking upland game.

Violation of the provisions of this part is a Petty Offense with a maximum fine of \$1,000.

Note: Hunting deer over bait is a separate offense (see page 13).

### Releasing Wildlife and Possessing Live Wildlife

*It is unlawful to:*

- release from captivity any wildlife except as authorized by DNR or as authorized by permits for a field trial, dog training area, game breeding and hunting preserve area, or wild game and bird breeder permits.
- carry into this state alive or possess alive any species of protected wildlife taken outside of this state without first obtaining DNR permission, except licensed game breeders, as permitted by the Illinois Wildlife Code.
- release turkeys in Illinois except DNR employees and licensed hunting preserve operators authorized to release turkeys for the purpose of hunting.
- take wildlife and retain it alive.

### If You Find An Injured Or Orphaned Animal

- Most birds and mammals in Illinois are considered a protected species and picking up or possessing the animal outside of a legal hunting season is unlawful.
- If you suspect an animal is injured or orphaned, do not attempt to rescue the animal but try to watch the animal as you attempt to call a wildlife rehabilitator.
- Go to: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/wildlife/injured.cfm> for a rehabilitator in your county.
- Stay calm and quiet when you are around the animal and leave it alone to minimize stress.
- Do not feed or provide fluids to the animal.

### Possession of Captive-reared Game Mammals and Birds

*It is unlawful to* hold, possess or engage in the raising of game mammals, game birds or migratory game birds without obtaining a Class A Noncommercial or Class B Commercial Game and Game Bird Breeders Permit. Permit holders must keep detailed records of the acquisition and disposal of each species. Class B permit holders must keep records of sales. Records must be available for inspection by DNR and peace officers. Complete regulations are available in the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/3.23] at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/adrules](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/adrules).

**Possession of Live Furbearers.** See page 28.

### Hunter Interference Act

*It is unlawful to* interfere with or disturb another person engaged in the lawful taking of a wild animal with intent to prevent the taking, or disturb or engage in an activity that

will disturb wild animals, with intent to prevent their lawful taking.

### Hawks, Eagles and Owls Protected

*It is unlawful to* take, or attempt to take, molest or disturb any hawk, eagle or owl (including nests and eggs), at any time, except as provided by falconry regulations.

### Guns in State Refuges

*It is unlawful to* carry or possess any gun in any state refuge except as provided by Administrative Rules.

### Dens, Nests and Feed Beds

*It is unlawful to:*

- use a mechanical device, smoke or gases to remove an animal from its den.
- molest or destroy any feed bed (a mound, pile or mat of branches, cattails or other vegetation gathered and piled by muskrats or beaver), nest, den, house or other animal activity.

### Hunting From Vehicles and Boats

*It is unlawful to* hunt, disturb, harass or take any protected bird or mammal by the use or aid of an automobile, vehicle or conveyance, any type of watercraft, aircraft or any machine propelled by mechanical power. Exception: Paraplegics or other disabled persons, with a permit from the Office of Law Enforcement, may hunt from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance (see page 34 under Disabled Outdoor Opportunities – Special Permits). Note: It is legal to hunt game birds and game mammals (except deer and furbearing mammals) from a boat not camouflaged or disguised to alter its identity or further provide a place of concealment and not propelled by sail or mechanical power. Only shotguns loaded with not more than three shells of a shot size no larger than lead BB or steel T (.20 diameter) or other non-toxic shot size BBB may be used to take these game birds or mammals. A boat merely painted in a camouflage pattern is not considered camouflaged and may be used to hunt under conditions specified above.

### Night Hunting with Lights, Shining Wildlife

*It is unlawful to* use lights of, any light from, or any light connected to a vehicle or conveyance in areas where wildlife can be found. This does not prohibit normal use of headlamps for driving upon a roadway. Except: Skunk, opossum, red or gray fox, coyote and raccoon may be taken during the open season using a small hand-operated light by a person who is on foot and not in any vehicle.

### Transporting Shotguns on Boats

*It is unlawful to* place, carry, possess or transport a shotgun on a boat of any type in an area under the jurisdiction of DNR from Feb. 1 to May 31 inclusive, except persons having a valid,

unfilled turkey permit and licensed or authorized hunters legally hunting wildlife in season.

### Transporting Firearms and Bow and Arrow Devices in Vehicles

*It is unlawful to:*

- have or carry a shotgun, rifle, handgun or airgun in or on any vehicle, conveyance or aircraft unless the firearm or airgun is unloaded and completely enclosed in a case (see definition of case on page 10) except as noted in the Migratory Game Bird Section, page 23 (Hunting From Floating Blinds). Also see Hunting From Vehicles and Boats (page 12) and “Frequently Asked Questions” (page 35).
- carry a bow or bow and arrow device in or on a vehicle, conveyance or aircraft unless it is unstrung or enclosed in a case, or otherwise made inoperable.

### Transporting and Storing Pheasants

*It is unlawful to* remove plumage of pheasants in the field or while being transported to one’s home, taxidermist or food processor.

### Hunting from Road

*It is unlawful to* hunt, trap or discharge a gun or bow and arrow device along, upon, across or from a public roadway, highway or

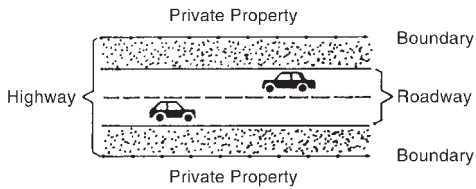
#### PERMISSION FROM LANDOWNER

It is unlawful for any person to take (see definition of “take” on page 10) or attempt to take any species of wildlife or parts thereof or intentionally or wantonly allow a dog to hunt, within or upon the land of another, or upon waters flowing over or standing on the land of another, or to knowingly shoot a gun or bow and arrow device at any wildlife physically on or flying over the property of another without first obtaining permission from the owner or the owner’s designee. For the purposes of this law, the owner’s designee means anyone whom the owner designates in a written authorization and the authorization must contain (i) the legal or common description of property, (ii) the extent that the owner’s designee is authorized to make decisions regarding who is allowed to take or attempt to take any species of wildlife or parts thereof, and (iii) the owner’s notarized signature.

Public hunting areas managed by DNR have restricted access. Refer to site-specific regulations for further details (pages 36-42). Note: Railroad rights-of-way are private property and permission from the owner is needed before hunting or trapping.

Illinois law does not grant the right of trespass for the purpose of retrieving wounded or crippled wildlife or hunting dogs. Secure permission from the landowner or tenant before entering any property. Your conduct while hunting and trapping can influence the landowner’s decision to allow future hunting or trapping.

right-of-way. Highway (right-of-way) means the entire width between the boundary lines of every public road. Roadway means the portion of the public road that is improved or ordinarily used for vehicle travel, excluding the berm or shoulder.



## Permission from Landowner Required to Hunt or Trap

See page 12.

## Hunting Near Inhabited Dwellings

It is *unlawful* to hunt or allow a dog to hunt within 300 yards of an inhabited dwelling without first obtaining permission of the owner or tenant of the dwelling. Except: A 100-yard restriction shall apply while trapping, hunting with bow and arrow, or hunting with shotgun using shotshells only, or on licensed game breeding and hunting preserve areas, on federally owned and managed lands, on DNR-owned, -managed, -leased or -controlled lands and areas operated under a Waterfowl Hunting Area permit.

## Damaging Property while Hunting

It is *unlawful* to damage or destroy another person's property while hunting or trapping on his or her land.

## Hunting Hours Restrictions

It is *unlawful* to hunt any wild game except during hours specified in the table on pages 2-3 (see Sunrise-Sunset Insert Card).

## Shooting Game Birds not Flying

It is *unlawful* to take game birds (except turkeys), unless they are flying except for taking pheasants that are not flying when crippled and not capable of normal flight and otherwise irretrievable. Migratory game birds may be taken while not in flight (see Migratory Game Bird definition page 10).

## Netting or Trapping Game Birds

It is *unlawful* to possess any net or trap for the purpose of taking game birds or migratory game birds.

## Possession of Illegally Taken Wildlife

It is *unlawful* to possess any species of wildlife or wildlife parts taken unlawfully in Illinois or any other state or country, whether

## Purple paint law

Landowners or leasees are able to mark trees or posts with purple paint as a "no trespassing" notice. See <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/PublicAct97-0477.aspx>

## OWNER LIABILITY AND DUTY OF CARE FOR HUNTING AND RECREATIONAL SHOOTING

The entire Recreational Use of Land and Water Areas Act codified within the Civil Immunities chapter of the Illinois Compiled Statutes can be found at 745 ILCS 65/.

The purpose of this Act is to encourage landowners to make land and water areas available to individuals for recreational or conservation purposes by limiting their liability toward persons entering the property for such purposes.

### Definitions

- "Land" includes roads, water, watercourses, private ways and buildings, structures, and machinery or equipment when attached to the realty, but does not include residential buildings or property.
- "Owner" includes the possessor of any interest in land: a tenant, lessee, occupant, the state of Illinois and its political subdivisions, or person in control of the premises.
- "Recreational or conservation purpose" means entry onto the land of another to conduct hunting and/or recreational shooting or any related activities.
- "Charge" means an admission fee for permission to go upon the land, but does not include: the sharing of game, fish or other products of recreational use; or benefits to or arising from the recreational use; or contributions in kind, services or cash made for the purpose of properly conserving the land.
- "Person" includes any person, regardless of age, maturity or experience, who enters upon or uses land for recreational purposes.

Except as recognized by this Act, a landowner owes no duty of care to keep the premises safe for entry or use by any person for recreational or conservation purposes, or to give any warning of a natural or artificial dangerous condition, use, structure or activity on such premises to persons entering for such purposes.

Except as recognized by this Act, a landowner who directly or indirectly invites or permits without charge a person to use such property for recreational or conservation purposes does not:

- Extend any assurance that the premises are safe for any purpose.
- Confer upon a person the legal status of an invitee or licensee to whom a duty of care is owed.
- Assume responsibility for or incur liability for any injury to person or property caused by an act or omission of a person or any other person who enters upon the land.
- Assume responsibility for liability for any injury to a person or property caused by any natural or artificial condition, structure or personal property on the premises.

Nothing in this Act limits any liability which otherwise exists:

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

or not the wildlife or wildlife parts is indigenous to Illinois. The statute of limitations for unlawful possession of such wildlife or wildlife parts shall not cease until 2 years after the possession has permanently ended.

## Possession of Freshly Killed Game Out of Season

It is *unlawful* to possess any freshly killed game when the season is closed for taking (see page 15 for Deer Accidentally Killed).

## Blaze Orange Clothing Requirements

See page 14.

## Selling Wildlife, Feathers etc.

It is *unlawful* to buy, sell, or offer to sell or barter game birds or migratory game birds, or parts thereof, including feathers, nests

or eggs (including wild turkey parts) or the edible parts of game mammals except as provided by specific permits.

## Retrieving Killed/Crippled Wildlife (Wanton Waste of Game)

It is *unlawful* to kill or cripple any species protected by the Illinois Wildlife Code for which there is a bag limit without making a reasonable effort to retrieve such species and include it in the bag limit. It is also unlawful for any person having control over harvested game mammals, game birds, or migratory game birds for which there is a bag limit to wantonly waste or destroy the usable meat of the game, except this shall not apply to wildlife taken by means of a nuisance wildlife removal permit or wildlife taken by means of a scientific collection permit. "Usable meat" means the breast meat of a game bird or migratory game bird and the hind ham and

## Blaze Orange Clothing Requirements

A solid blaze orange cap/hat and an upper outer garment displaying at least 400 square inches of solid blaze orange material must be worn:

- to hunt deer with any firearm during all firearm deer seasons.
- to hunt or trap any species, except migratory waterfowl, during all firearm deer seasons in counties open to firearm deer hunting.
- to track wounded deer with a dog during all firearm deer seasons.
- to accompany youth during youth controlled pheasant or firearm deer hunts.
- by hunters during pheasant, rabbit, quail and partridge season while trapping or hunting pheasant, quail, Hungarian partridge, rabbit, snipe, rail and woodcock on all DNR sites.

On non-DNR land, a solid blaze orange hat or cap must be worn to:

- hunt with a firearm for upland game, pheasant, rabbit, quail, partridge, etc.

Camouflage blaze orange material does not meet the requirements.

It is unlawful to use or occupy a ground blind during any firearm deer season on DNR-owned or -managed land unless at least 400 square inches of solid, vivid blaze orange material is securely attached to the uppermost portion of the blind and a substantial amount of orange is visible for 360 degrees.

front shoulders of a game mammal. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, leave, dump, or abandon a wildlife carcass or parts of it along or upon a public right-of-way or highway or on public or private property, including a waterway or stream, without the permission of the owner or tenant. It shall not be unlawful to properly discard game meat that is determined to be unfit for human consumption.

## FALCONRY REGULATIONS

State falconry permits, issued in accordance with federal regulations 50 CFR 21.29, are required to take, possess and transport hawks, falcons and great horned owls for falconry purposes. Call the Office of Law Enforcement for details at (217) 782-6431 or email Brian.Clark@illinois.gov.

## FIELD TRIAL AND DOG TRAINING REGULATIONS

It is unlawful to:

- hold a field trial, organized night hunt, water race or other competitive event involving sporting dogs without first obtaining a DNR permit. Applications must be submitted 4 weeks prior to the event.

- possess any firearm or ammunition other than a pistol loaded with blank cartridges while training dogs when hunting seasons are closed, except on an authorized field trial or dog training area. When training dogs from sunset to sunrise, no person in, along with, or accompanying the dog training party shall be in possession of a firearm or live ammunition, except pistols capable of firing only blank cartridges.
- operate a dog training area without first obtaining a wild game breeder's permit (217) 785-3423 and dog training area permit (217) 785-8129 from DNR. Complete information about field trials and dog training is available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov).

## TAXIDERMISTRY LAWS

Any person who engages in the business of taxidermy must obtain a DNR permit. Persons taking animals to a taxidermist must be able to prove that the animal was legally

taken. Taxidermists are required to keep written records of all animals received. All animals in their possession must be properly tagged or labeled. For further information contact a DNR office.

## DUTY TO REPORT HUNTING AND TRAPPING ACCIDENTS

Every hunting or trapping accident involving serious personal injury (death, internal injury, broken bones, loss of an appendage, disfigurement, etc.) including falls from elevated tree stands or a gunshot or archery wound must be reported to DNR within 5 days. Persons involved in a hunting or trapping accident must render assistance to persons affected by the accident provided they can do so without serious danger to themselves and others. Accidents must be reported on forms obtained from the Safety Education Section at 1-800-832-2599 or [www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety).

## FERAL SWINE LAWS IN ILLINOIS

Feral swine (wild pigs) are escaped animals from traditional hog operations, dumped pets, free-ranging practices and/or illegal releases. Feral swine negatively impact wildlife and wildlife habitat. These animals have a high reproductive potential and populations must be reduced by 70 percent each year simply to keep them from expanding.

**The Department regulates the transport, release, and harvest of feral swine. Specifically:**

- Hunters may only shoot feral swine during the firearm, muzzleloader, late-winter, and CWD deer seasons if the hunter possesses a valid firearm, muzzleloader, late-winter, or CWD deer permit. It is illegal to harvest feral swine outside of those dates, unless the individual has been issued a Nuisance Wildlife Permit from a District Wildlife Biologist. Pigs are considered feral swine if they are unrestrained and have **adapted to living in a wild or free-roaming environment**. Hunters who mistakenly or purposely shoot a domestic pig or someone's pet may be subject to civil and/or criminal charges.
- Hunter-killed feral swine must be reported to the Department by contacting Doug Dufford, Wildlife Disease and Invasive Animals Program Manager at (815) 369-2414. Hunters may keep the legally harvested pigs.
- It is illegal to provide outfitting or guide services for feral swine hunting in Illinois.
- It is illegal to hunt feral swine in an enclosure.
- It is illegal to release, transport, and/or possess feral swine.

Successful deer and turkey hunters who check in their harvest will be asked to report the number of feral swine they had observed during the hunting season in the county in which they were successful. These data will assist wildlife biologists in determining where feral swine are located, and allow for removal of these animals before extensive agricultural and environmental damage occurs. The Department and United States Department of Agriculture have recently eliminated feral swine from the two areas known to have free ranging feral swine populations.

Report feral swine sightings to: DNR, 8542 N. Lake Rd. Lena, IL 61048.  
Phone: (815) 369-2414.



(Photo courtesy Missouri Department of Conservation.)



# Statewide Deer Hunting Information

## DEER HUNTING REGULATIONS

In addition to statewide regulations, the following regulations apply to all deer hunters:

### Non-resident Requirements

In addition to their valid deer permit, non-resident deer hunters must purchase a non-resident hunting license (either \$57.75 annual or \$35.75 5-day license depending on the amount of time they will be hunting) and a State Habitat Stamp.

### Permit Applications

Apply online at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) or with a hardcopy application form. To receive application forms for a firearm or muzzleloading rifle deer hunting permit, contact the DNR Chicago office at (312) 814-2070 or the Springfield permit office at (217) 782-7305.

### Deer Permit and Tagging Requirements

*It is unlawful to:*

- hunt deer without a DNR permit.
- hunt deer unless the permit is properly signed and in the hunter's possession while hunting.
- transfer, loan, use, possess, or falsify any license, permit, tag, or harvest record issued to another person.
- take an antlered deer with an antlerless-only permit. An antlered deer is defined as a deer having at least one antler of a length of 3 inches or more. An antlerless deer is defined as a deer without antlers or a deer having antlers less than 3 inches long.
- have in your possession, while in the field during deer season, any deer permit issued to another person.
- hunt deer in a county or area other than specified on the permit.
- move, transport or field dress a deer upon kill before properly attaching the temporary harvest tag as instructed on the permit. Deer must be tagged immediately upon kill.

### White Deer Protected

*It is unlawful to take any all-white white-tailed deer at any time.*

### Sidearms and Rifle Regulations

*It is unlawful to:*

- have in possession any other firearm when hunting deer with a shotgun, handgun or muzzleloader. However, more than one firearm may be possessed by a firearm deer hunter provided it is a lawful gun for that particular season.

- possess any rifle in the field during firearm deer season (see page 2 for season dates) except muzzleloading rifles used by deer hunters only. NOTE: The lawful possession of rifles to take furbearing mammals and game mammals other than deer shall not be prohibited during the youth deer hunting season, muzzleloading rifle-only deer season and CWD and late-winter antlerless only deer season (see page 2 for season dates).

### Hunting Deer with Dogs, Horses, Vehicles, Boats and Aircraft

*It is unlawful to use a dog, horse, automobile, aircraft, boat or other vehicle to take deer with a firearm or bow and arrow. Dogs may, however, be used to track wounded deer if the following conditions are met:*

- Any person using a dog for tracking wounded deer must maintain physical control of the dog at all times by means of a maximum 50 foot lead attached to the dog's collar or harness.
- Tracking wounded deer is permissible at night, but at no time outside of legal deer hunting hours or seasons shall any person handling or accompanying a dog being used for tracking wounded deer be in possession of any firearm or archery device.
- Persons tracking wounded deer with a dog

during the firearm seasons shall wear blaze orange as required.

- Dog handlers tracking wounded deer with a dog are exempt from hunting license and deer permit requirements so long as they are accompanied by the licensed deer hunter who wounded the deer. It is unlawful to track deer with dogs on any DNR-owned or -managed site during hours when deer hunting is open on the site.

### Hunting Deer Over Salt, Mineral or Bait

*It is illegal to feed deer at any time and/or take deer by the use or aid of bait or baiting of any kind. Despite their widespread availability, deer baits and attractants commonly sold in stores are also illegal to use at any time except for use by properly licensed owners of captive cervids while feeding captive animals. For the purpose of this section, "bait" means any material, whether liquid or solid, including food, salt, minerals and other products that can be ingested, placed or scattered in such a manner as to attract or lure white-tailed deer. "Baiting" means the placement or scattering of bait to attract deer.*

For the purposes of taking white-tailed deer, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the manipulation, including mowing or cutting, of standing crops as a normal

## DEER ACCIDENTALLY KILLED/INJURED BY MOTOR VEHICLES AND METHODS OTHER THAN LAWFUL HUNTING

**To report and claim road-killed deer online, visit: [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov).** There is no limit to the number of deer that may be possessed under these circumstances. No part of a deer so killed can be bartered or sold.

Except for law enforcement officers in the performance of their duties it is illegal to kill a deer:

- crippled by a collision with a motor vehicle.
- crippled by methods other than lawful hunting unless permission has been obtained from a Conservation Police Officer (see phone numbers on page 1).

The state of Illinois is absolved of any and all liability associated with the handling or utilization of vehicle-killed deer and deer killed by methods other than lawful hunting. Motorists are also reminded to report deer-related traffic accidents to appropriate law enforcement agencies when such reporting is required.

### Collision with a motor vehicle

An Illinois resident/driver of a motor vehicle involved in a vehicle-deer collision has priority in legally possessing white-tailed deer killed/injured as a result of a collision with a motor vehicle. If the driver does not take possession of the deer before leaving the collision scene, any citizen of Illinois who is not delinquent in child support may possess and transport the deer. Non-residents may not claim a road-killed deer. Individuals claiming such a deer must report the possession within 24 hours at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) or by calling (217) 782-6431 no later than 4:30 p.m. the next business day.

### Killed/injured by methods other than lawful hunting or a vehicle/deer accident

Any individual finding a dead or crippled deer, other than those killed/injured in a vehicle/deer collision or legally taken by hunting methods, may not transport said deer parts until permission is obtained from a Conservation Police Officer. Permission will be granted if it is determined that the person requesting possession did not illegally kill or injure the deer. When retained, the head/antler and hide shall be properly tagged with an irremovable tag obtained from a Conservation Police Officer. These tags must remain attached as long as the head/antler or hide remains in the green state, or while in a commercial manufacturing process.

agricultural or soil stabilization practice, food plots or normal agricultural practices, including planting, harvesting and maintenance, such as cultivating, or the use of products designed for scent only and not capable of ingestion, solid or liquid, placed or scattered, in such a manner as to attract or lure deer.

### Deer Bag Limit

- *It is unlawful to kill more than one deer per permit during the bow season or more than one deer per permit during the gun seasons.*
- No hunter, regardless of the quantity or type of permits in his/her possession, may harvest more than two antlered deer during a year, including the youth, archery, muzzleloading and firearm seasons.
- For the purpose of this bag limit, deer seasons are considered to be in the same year if their opening dates are within the same 12-month period that begins July 1.
- Deer taken during the Special CWD Deer Season (select counties only) do not count toward the antlered buck limit.

### Gun and Bow Requirement During Non-hunting Hours

*It is unlawful to carry a loaded gun or bow with a nocked arrow in the field except during legal hunting hours. (see Transporting Firearms and Bow and Arrow Devices in Vehicles, page 12.)*

### Driving Deer on DNR-controlled Properties

*It is unlawful to drive deer, or participate in a deer drive, on DNR-owned or -managed properties during all deer seasons.*

### Importation of Animal Carcasses and Parts

Importation of hunter-harvested deer and elk carcasses into Illinois is prohibited except:

- deboned meat, antlers, antlers attached to skull caps, hides, upper canine teeth (also known as “buglers,” “whistlers,” or “ivories”). Skull caps shall be cleaned of all brain and muscle tissue;
- finished taxidermists mounts;
- carcasses or parts of carcasses with the spinal column or head attached may be transported in the state only if they are submitted to a licensed meat processor or a licensed taxidermist for processing within 72 hours after entry; licensed meat processors and taxidermists shall dispose of all inedible tissue not listed in the first dot point in a properly permitted landfill or with a renderer;
- tissues can be imported into the state for use by a diagnostic or research laboratory.

NOTE: Nothing in this Part shall prevent renderers regulated under the Illinois Dead Animal Disposal Act [225 ILCS 610] with Class A or B licenses from transporting cervid carcasses or parts into the state for the purpose of rendering.

### Exportation of Deer by Non-residents

Non-resident hunters who harvest a wild deer in Illinois should contact the DNR in states they will be traveling through, including their home state, to inquire about regulations related to possession/transportation of deer carcasses and/or parts of carcasses through the state in question as regulations vary from state to state.

### Transportation

- **To taxidermist**—if the head/antlers are delivered to a taxidermist for processing, either the temporary harvest tag (for firearm season in counties with a check station) or the head tag portion of the permit with confirmation number recorded (for all other situations) must remain with the deer at the taxidermist.
- **To meat processor**—if the carcass is taken to a meat processor, either the permanent harvest tag (for firearm season in counties with a check station) or the temporary harvest tag with confirmation number (for all other situations) must remain with the deer while it is processed, and until it is at the legal residence of the person who legally took or possessed the deer.
- **To tanner**—persons delivering deer/parts of a deer to a tanner for processing must supply the tanner with their deer permit number to verify lawful acquisition. In the absence of a permit number, the tanner may rely on the written certification of the person from whom the deer was received that the specimen was legally taken or obtained.

### Regional Firearm Harvest Reporting and Transportation

**In counties being surveyed for CWD (Boone, DeKalb, Grundy, JoDaviess, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will, and Winnebago counties)**

- Successful firearm season hunters must take their deer either whole or field-dressed to a designated firearm deer check station on the same day it was killed.
- Daily check station hours are 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
- A permanent harvest tag will be attached to the leg of the deer upon registration at the check station.
- If not able to locate a harvested deer in sufficient time to enable checking it in by

8 p.m., the hunter must take the deer to the appropriate check station upon its opening at 8 a.m. the following morning, or immediately upon retrieving it if that occurs later than the opening of the check station. If this situation occurs on a Sunday, the hunter must contact the appropriate regional DNR Law Enforcement office by 10 a.m. Monday morning for instructions on checking the deer.

- Successful hunters using their muzzle-loading rifle deer permits during the second weekend of the firearm season may, at their option, register their harvest either electronically or at a designated firearm deer check station by 8 p.m. on the day the deer was killed.

### In all other counties and seasons (pertains to firearm, muzzleloading rifle, archery, late winter antlerless, special CWD seasons)

- Successful hunters must register their harvest by 10 p.m. on the same calendar day the deer was taken by calling the toll-free telephone check-in system at 1-866-452-4325 (1-866-ILCHECK) or by accessing the online check-in system at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting).
- The harvest confirmation number must be written by the hunter onto the temporary harvest tag (leg tag). If the condition of the tag precludes writing on the tag in the appropriate space (i.e., bloody, etc.), the confirmation number shall be written elsewhere on the tag, or onto a piece of paper and attached to the deer along with the temporary harvest tag.
- The deer must remain whole (or field dressed) until it has been checked in.
- In instances where deer are checked in while the hunter is still afield, the deer may not be dismembered while afield beyond quartering the animal. If quartered, all parts of the carcass (except the entrails removed during field dressing) must be transported together and evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to one quarter. Evidence of sex is:
  - A) For a buck: head with antlers attached to carcass, or attached testicle, scrotum or penis.
  - B) For a doe: head attached to carcass, or attached udder (mammary) or vulva.
- The temporary harvest tag (leg tag) and confirmation number must remain attached to the deer until it is at the legal residence of the person who legally took or possessed the deer, the deer has been checked in, and final processing is complete.

### Blaze Orange Clothing Requirements

See page 14.

## FIREARM DEER HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

### Legal Hunting Equipment

- Shotguns, loaded with slugs only, of not larger than 10 nor smaller than 20 gauge, not capable of firing more than three consecutive slugs; or
  - Single or double barreled muzzleloading rifles of at least .45 caliber shooting a single projectile through a barrel of at least 16 inches in length; or
  - Centerfire revolvers or centerfire single-shot handguns of .30 caliber or larger with a minimum barrel length of 4 inches.
- Archery equipment use is legal on private land ONLY during Firearm Deer Season, provided the hunter has a valid county firearm deer permit. Archery hunting is not allowed using an Archery Deer Permit during the Firearm Deer Season in counties open to firearm deer hunting.

### Legal Ammunition

- For shotguns and muzzleloading firearms, the minimum size of the projectile shall be .44 caliber. A wad or sleeve is not considered a projectile or a part of the projectile.
  - For handguns, a bottleneck centerfire cartridge of .30 caliber or larger with a case length not exceeding 1.4 inches, or a straight-walled centerfire cartridge of .30 caliber or larger, both of which must be available as a factory load with the published ballistic tables of the manufacturer showing a capability of at least 500 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle. There is no case length limit for straight-walled cartridges.
  - Non-expanding, military-style full metal jacket bullets cannot be used to harvest white-tailed deer; only soft point or expanding bullets (including copper/copper-alloy rounds designed for hunting) are legal ammunition.
- For archery equipment, broadheads must be used and may have fixed (must be metal or flint-, chert- or obsidian-knapped) or expandable (must be metal) cutting surfaces, but they must have a minimum 7/8 inch diameter when fully opened.

### Additional Muzzleloading Regulations

- A muzzleloading firearm is defined as a firearm that is incapable of being loaded from the breech end.
- Only black powder or a “black powder substitute” such as Pyrodex may be used. Modern smokeless powders (nitrocellulose-based) are an approved blackpowder

substitute only in muzzleloading firearms specifically designed for their use.

- Percussion caps (shotgun primers are legal percussion caps), wheellock, matchlock or flint type ignition only may be used, except the Connecticut Valley Arms (CVA) electronic ignition shall be legal to use.
- A muzzleloading firearm is considered unloaded when: removal of percussion cap or removal of prime powder from frizzen pan with frizzen open and hammer all the way down or removal of prime powder from flashpan and wheel un-wound or removal of prime powder and match with match not lit, or removal of the battery from the CVA electronic ignition muzzleloader.

### Permit Requirements and Application Periods

Firearm deer hunters must have a current, valid Firearm Deer Season Permit.

- **First Lottery—Residents:** The deadline for the first lottery period for Illinois residents to apply for regular firearm and muzzleloading deer permits is April 30. Hunters may apply for firearm season permits and special muzzleloader season permits during the lottery. Permits are issued using a computerized lottery, and successful applicants receive their permits in July. Applicants wanting to determine whether they were successful before the second lottery deadline can check online at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer/Pages/OnlineDeerPermitInquirySystem.aspx>.
- **Second Lottery—Non-residents/Residents:** Individuals who were rejected for a deer permit during the first lottery, who are applying for their first permit, or who are non-residents may apply for firearm and muzzleloader deer permits through June 30. Applicants may apply for one either-sex deer permit and one bonus antlerless-only deer permit to be allocated from permits remaining after the first lottery. Illinois residents have preference over non-residents in this lottery.
- **Third (Final) Lottery:** Residents and non-residents may apply for additional firearm or muzzleloader permits left over from the county quotas. Deadline for applications is August 18. Anyone (regardless of other deer permits they may have) may apply for one or more permits in this lottery.

### Over-the-Counter Sales Period

Permits remaining after the Third Lottery Drawing will be available over-the-counter from license vendors throughout the state beginning Oct. 17 on a first-come, first-served basis. Permits will be sold until quotas are exhausted, or until the close of the firearm deer season, whichever occurs first.

### Permit Limit

Prior to the Third Lottery Drawing in August, no hunter may receive, or attempt to receive, more than one either-sex permit and one antlerless-only permit for the firearm deer season.

## MUZZLELOADING RIFLE DEER HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

### Legal Firearms

Single or double barreled muzzleloading rifles of at least .45 caliber shooting a single projectile through a barrel of at least 16 inches in length.

### Permit Requirements and Application Periods

- Muzzleloading rifle deer hunters must have a current, valid Muzzleloading Rifle Deer Season Permit, or an unused Property-Only Landowner/Tenant Deer Permit valid for that year's Firearm Deer Season.
- Unfilled Property-Only Firearm Deer Permits shall be valid only on lands owned/leased by the permit holder, and the holder must use a muzzleloading rifle.
- Application periods for muzzleloading rifle deer permits are the same as for the firearm deer permits.

### Permit Limit

Prior to the Third Lottery Drawing in August, no hunter may receive, or attempt to receive, more than one either-sex muzzleloader permit and one antlerless-only permit for the muzzleloader deer season.

## ARCHERY DEER HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

### Legal Archery Equipment

- A long, recurve or compound bow with a minimum pull of 30 pounds at some point within a 28-inch draw.
- Minimum arrow length is 20 inches.
- Broadheads must be used and may have fixed (must be metal or flint-, chert- or obsidian-knapped) or expandable (must be metal) cutting surfaces, but they must have a minimum 7/8 inch diameter when fully opened.
- Electronic tracking systems utilizing radio telemetry are illegal.
- See page 11 for rules regarding use of crossbows.
- A crossbow device is illegal except for:
  - A) Permanently or temporarily disabled persons, as defined by law (520 ILCS 5/2.33), may apply to the DNR Office of Law Enforcement (217/782-6431) for an exemption to allow use of a cross-

bow (a physicians' certification is required); or

- B) Persons age 62 and older may hunt with use of crossbow without first obtaining a crossbow permit. A valid photo I.D. with proof of age must be carried by persons age 62 and older.
- C) Youths with a Youth Hunting License and a valid archery deer permit may use a crossbow to hunt deer during the archery deer season from October 1 through the second Sunday following Thanksgiving.
- D) Any person, regardless of age or disability, may utilize a crossbow for archery deer hunting beginning the Monday after the second firearm deer season.

NOTE: It is unlawful to have any firearm in possession while hunting deer with a bow and arrow or crossbow.

### Resident Permits and Limits

Resident antlerless-only and combination archery deer permits can be purchased without limit from your local hunting license vendor. Resident hunters may apply for only one of the single either-sex permits on paper applications printed from Aug. 1-Sept. 1 ([www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov)) with an application deadline of September 1. (see Deer Bag Limit, page 16)

### Nonresident Permits and Limits

- Nonresident combination archery deer permits, each consisting of an either-sex tag and an antlerless-only tag, are available via lottery for \$411 plus a processing fee. Nonresidents may apply for and receive only one archery combination permit per license year. A non-resident landowner who has obtained landowner archery permits is also eligible for one combination non-resident archery permit.
- Applications are accepted June 1-30 via DNR Direct Online License Sales at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov).
- The number of permits is limited to 25,000, with clients of resident outfitters licensed by DNR given preference in the drawing for the first 7,500. Clients of licensed resident outfitters should contact the outfitter prior to applying to receive a certification number to be used in the application process to verify their outfitter client status. Permits will be allocated using a computerized, random lottery drawing conducted after June 30. If the number of eligible outfitter clients in the drawing is less than 7,500, all remaining permits will be allocated to the remaining applicants until the quota is reached. If the number of eligible outfitter clients in the drawing exceeds 7,500, those outfitter clients unsuccessful in obtaining one of the first 7,500 permits will compete against non-client applicants for the remaining 17,500 permits.

- Nonresident archery deer permits issued to outfitter clients who received a permit based on the preference given to outfitter clients are valid only on property controlled by the outfitter used to gain preference; all other archery permits are valid statewide.
- Any permits remaining after the drawing will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Nonresidents who have previously obtained either a Nonresident Combination Archery Deer Permit or a Nonresident Landowner Archery Deer Permit may purchase single antlerless-only archery deer permits for a fee of \$25. Nonresidents without one of those permits will be charged a fee of \$100. There is no limit for single antlerless-only permits.
- Nonresidents may not purchase a combination archery deer permit after Sept. 30 if they have previously purchased any single antlerless-only archery deer permit.

## LATE-WINTER ANTLERLESS DEER HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

### Counties Open to Hunting (all harvest is checked electronically)

DNR will announce in October the counties open to late-winter antlerless deer hunting. The county map will be available by Oct. 1 at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting).

### Permit Requirement and Application Periods

- Illinois resident hunters must have a current, valid Late-Winter Deer Season Permit (\$17.50), or an unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permit valid for the previous firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer season and valid for one of the open counties.
- Nonresident hunters must have an unfilled firearm or muzzleloader deer permit valid for the previous youth, firearm or muzzleloader deer season and valid for one of the open counties.
- Unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permits are valid only for the county for which they were originally issued, except that unfilled landowner property-only hunting firearm deer permits are valid only on lands owned/leased by the permit holder within the open counties.
- Unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permits that were originally issued for special hunt areas are not valid during the Late-Winter Deer Season unless the hunter is redrawn to hunt at the same site at a special site lottery, or if the special hunt area is open to persons with a county permit without conducting a lottery.
- Persons using an unfilled firearm, youth

or muzzleloader deer permit valid for the previous firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer season (including landowner permits) may harvest only antlerless deer even when using an either-sex permit.

### Resident Permits and Limits

- Special Hunt Area permits will be issued in a lottery from online applications received Oct. 31 - Nov. 27.
- There is no limit on the number of Resident Permits which may be purchased for counties designated as open.
- Resident Late-Winter County Deer Permits will be available for sale over-the-counter from license vendors beginning Dec. 12 through the last day of Late-Winter Deer season.

### Legal Firearms

Hunters using:

- unfilled Firearm Deer Season or Late-Winter Season permits may use all firearms described under the Legal Hunting Equipment section on page 17, as well as single-shot muzzleloading handguns (blackpowder handguns incapable of being loaded from the breech end) of .50 caliber or larger capable of producing at least 500 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle according to published ballistic tables of the manufacturer. Single-shot muzzleloading handguns must use a projectile of .44 caliber or larger with sufficient blackpowder or "blackpowder substitute" (such as Pyrodex) to produce at least 500 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle. A wad or sleeve is not considered a projectile or part of a projectile.
- unfilled Muzzleloader Deer Season permits may use only muzzleloading rifles.
- unfilled Youth permits may use only shotguns or muzzleloaders.

## SPECIAL CWD DEER HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

### Counties Open to Hunting (all harvest is checked electronically)

- Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, Jo-Daviess, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will and Winnebago counties, and the portion of Kane County west of State Route 47. The county map will be available by Oct. 1 at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting).

### Permit Requirements

- Hunters must have an unfilled deer permit valid for the previous firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer season and valid for one of the open counties; or a valid Chronic Wasting Disease Season Deer Permit (issued for one county and valid only in the county stated on the permit).

- Unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permits are valid only for the county for which they were originally issued, except that unfilled landowner property-only hunting firearm deer permits are valid only for the lands which the person to whom it was issued owns, leases or rents within the open counties/portion of counties. Unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permits originally issued for special hunt areas are not valid during the CWD season unless the hunter is redrawn to hunt at the same site at a special site lottery, or if the special hunt area is open to persons with a county permit without conducting a lottery.
- CWD Season Deer Permits are available over-the-counter from participating license vendors beginning Dec. 12 for a fee of \$5.50. These permits are antlerless-only.

### Special Harvest Regulations

- Persons using unfilled permits from the previous firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer season may take only the type of deer specified on that permit (either-sex or antlerless-only).

- The bag limit is one deer per legally authorized either-sex or antlerless-only permit.
- Deer taken during the CWD season are not subject to the antlered deer bag limit restrictions imposed during the firearm, muzzleloader, youth and archery deer hunting seasons.

### Legal Firearms

- Hunters with valid, unused permits from the firearm, youth or muzzleloader seasons may use only the weapons allowed by that permit in those respective seasons.
- Hunters with a valid CWD season deer permit may use any of the weapons allowed during the late-winter firearm season.

### Youth Deer Hunting Season Information

- Only young hunters (resident or non-resident) who have not reached their 18th birthday before the first day of the hunt may participate in the Youth Deer Hunt (Oct. 7 - 9, 2017). Unfilled Youth Permits are also valid during the first weekend of Firearm Deer Season (Nov. 17 - 19, 2017).

- Participants must have a current, valid Youth Deer Hunt Permit (\$10.50).
- Each youth must be accompanied by a supervising, non-hunting adult. Supervising adult may hunt during the 1st segment of firearm season with valid firearm permit while accompanying a Youth Deer Season permitted hunter.
- Permits will be available for sale over-the-counter from license vendors beginning Aug. 1 through the last day of the youth deer season in October.
- Hunters may purchase only a single permit (either-sex) for one of the open counties.
- All counties except Cook, DuPage and Lake counties, and that portion of Kane County east of State Route 47, are open to youth deer hunting.
- Legal firearms are limited to shotguns and muzzleloading rifles during the youth firearm deer hunting season.
- Refer to page 34 for more Youth Deer hunt info.

## Commonly Asked Questions About Late-Winter Antlerless Deer and Special CWD Deer Season

**H**unters should not confuse Late-Winter Antlerless Firearm Deer Season with CWD Firearm Deer Season. During the 2016/2017 hunting season, 24 counties were open for the Late-Winter Deer Season and 14 northern Illinois counties were open to CWD Firearm Deer Season. Even though the seasons are held concurrently, and all harvest in each is reported electronically, different regulations may apply for the two seasons. Below are commonly asked questions relating to both of these seasons.

**Question 1:** Which counties are open for hunting during the Late-winter Antlerless and the CWD firearm deer seasons?

**Answer:** DNR will announce in October the counties open to the Late-winter Antlerless deer season. Hunters should watch for news releases or check [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov). Counties open to the Special CWD firearm deer season are Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, JoDaviess, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will and Winnebago counties, and the portion of Kane County west of State Route 47.

**Question 2:** Can I kill an antlered deer during the Late-winter Antlerless or the Special CWD firearm deer seasons?

**Answer:** Hunters hunting in counties open for the Late-winter Antlerless firearm deer season are limited to shooting "antlerless deer only," regardless of the type of firearm permit held by the hunter. Hunters hunting in counties open to the Special CWD firearm deer season may harvest an antlered deer if they have a leftover unused either-sex permit from

the current year Firearm, Muzzleloader-only or Youth deer seasons; but hunters may only harvest an antlerless deer when utilizing the Special CWD antlerless permit.

**Question 3:** How many deer can I harvest during the Late-winter Antlerless or the Special CWD firearm deer seasons?

**Answer:** Hunters may harvest one "antlerless" deer per Late-winter Antlerless firearm deer permit. Hunters also may fill any unused leftover current year Firearm, Muzzleloader-only, Landowner Firearm or Resident Youth firearm deer permits provided they were issued for an open county. Leftover permits may be used to harvest "antlerless deer only," regardless of whether the permit is stamped "antlerless" or "either-sex." Late-winter Antlerless firearm deer hunters must use the weapon specified on the permit.

Hunters hunting in open counties of the Special CWD firearm deer season may only harvest one "antlerless" deer per CWD firearm deer permit, and also can use any unused leftover current year firearm permits, as above. Hunters in the CWD counties also can harvest an antlered deer if they have an unfilled "either-sex" left over permit from the regular Firearm, Muzzleloader-only or the Youth firearm deer seasons issued for an open CWD season county.

**Question 4:** Can I archery deer hunt during the Late-winter Antlerless and the Special CWD firearm deer seasons, and if so, do I have to wear orange clothing?

**Answer:** Yes. Even though archery season is closed during the regular firearm season, archery season is still open during the Youth, Muzzleloader-only, Late-winter Antlerless and the Special CWD firearm deer seasons. If you are archery hunting in a county open to one of the firearm deer seasons, you must wear a solid blaze orange hat and a solid blaze orange outer upper garment of at least 400 square inches.

**Question 5:** If I am archery deer hunting during the days when the Late-winter Antlerless or the Special CWD firearm deer seasons are open, can I shoot an antlered deer?

**Answer:** Yes, archers are subject to the Archery deer season regulations, so you may shoot an antlered deer with a bow when archery deer hunting concurrently with the Late-winter Antlerless or the Special CWD firearm deer seasons if you possess a valid Either-Sex Archery deer permit and if you have not previously reached the limit of two antlered deer.

**Question 6:** Can I firearm deer hunt and archery hunt at the same time during the Late-Winter Antlerless or the Special CWD firearm deer seasons or use a bow to fill a firearm deer permit?

**Answer:** No, the law specifically states that archery hunters cannot be in possession of a firearm while archery deer or turkey hunting. You cannot legally possess a bow and firearm at the same time while deer hunting regardless of what permits you have and what seasons are open.

# Chronic Wasting Disease in Illinois

**C**hronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease of deer, elk and moose. CWD causes the formation of small holes in the brains of infected animals, eventually leading to loss of weight, abnormal behavior, and death over an 18 – 30-month period of time. The disease is always fatal in deer and there is no treatment or cure. CWD is transmitted directly from one animal to another, and there is evidence that it also can be transmitted from contaminated places in the environment (for instance, a feeding area where saliva or excrement from an infected deer is present). CWD is not known to be a human health risk or a risk to agricultural livestock. However, as a precaution, health officials suggest common-sense measures when handling and processing deer, and advise that no part of any animal with evidence of CWD should be consumed by humans or other animals. CWD has been confirmed in captive and/or wild free-ranging deer populations in 24 states and 2 Canadian provinces.

The disease was first found in Illinois during the fall of 2002, after testing a Boone County deer that was behaving strangely. As of the printing of this digest, 685 confirmed cases of the disease have been identified in 17 Illinois counties (see map below). More than 104,500 deer have been tested statewide for CWD.

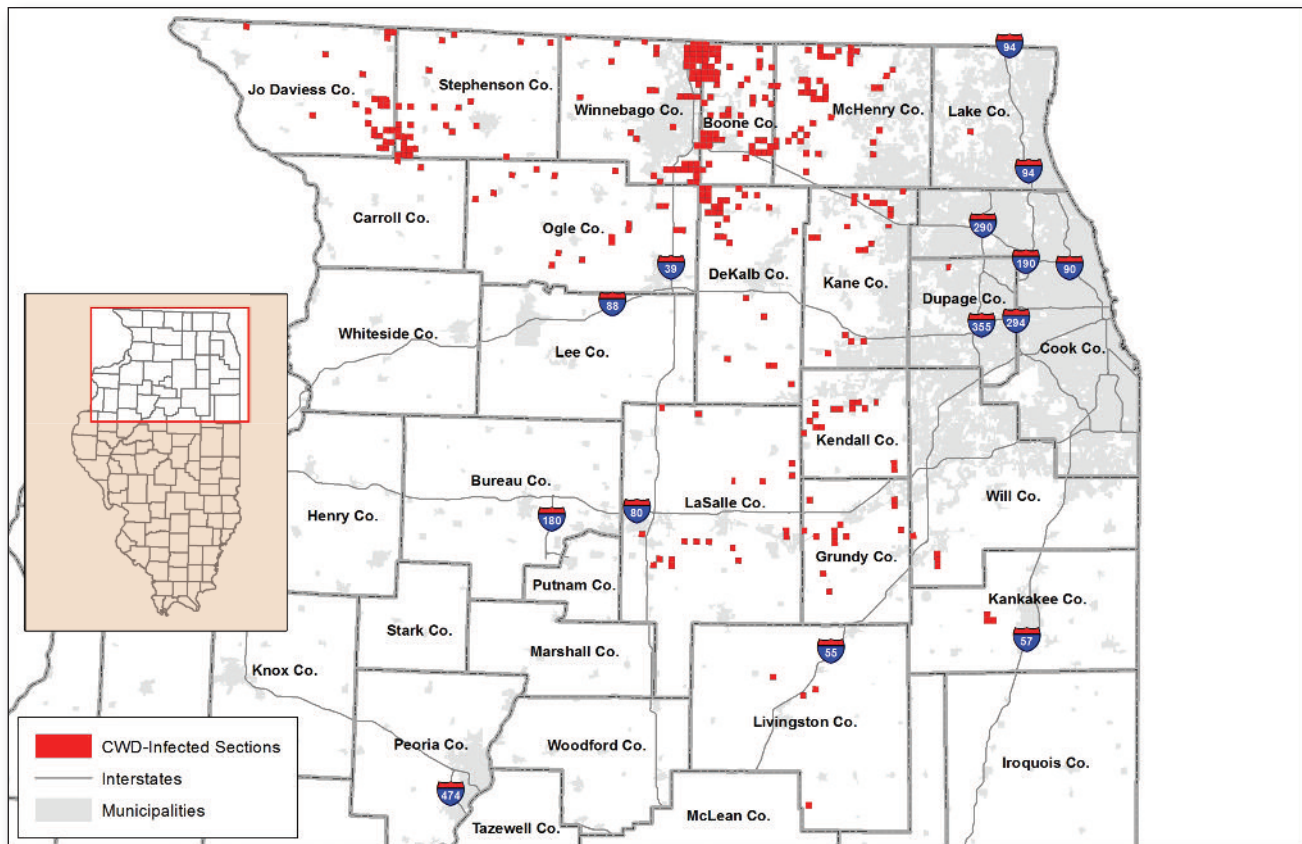
The eventual impacts of CWD on large-scale deer populations are presently unknown, but increasing scientifically generated evidence suggests that, if left unchecked, CWD poses a very serious threat to wild deer herds. Unfortunately, options for fighting CWD in free-roaming deer are limited, consisting of varying levels of population reduction and/or culling of infected individuals. Culling has been an important management tool in past efforts to manage various wildlife diseases, and can be effective when disease transmission rates are affected by population density. Biologists are certain of two things—doing nothing will not solve this disease problem; and our best chance for success is now, before the disease becomes more entrenched and more widely distributed. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is determined to make every effort to manage this disease, slowing its spread and impacts to other parts of the state.

To that end, we continue testing large numbers of hunter-harvested deer in several high-risk northern Illinois counties in order to track the extent and severity of CWD. Our biologists believe that CWD can be controlled, 1) if enough deer are removed annually from infected populations so that the number of sick deer

taken is greater than the number of new infections, and, 2) if deer densities are lowered sufficiently to reduce the amount of contact between sick and susceptible individuals. To help accomplish this, we have increased hunting opportunities, including offering a special CWD Deer Season in the affected counties. Permits for that season may be purchased over-the-counter from license vendors. Hunters from infected areas are encouraged to harvest as many animals as possible and to submit them for testing at the deer check station during the traditional firearm deer seasons, as well as at CWD sampling drop-off stations and certain cooperating meat processors/taxidermists (complete list available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/CWD/Documents/CWDSamplingLocations.pdf](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/CWD/Documents/CWDSamplingLocations.pdf)) during other deer hunting seasons. Hunter provided samples contribute to goals established to affect localized population reduction. Where sampling goals are not met, agency sharpshooters are used to bolster this effort. Culling by sharpshooters is particularly useful in situations where hunting access is limited, and helps ensure that management efforts are sufficient in the areas with the greatest need. Recent research by University of Illinois scientists concluded that IDNR's CWD management approach has been effective in maintaining low disease prevalence rates. The results of that research may be found at ScienceDirect ([www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0167587713002894](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0167587713002894)). CWD is a disease that progresses very slowly, so continued monitoring and management is important in determining changes (either positive or negative) over time.

DNR is responsible for the proper management and conservation of deer and all the state's natural resources, and we take that responsibility very seriously. Conservation of natural resources is much more than providing abundant deer in the short term for the recreational enjoyment of hunters; it is about being responsible stewards of our deer resource with an eye for their long term benefit and sustainability. Sometimes this requires sacrifice on the part of both hunters and managers, and this appears to be one of those unfortunate times. Because of management efforts to date, CWD infection rates in northern Illinois have remained very low, but much work remains to be done. We thank the landowners, hunters, and others for their continued support. Additional information about CWD and our management program may be found at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Programs/CWD/Pages/default.aspx>.

## Distribution of Chronic Wasting Disease in Illinois Deer



# Statewide Wild Turkey Hunting Information

## WILD TURKEY HUNTING REGULATIONS

Additional turkey hunting regulations are available upon receipt of permit.

In addition to statewide regulations, the following regulations apply to all wild turkey hunters.

### Non-resident Requirements

Non-resident turkey hunters must purchase a non-resident hunting license and State Habitat Stamp in addition to their valid turkey permit. Non-resident hunters may purchase either the annual license (\$57.75) or the 5-day license (\$35.75) depending on the amount of time they will be hunting.

### Turkey Bag Limit

*It is unlawful to take in Illinois, or have in possession, more than one wild turkey per legally authorized permit.*

### Permit Applications

Apply online at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) or with a hardcopy application. To receive applications for a wild turkey hunting permit, contact the Springfield Permit Office at (217) 782-7305.

### Turkey Permit, Tagging and Transportation Requirements

*It is unlawful to:*

- hunt wild turkey without first obtaining a DNR permit.
- hunt wild turkey unless the permit is signed and is in the hunter's possession while hunting.
- leave in the field or transport a wild turkey without first immediately attaching the leg tag securely around the leg as instructed on the permit. Note: Leg tag must be affixed to the wild turkey immediately upon kill. The leg tag must remain attached to the leg of the turkey until it is at the legal residence of the person who legally took or possessed the turkey and the turkey has been checked in.
- not leave the turkey whole (or field dressed) until it has been checked in.
- possess, while in the field during wild turkey seasons, any wild turkey permit issued to another person.
- hunt wild turkey in a county or area other than specified on the permit.

### Harvest Reporting Requirements

Successful hunters must register their harvest by the designated time on the same calendar day the turkey was taken by calling toll-free 1-866-452-4325 (1-866-ILCHECK) or by accessing the online check-in system at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting). See separate Spring and Fall Wild Turkey Hunting Information sections below for more specific requirements. Hunters must provide all information requested by the telephone check-in system, and will be provided with a confirmation number to verify that they checked in their

harvest. The confirmation number must be written by the hunter onto the leg tag.

### Legal Shotgun

- *It is unlawful to use anything but a shotgun (20 gauge to 10 gauge only, no .410 or 28 gauge allowed) to hunt wild turkey. You may not possess any other gun while turkey hunting.*
- No. 4 shot is the largest and No. 7 1/2 the smallest size shot that may be used.

### Legal Archery Equipment

- The only legal bows are long, recurved or compound bows with a minimum pull of 30 pounds at some point within a 28-inch draw.
- Minimum arrow length without the broadhead is 20 inches, and broadheads must be used. Broadheads may have fixed (must be metal or flint-, chert or obsidian-knapped) or expandable (must be metal) cutting surfaces, but they must have a minimum 7/8 inch diameter when fully opened.
- Any mechanical device capable of maintaining a drawn or partially drawn position on a bow is illegal.
- All other bows and arrows, including electronic arrow-tracking systems utilizing radio telemetry, are illegal.
- A crossbow device is illegal except for:
  - A) Permanently or temporarily disabled persons, as defined by law (520 ILCS 5/2.33), may apply to the DNR Office of Law Enforcement (217/782-6431) for an exemption to allow use of a crossbow (a physicians' certification is required); or
  - B) Persons age 62 and older may hunt with use of crossbow without first obtaining a crossbow permit. A valid photo I.D. with proof of age must be carried by persons age 62 and older.
  - C) Any person, regardless of age or disability, may utilize a crossbow for archery turkey hunting (as well as all other wildlife that may be legally harvested with a bow and arrow) beginning the Monday after the second firearm deer season.

NOTE: It is unlawful to have any firearm in possession while hunting turkey with a bow and arrow or crossbow.

### Live Decoys, Dogs or Recorded Calls

*It is unlawful to use live or electronic decoys, dogs or recorded calls.*

### Bait

*It is illegal to take wild turkeys by the use or aid of bait or baiting of any kind. "Bait" means any material, whether liquid or solid, including food, salt, minerals and other products that can be ingested, placed or scattered in such a manner as to attract or lure wild turkeys. "Baiting" means the placement or scattering of bait to attract wild turkeys.*

For the purposes of taking wild turkeys, nothing in this section shall be construed to

prevent the manipulation, including mowing or cutting, of standing crops as a normal agricultural or soil stabilization practice, food plots, or normal agricultural practices, including planting, harvesting, and maintenance, such as cultivating, or the use of products designed for scent only and not capable of ingestion, solid or liquid, placed or scattered, in such a manner as to attract or lure wild turkeys.

## SPRING WILD TURKEY HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

### Gobblers and Bearded Hens

*It is unlawful to take a wild turkey, except a hen with a visible beard or a gobbler (male).*

### Turkey Calling Prior to Season

*It is unlawful to use a turkey call that imitates sounds made by a turkey, or to attempt to call a turkey by making these sounds, while in the field in the Southern Zone from March 15 through the day before turkey season, and in the Northern Zone from March 22 through the day before turkey season. This prohibition applies only in counties open to spring turkey hunting, and does not apply to hunters while participating in the Youth Turkey Season. Note: This does not prohibit the use of locator calls that imitate other species such as owls, crows, hawks, etc.*

### Shooting Turkeys in Trees

*It is unlawful to shoot a wild turkey while it is in a tree before 7 a.m.*

### Harvest Reporting

Turkeys harvested during the spring hunting season must be checked in by 3 p.m. the day of harvest.

### Permit Limit

Three wild turkey hunting permits may be obtained for the spring season, subject to availability.

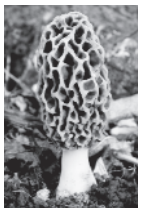
### Spring Permit Application Period

**First Lottery – Residents:** Applicants may apply for one turkey hunting permit. Applications must be received by Dec. 1, 2017.

**Second Lottery – Residents/Non-residents:** Individuals who were rejected for a wild turkey permit during the first lottery, who are applying for their first permit, or who are non-residents may apply for one permit. Applications

## Mushroom Hunting During Spring Wild Turkey Seasons

At DNR sites offering spring wild turkey hunting, mushroom hunting is prohibited during legal shooting hours for wild turkey hunting (1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.).



must be received by Jan. 11, 2018. Eligible Illinois residents have preference over non-residents in this lottery.

**Third Lottery – Residents/Non-residents:** Anyone with fewer than two permits may apply for one permit. Applications must be received by Feb. 9, 2018. Illinois residents have preference over non-residents in this lottery.

#### Over-the-Counter Sales Period

Permits remaining after the Third Lottery Drawing will be available over-the-counter from license vendors throughout the state beginning March 8 on a first-come, first-served basis. Permits will be sold until quotas are exhausted, or until the close of the specific turkey season segment for which the permit is being requested. Persons may purchase one or more permits during this period, subject to availability, except that no one may exceed the limit of three permits in total for spring turkey hunting, including youth and landowner permits.

### SPRING YOUTH WILD TURKEY HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

- The spring youth turkey hunt is open only to young hunters (resident or non-resident) who have not reached their 18th birthday before the first day of the hunt.
- Participants must have a current valid Youth Turkey Hunt permit (\$10) and a valid hunting

license, apprentice hunting license or youth hunting license.

- Each hunter participating in the youth turkey hunt while using an Apprentice or youth hunting license must be accompanied by a non-hunting (resident or non-resident) parent, guardian or grandparent who possesses a valid Illinois hunting license.
- All other youth hunters participating in the youth turkey hunt must be accompanied by a non-hunting (resident or non-resident) adult supervisor who has a valid Illinois hunting license or who has a valid F.O.I.D. card.
- An Illinois resident serving as a youth supervisor must have a valid F.O.I.D. card regardless of whether he or she has a valid Illinois hunting license. Non-residents are exempt from F.O.I.D. card requirements.
- Each supervisor may accompany only a single youth at one time.

### FALL WILD TURKEY HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

#### Shooting Turkeys in Trees

*It is unlawful to shoot a wild turkey with a gun while it is in a tree before 7 a.m. during the fall gun season.*

#### Harvest Reporting

Turkeys harvested during the fall hunting season must be checked in by 10 p.m.

the day of harvest (see page 21, Harvest Reporting Requirements).

#### Permit Limit

Two wild turkey hunting permits may be obtained for the fall shotgun season, subject to availability.

#### Archery Turkey Permits

Fall archery turkey permits are available only over the counter from license vendors. Two fall archery turkey permits may be purchased per season.

#### Blaze Orange Clothing Requirements

See page 14.

#### Shotgun Permit Application Period

**First Lottery – Residents:** Applicants may apply for one turkey hunting permit. Applications must be received by July 3, 2017.

#### Second Lottery – Residents/Non-residents:

Individuals who were rejected for a wild turkey permit during the first lottery, who are applying for their first permit, or who are non-residents may apply for one permit. Applications must be received by Aug. 21, 2017. Eligible Illinois residents have preference over non-residents in this lottery.

#### Third (Final) Lottery – Resident/Non-residents:

Anyone with fewer than two permits may apply for remaining permits to be allocated in the final lottery drawing. Applications must be received by Sept. 18, 2017.

## Statewide Migratory Game Bird Hunting Information

### Blackbirds and Crows Doing Damage

**G**rackles, blackbirds and cowbirds may not be hunted as a game species or for recreational purposes. However, in nuisance wildlife cases, red-winged blackbirds, Brewer's blackbirds, cowbirds, grackles and crows found causing serious injuries to agricultural crops, horticultural crops, livestock feed, or wildlife recognized by the Department or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as species that are endangered, threatened, candidates for listing, or special concern, or a health hazard or structural property damage may, without a permit, take the above listed species provided the person:

- has authorization from the landowner or tenant
- has tried non-lethal control methods prior to lethal control
- uses a shotgun (only non-toxic shot), air gun or traps
- uses no calls, decoys, etc.
- employs legal techniques only on or over the threatened area

Rusty and yellow-headed blackbirds are protected and cannot be killed.

Crows may be hunted as game by properly licensed hunters using shotguns, calls, decoys, etc. during the crow hunting season (page 2). It is illegal to recreationally hunt crows with airguns, rifles or handguns.

For reporting requirements and other federal rules, see 50 CFR 21.43.

### Lead Poisoning in Mourning Doves



**T**he hazards of lead poisoning in waterfowl consuming spent shotgun pellets have been well-publicized. An estimated 2-3 million ducks and geese have been spared annually since national laws prohibiting the use of lead shot for waterfowl hunting were passed in 1991.

Research has determined that doves also are at risk from acute lead poisoning due to consuming spent shotgun pellets in hunted fields, and that many more doves may be dying each year than waterfowl did prior to the lead shot ban. While non-toxic shot is not required on all hunting areas, dove hunters are encouraged to use steel or other non-toxic shot types to spare doves and other wildlife from potential lead poisoning. No. 6 or 7 steel shot used with shotgun chokes one size more open than typically used for lead are very effective in harvesting doves. Improved cylinder or skeet is the best choke to use with steel shot for doves. Even though non-toxic shot is a little more expensive than lead, the cost is justified to help conserve our valuable dove resource.

### Dove Banding

**D**ove hunters are urged to check the legs of harvested doves for bands. Most Midwestern states, including Illinois, are banding doves to gain information regarding survival, migration routes and harvest rates, with information used to develop new federal dove hunting regulations. Report band numbers to [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov). **Bird bands may no longer be reported via telephone, effective July 2017.** See page 25, Dove and Waterfowl Bands, for more information.



## MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

In addition to statewide regulations, the following regulations apply to the hunting of ducks, geese, mourning doves, sora rails, Virginia rails, coots, common snipe, woodcock and crows.

### Migratory Game Bird Regulations

The following state and/or federal rules apply to the taking, possessing, shipping, transporting and storing of migratory game birds. This material is only a summary and hunters also should consult Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20 (<http://www.ecfr.gov>), and Chapter 520 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, or talk with a Conservation Police Officer.

### License and Stamp Requirements for Migratory Waterfowl

For license and stamp requirements refer to the chart on page 8.

### Non-toxic Shot Requirements for Waterfowl, Snipe and Rail

*It is unlawful to have in possession while attempting to take migratory waterfowl (including coots and captive-reared mallards), snipe or rail any shotgun shells not approved as non-toxic by federal regulations.*

### Prohibited Hunting and Trapping Devices

*It is unlawful to use a trap, snare, net, crossbow (see p. 9 for crossbow exceptions), rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance to take migratory game birds.*

### Hunting from Floating Blinds, Boats and Scull Boats

*It is unlawful to:*

- hunt from a floating blind that is not anchored except a scull boat may be used

## Hunting Opportunities on Private Land

The Illinois Recreational Access Program (IRAP) has secured more than



16,400 acres of private land for outdoor activities to be enjoyed by registered IRAP participants. IRAP provides, free of charge to the participant, archery deer, small game, upland bird, waterfowl, and turkey hunting; and fishing, non-motorized boat access, wildlife watching, outdoor photography and other family oriented activities. More information about IRAP can be found at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/IRAP>.

on certain public waters and waterfowl may be taken from a boat not mechanically powered. (see page 12, Hunting From Vehicles and Boats) and not camouflaged or disguised.

- hunt waterfowl from a moving watercraft propelled by mechanical power or sails.

### Sink Box

*It is unlawful to hunt from a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).*

### Live Decoys

*It is unlawful to hunt migratory game birds other than crows with the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.*

### Electronic Calling Devices

*It is unlawful to use a recording or electronic calling device to hunt migratory birds other than crows. Such electronic calling devices may be used to hunt snow, blue and Ross' geese during Conservation Order light goose seasons that occur after Canada goose seasons close.*

### Driving or Chasing Birds

*It is unlawful to hunt by driving, rallying or chasing migratory game birds with any motorized conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of the hunters.*

### Permits Required for Leased Lands and Commercial Clubs

See Outfitter Regulation Information page 32.

### Shooting Crippled Waterfowl from Boats

*It is unlawful to have or carry an uncased or loaded shotgun in a motorized boat. Waterfowl hunters may have an uncased and unloaded gun in their boats for the purpose of pursuing crippled migratory waterfowl incapable of normal flight in an attempt to reduce said bird to possession, provided that the attempt is made immediately upon downing the bird and is done within 400 yards of the blind from which the bird was downed. The gun cannot be loaded unless the motor has been completely shut off and crippled birds may not be shot from the boat until the motor has been completely shut off and the boat's progress has ceased.*

### Wanton Waste — Retrieval of Downed Game Birds

*It is unlawful to fail to retrieve, if possible, and retain in the custody of the hunter in the field,*

## ATTENTION

### Dove, Waterfowl and Other Migratory Game Bird Hunters

#### HIP REGISTRATION

Registration with HIP (National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program) is required by law every year to hunt migratory game birds—doves, ducks, geese, snipe, woodcock, coots or rails—in Illinois. All licensed hunters must register with HIP if they intend to hunt migratory birds. It's free and it's easy.

Get your HIP certification when purchasing your hunting or sportsman license, or register for HIP by calling 1-888-6PERMIT (record the transaction number on your license).

Lifetime license holders also need to register with HIP on an annual basis. Crow hunting is exempt.

HIP is a nationwide program and you must register separately in every state where you hunt migratory game birds.

Cooperation and support from hunters make sound resource management possible.

all migratory game birds (other than crows) killed or crippled. Note: You need permission to enter private property.

### Field Possession Limit

*It is unlawful to possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, home, etc.*

### Tagging Requirements

*It is unlawful to give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place other than his personal abode, or in the custody of another person, unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the hunter's signature and address, the total number of birds involved, by species, and the dates such birds were killed.* <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/waterfowl/documents/waterfowlgifttags.pdf>.

### Gift of Migratory Game Birds

No person may receive, possess or give to another any freshly-killed migratory game bird as a gift, except at the personal abode of the donor or donee, unless such birds have a tag attached (see tagging requirements).

### Custody of Birds of Another

*It is unlawful to receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged. Tags available at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/waterfowl/Documents/WaterfowlGiftTags.pdf>*

## Termination of Possession

The possession of birds taken by any hunter ceases when such birds have been delivered by him to another person as a gift, or have been delivered by him to a post office, common carrier or migratory bird preservation facility and consigned for transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

## Species Identification Requirement

It is *unlawful* to completely field dress any migratory game bird (except doves) and then transport the birds from the field. The head or one fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to one's home or to a commercial preservation facility.

## Shipment — Marking Package

It is *unlawful* to ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with the name and address of the person sending the birds, the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent and the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

## Importation

It is *unlawful* to:

- import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except one fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between a port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility), drawn and the head and feet are removed. For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country, consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66.
- import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

## FEDERAL BAITING REGULATIONS DEFINITIONS

**Normal agricultural planting, harvesting or post-harvest manipulation** means a planting or harvesting undertaken for the purpose of producing and gathering a crop, or manipulation after such harvest and removal of grain, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Normal agricultural operation** means a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or agricultural practice that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Normal soil stabilization practice** means a planting for agricultural soil erosion control or

post-mining land reclamation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for agricultural soil erosion control.

**Baited area** means any area on which salt, grain or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered, if that salt, grain or other feed could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for 10 days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain or other feed.

**Baiting** means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

**Manipulation** means the alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural crops by activities that include but are not limited to mowing, shredding, disking, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning or herbicide treatments. The term does not include the distributing or scattering of grain, seed or other feed after removal from or storage on the field where grown.

**Natural vegetation** means any non-agricultural, native or naturalized plant species that grows at a site in response to planting or from existing seeds or other propagules. The term does not include planted millet. However, planted millet that grows on its own in subsequent years after the year of planting is considered natural vegetation.

## FEDERAL BAITING REGULATIONS

It is *unlawful* to take migratory game birds except crows by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. However, nothing prohibits:

- (1) the taking of any migratory game bird, **including** waterfowl and coots, on or over the following lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas—
  - (2) The taking of any migratory gamebird, **except** waterfowl and coots, on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation. Note: This exception applies only to dove hunting.
- (i) Standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics); standing, flooded or manipulated natural vegeta-

tion; flooded harvested croplands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice;

- (ii) From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation;
- (iii) From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed; or
- (iv) Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys or retrieving birds.

## Don't Shoot a Swan!

**Don't make a mistake!  
All wild swans are  
protected in Illinois.**

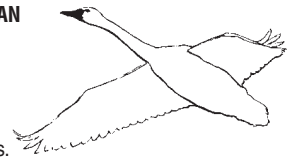
Several Midwestern states are reintroducing the native trumpeter swan to the region. Some of these birds are migrating through and wintering in Illinois. You can help bring back this magnificent swan by:

- Learning the difference between swans and snow geese.
- Reporting observations of swans having wing tags, neck collars or leg bands.
- Protecting wetland habitat.
- Reporting any harassment of trumpeter swans.

### TRUMPETER SWAN

#### *Protected Species*

Long neck  
Length: 4 ft.  
Wingspan: 7 ft.  
Weight: 20 - 30 lbs.



### SNOW GOOSE

#### *Legally Hunted*

Short neck  
Length: 1 ½ ft.  
Wingspan: 3 ½ ft.  
Weight: 3 - 6 lbs.  
White plumage, but BLACK WING TIPS.



CAUTION-White pelicans have black wing tips, but their wingspan is 8-9 1/2 ft.

**Report swan sightings to:  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Waterfowl Program  
700 South 10th Street  
Havana, IL 62644  
(309) 543-3065**

## Dove and Waterfowl Bands

If you take a banded bird, visit [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov) with information about when and where you shot the bird. You will be emailed a Certificate of Appreciation with information about when and where the bird was banded. Your cooperation on reporting band numbers gives waterfowl and dove biologists a wealth of information useful in managing the resource to provide hunters with maximum recreational opportunities while protecting waterfowl and dove populations. **Beginning in July 2017 the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center will no longer support the call center that receives reports of banded birds to the Bird Banding Laboratory, consequently web reporting will be the only way to report bird bands.**

## Migratory Bird Hunting and Federal Baiting Regulations

### What Illinois Hunters Need to Know

#### Hunters MAY:

- hunt ALL legal migratory game birds, including waterfowl and coots.
- hunt over natural vegetation that has been mowed or manipulated in other ways. There is no restriction on when manipulation may occur. In other words, the manipulation may occur before, during or after any season where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of “normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice.” over surface-mined lands being reclaimed where seeds or grains are scattered solely as a result of a “normal soil stabilization practice.”
- hunt ALL legal migratory game birds over standing crops, standing flooded crops and flooded harvested croplands.
- hunt doves where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered as the result of the manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown or as the result of a “normal agricultural operation.” The term “normal agricultural operation” applies not just to planting, harvesting and post-harvest manipulation but also other farming practices such as livestock management.
- use natural vegetation to conceal a blind.
- use vegetation from agricultural crops to conceal a blind provided that the crop seed is not exposed, deposited, distributed or

scattered in the process. For example, corn stalks may be used to camouflage a blind as long as the attached ears remain tightly in the husk.

- continue hunting over standing or flooded standing agricultural crops if they inadvertently scatter grain solely as a result of entering or leaving the field, placing decoys or retrieving downed birds.
- be charged with hunting over bait or a baited area if they “know or reasonably should know” that the area is baited.
- be fined up to \$15,000 and spend 6 months in jail if convicted of hunting over bait or a baited area.
- be fined up to \$100,000 as an individual or \$200,000 as an organization and spend 1 year in prison if convicted of placing or directing the placement of bait.

#### With respect to federal prohibitions, hunters MAY NOT:

- place, expose, deposit, distribute, or scatter salt, grain or other feed that could lure or attract migratory game birds, except crows, to, on or over an area where hunters are attempting to take them.
- hunt migratory game birds, except crows, with the aid of bait or on or over any baited area.
- hunt over any baited area until all salt, grain or other feed has been completely removed for at least 10 days.

- hunt waterfowl and coots over manipulated planted millet. Planted millet is not considered natural vegetation unless it becomes naturalized and grows (volunteers) on its own in subsequent years.
- hunt waterfowl and coots over seed or grain from manipulated agricultural crops or normal agricultural operations except where seed or grain is present solely as a result of “normal planting, harvesting or post-harvest manipulation” or “normal agricultural soil stabilization practices.”
- hunt migratory game birds, other than crows, if the use of vegetation from agricultural crops to conceal a blind exposes, deposits, distributes or scatters grain or other crop seed.

#### Hunters also should remember that:

- they are responsible for ensuring that the hunting area has not been baited before they start hunting.
- they should physically inspect the field or marsh; question landowners, guides and caretakers; and take other reasonable steps to verify the legality of the hunting area.
- they must know and obey all applicable federal and state hunting regulations.
- when making agricultural determinations, the Fish and Wildlife Service relies on the official recommendations of state extension specialists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Cooperative Extension Service.

## Federal Baiting Regulations-Questions & Answers

### How are hunters and others supposed to determine what agricultural and soil stabilization activities are “normal” when the legality of hunting is in question?

The rule defines the three terms (“normal agricultural planting, harvesting or post-harvest manipulation,” “normal soil stabilization practice,” and “normal agricultural operation”)

used to describe land-use activities compatible with hunting different migratory birds in agricultural areas. In each case, those definitions specify that allowable activities are those conducted in accordance with official recommendations of U.S. Department of Agriculture state extension specialists for the

particular geographic area. Hunters should remember that recommended agricultural practices may vary from state to state, region to region within a state, even from site to site. This approach is not new. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has traditionally relied on state extension specialists to determine the validity of agricultural practices and opera-

tions. The new rule incorporates existing Service policy and makes the U.S. Department of Agriculture the official authority for determining what farming activities are or are not “normal” in a given area.

### **Why did the Fish and Wildlife Service include provisions concerning camouflaging blinds? What use of vegetation is allowed?**

Public confusion and misconceptions prompted the Service to address this issue. Hunters can use both natural and agricultural vegetation to camouflage blinds. No restrictions apply when natural vegetation is used. Hunters may, however, use only agricultural plants for camouflage if such use does not expose, deposit, distribute or scatter grain or other feed.

### **How did the Fish and Wildlife Service address the issue of the inadvertent scattering of grain?**

Hunters now have clear assurance that the inadvertent scattering of grain from standing or

flooded standing agricultural crops while entering and leaving hunting areas, placing decoys and retrieving downed birds will not be considered baiting offenses.

### **Does the rule address the issue of strict liability?**

For years, courts in most parts of this country had historically applied a strict liability standard to baiting offenses. Under this standard, law enforcement officers did not have to prove that hunters knew bait was present in order to prove a violation had occurred. However, on Oct. 30, 1998, Public Law 105-312 eliminated strict liability for baiting offenses and instead made it unlawful for anyone to hunt with the aid of bait “if the person knows or reasonably should know that the area is a baited area.” The Service has incorporated this “knows or reasonably should know” standard in the baiting regulation to promote public understanding of the law. As in the past, however, hunters are responsible for ensuring that no bait is present (or was present up to 10 days) before they begin hunting.

They should thoroughly inspect the field or marsh, question landowners and guides, and take other reasonable steps to verify the legality of their hunt.

### **Did Congress make any other changes with respect to baiting?**

Yes. Legislators increased the maximum fine for hunting over bait from \$5,000 to \$15,000. They also made the placement of bait a violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act punishable by a fine up to \$100,000 for an individual or \$200,000 for an organization, a prison term of up to one year, or both. In the past, individuals who baited fields were charged with “aiding and abetting,” that is, helping someone else commit the crime of hunting over bait. They face stiffer penalties under the new law.

### **How does the regulation affect Illinois’ migratory game bird baiting laws?**

Illinois regulations are the same as those of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

## **Statewide Furbearer Hunting and Trapping Information**

### **FURBEARER HUNTING AND TRAPPING INFORMATION**

#### **Possession of Road-kill Furbearers**

Furbearing mammals that are found dead or unintentionally killed by a vehicle along a roadway may be salvaged if the season for that species is open and you possess all appropriate licenses, stamps and permits required to take that species. NOTE: Bobcats may be salvaged with permit only. Salvage of weasel, mink, muskrat, beaver, badger and river otter requires a trapping license and state habitat stamp if required; salvage of all other species require a hunting or trapping license and state habitat stamp if required. Salvaged badgers, bobcats and river otters become part of your bag limit. River otters and bobcats are subject to registration and tagging requirements.

#### **Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit**

Hunters and trappers must possess a valid Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit **BEFORE** taking or attempting to take a bobcat. Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permits cannot be transferred to another person.

#### **Bobcat-Methods of Take**

People who possess a valid Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit may take one bobcat by hunting or trapping. People who possess a valid Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit may also salvage a bobcat found dead along a roadway during open seasons; such animals become part of the person’s bag limit and are subject to permit and tagging requirements.

#### **Bobcat Registration Permit**

Hunters and trappers must purchase a Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours **AFTER** taking a bobcat. The cost of a permit is \$5 plus a vendor’s fee. Bobcat Registration Permits are available only at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov). Bobcat Registration Permits must be purchased by the same individual who took a bobcat and cannot be transferred to another person. Note: Purchase this permit **AFTER** (not before) you harvest a bobcat.

#### **Bobcat Tagging Requirement**

An official CITES tag must be permanently affixed to the green hide of each bobcat (including a whole, un-skinned carcass) before it is exported outside the United States or transferred to a fur buyer, taxidermist, fur tanner, or garment manufacturer. Unsealed CITES tags are not transferrable. It is unlawful to possess more unsealed CITES tags than the number of green hides of bobcat in possession.

### **FURBEARER HUNTING INFORMATION**

In addition to statewide regulations, the following regulations apply to all furbearer hunters.

#### **Beaver, Badger, Muskrat, River Otter, Weasel and Mink — Trapping Only**

*It is unlawful to take beaver, badger, river otter, muskrat, weasel or mink by hunting methods.*

#### **Tree Climbing or Cutting Devices**

*It is unlawful to use or possess any tree climbing or cutting device when hunting furbearing mammals, except coyotes.*

#### **Possession of Green Hides**

*It is unlawful to possess green hides before the season begins or longer than 20 days after the season closes.*

#### **Furbearer Running Season**

Furbearers may be pursued or chased with dogs, but not killed, during the running season. The running season for coyote, gray and red fox, opossum, raccoon and striped skunk is open year-round. Exception: It is unlawful to pursue any furbearer with a dog or dogs between the hours of sunset and sunrise during the 10-day period preceding the opening date of the raccoon hunting season and the 10-day period following the closing date of the raccoon hunting season. Note: Competitive hunts licensed by U.K.C., N.K.C., P.K.C. or A.K.C./A.C.H.A. may be held during the 10-day closed periods under authority of a DNR Field Trial Permit.

*It is unlawful to possess any firearm or ammunition other than a pistol loaded with blank cartridges while training dogs during the time when hunting seasons are closed except on an authorized field trial or dog training area.*

When training dogs from sunset to sunrise, no person in, along with or accompanying the dog training party shall be in possession of a firearm or live ammunition, except pistols capable of firing only blank cartridges.

Non-residents are prohibited from hunting furbearers or running their dogs in Illinois during any time when Illinois residents would not be allowed to hunt furbearers or run dogs in the non-resident's state.

## FURBEARER TRAPPING INFORMATION

In addition to statewide regulations, the following regulations apply to all furbearer trappers.

### License and Stamp Requirements

See page 8.

### Trap Tags

*It is unlawful* to fail to mark or tag with metal tags or inscribe in lettering the name and address of the owner all traps used in the taking of furbearing mammals.

### Trap Checking Requirement

*It is unlawful* to fail to visit and remove all animals from traps at least once each calendar day.

### Trap Size Restrictions — Land

*It is unlawful to:*

- on land use a leghold trap that has a jaw spread larger than 6 1/2 inches or a body-gripping trap that has a jaw spread larger than 7 inches on a side, if square, and 8 inches, if round.
- in water use a leghold trap that has a jaw spread larger than 7 1/2 inches or a body-gripping trap that has a jaw spread larger than 10 inches on a side, if square, and 12 inches, if round.
- except during the open season for trapping muskrats, trap beaver or river otter with a leghold trap or one of similar construction having a jaw spread of less than 5 1/2 inches or more than 7 1/2 inches, or
- except during the open season for trapping muskrats, trap beaver or river otter with a body-gripping trap or one of similar construction having a jaw spread of less than 7 inches or more than 10 inches on a side, if square, and 12 inches, if round. Note: Large traps, e.g., #3 and #4 long spring or #220, #280 and #330 Conibear, are the only leghold and body-gripping traps which may be used for beaver or river otter when the muskrat season is closed. Small traps, such as the #1, #11/2, and #2 long spring or the #110 and #120 Conibear, may not be used when the muskrat season is closed. The diameter of traps is measured from the inside edges of the jaws.

### Spiked and Toothed Jaw Traps

*It is unlawful* to use any trap with saw-toothed, spiked or toothed jaws.

### Deadfalls, Nets and Pit Traps

*It is unlawful* to use or possess a deadfall, net or pit trap to take any protected wildlife.

### Snares

*It is unlawful to:*

- place, set, use or maintain a snare unless at least half of the loop is underwater at all times. When set, the snare loop must be 15 inches or less in diameter. Snares must be constructed of cable that is at least 5/64 inch, but no more than 1/8 inch in diameter, and must be equipped with a mechanical lock, anchor swivel and stop device that prevents the snare loop from closing to less than 2-1/2 inches in diameter.
- use or possess cable or wire snares constructed of stainless steel metal.

### Dens, Nests and Feed Beds

*It is unlawful to:*

- destroy, disturb or in any manner interfere with dams, lodges, burrows or feed beds of beaver while trapping for beaver or to set a trap inside a muskrat house or beaver lodge.
- set traps closer than 10 feet from any hole or den which may be occupied by a game mammal or furbearing mammal except that this restriction does not apply to water sets. Traps may be legally set within 10 feet of dens in water, but such sets are unlawful on land.

### Repeating or Colony Traps

*It is unlawful* to trap any furbearing mammal with any colony traps or any cage, box or stove-pipe trap designed to take more than one mammal at a single setting. Single catch cage or box traps are legal.

### Closed Trapping Season

*It is unlawful* to set or place any trap in the field, set or unset, during the closed trapping season. Setting out stakes or floats before the season opens, if no traps are attached to them, is permissible.

### Exposed Bait

*It is unlawful* to place, set or maintain any leghold trap within 30 feet of bait placed in such a manner or position that is not completely covered and concealed from sight, except that this shall not apply to water sets.

Bait means any bait composed of mammal, bird or fish flesh, fur, hide, entrails or feathers. Leghold traps set on land may not be placed around exposed bait, such as animal carcasses.

### Beaver, Badger, River Otter, Weasel, Mink and Muskrat — Trapping Only

*It is unlawful* to take beaver, badger, river otter, weasel, mink or muskrat except by trapping. However, beaver, river otter, weasel, mink,

## ATTENTION

### BOBCAT TRAPPERS

During July 2015, Western Illinois University (WIU) researchers initiated a 2-year study to estimate bobcat population abundance across west central Illinois in collaboration with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Field efforts to capture and radio-collar bobcats were initiated during winter 2016 in Fulton, Hancock, McDonough, and Schuyler counties. Researchers at WIU will continue capturing bobcats during winter 2017, but would benefit from the help of the trapping community across the 4-county area in capturing bobcats. Recolonization of west central Illinois by bobcats is a conservation success story made possible by support of conservation programs by the sportsmen and women throughout Illinois. Your continued support will contribute to an increased understanding of bobcat abundance across west central Illinois, and thus continued hunting and trapping across the region. If interested in ongoing bobcat research across west central Illinois, please contact WIU researcher Chris Jacques (309-298-2155) for additional information.

and muskrat can be shot with a firearm, pistol, or airgun of a caliber not larger than a .22 long rifle to remove the animal from the trap.

### Trapping Near Dwellings

*It is unlawful* to trap within 100 yards of an inhabited dwelling without first obtaining permission from the owner or tenant.

### Written Authorization to Handle Traps of Another Person

*It is unlawful* to remove furbearing mammals from, or to move or disturb in any manner, traps owned by another person without written authorization of the owner to do so.

### Permission from Landowner

*It is unlawful* to trap furbearers on another person's property without his or her permission. This includes waters flowing over or standing on the land of another person.

### Damaging Property While Trapping

*It is unlawful* to destroy or damage another person's property while trapping on his or her land.

### Possession of Green Hides

*It is unlawful* to possess green hides before the season begins or longer than 20 days after the season closes.

## Rabbits and Squirrels Cannot Be Trapped

It is unlawful to trap any wildlife except furbearing mammals (see definition on page 10 and season dates on page 3) and woodchucks. Note: It is unlawful to trap rabbits, squirrels, deer and protected birds (see page 8).

## Furbearer Trapping Reporting Requirements

Every person trapping furbearing mammals must report to DNR, on supplied forms, all furbearing mammals trapped and sold during the open season. Report forms are normally mailed to a random sample of approximately 20 percent of all licensed trappers. If you do not receive a report form/questionnaire from DNR after the regular trapping season, you are not required to report your catch.

## Furbearing Mammal Breeder Permits

Persons within Illinois who hold, possess or engage in the breeding or raising of live furbearing mammals protected by the Wildlife Code must have a valid Furbearing Mammal Breeder Permit. No permits will be issued for the breeding or raising of striped skunks or coyotes.

Furbearing mammal breeders shall keep a

record for 2 years from the date of acquisition, sale or other disposition of each live furbearing mammal or its green hide so raised or propagated (contact DNR for more specific regulations dealing with possession of live furbearing animals under Chapter 520 5/3.25 of the Wildlife Code).

## Otter-Methods of Take

Trapping is the only legal method of take. Licensed trappers may salvage otters found dead along a roadway during the open season; such animals become part of the person's bag limit and are subject to permit and tagging requirements.

## Otter Registration Permit

Trappers must purchase an Otter Registration Permit within 48 hours after harvesting a river otter. The cost of a permit is \$5 plus a vendor's fee. Permits are available anywhere you can purchase a hunting or trapping license, including DNR DIRECT. You will be mailed an official CITES pelt tag within 2-3 weeks after purchasing a permit. Otter registration permits must be purchased by the individual who captured the otter and cannot be transferred to another person. NOTE: Do not purchase a permit before you harvest an otter.

## Otter Tagging Requirement

An official CITES tag must be permanently affixed to the green hide of each otter (including a whole, un-skinned carcass) before it is exported outside the United States or transferred to a fur buyer, fur tanner, taxidermist or manufacturer (a manufacturer is an individual who dresses and fabricates green hides into fur garments or products). Unsealed CITES tags cannot be transferred to another person. Visit the Department's website at [www.illinois.dnr.gov/trapping](http://www.illinois.dnr.gov/trapping) for videos about tagging, skinning, fleshing and stretching otter pelts.

## Otter Bag and Possession Limits

No more than five otters may be taken or possessed during the season. Possession limits do not apply to fur buyers, tanners, manufacturers or taxidermists. Possession limits do not apply to tanned pelts, mounted specimens or manufactured products.

## Possession of Unused CITES Tags Prohibited

It is unlawful to possess more unsealed CITES tags than otters.

## Bobcat Hunting and Trapping

- Hunters and trappers must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE taking or attempting to take a bobcat. Applications will be available online only at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) during Sept. 1 - 30. Applicants must submit a \$5 non-refundable fee. Available permits will be allocated during a lottery and mailed to successful applicants.
- If you receive a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit, you may take one bobcat by hunting, trapping, or salvaging a road-kill during open seasons. Examples of legal methods of hunting include archery, predator calling, stalking, and treeing with dogs. The hunting season for bobcats is closed during firearm deer seasons (see page 2 for dates and times of closure)
- Taking bobcats is prohibited in the closed zone (see page 4 for boundaries of closed zone)
- If you take a bobcat, you must purchase a \$5 Bobcat Registration Permit at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) within 48 hours. (Code 306 under "Permits") The Department will mail you a federal CITES tag within 2-3 weeks. NOTE: Bobcat Registration Permits are not available at license vendors or DNR DIRECT.
- A federal CITES tag must be permanently affixed to each bobcat pelt before it is exported from the United States or transferred to a fur buyer, taxidermist, fur tanner, or garment manufacturer. If you plan to have a bobcat mounted, we recommend making a slit between the inner lip and eye hole then placing a piece of wood or plastic in the slit before freezing the bobcat. This will make it easier to insert the federal tag when you receive it.

## COYOTE HUNTING IN ILLINOIS



- Coyotes can be hunted 24 hours a day from 1/2 hour before sunrise on Nov.10 through midnight on March 15. During the rest of the year, hunting hours for coyotes are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
- Hunters need a hunting license and habitat stamp unless exempt.
- Coyotes may be hunted on private property using dogs, archery devices, any type and caliber of handgun, any type of legal rifle including large capacity semi-automatic rifles, and shotguns using any type of shell. During firearm deer seasons, coyotes may be taken only by hunters with valid, unfilled deer permits using the same types of firearms that are allowed for deer. When hunting with a shotgun, make sure that the magazine has been fitted with a plug which makes the shotgun incapable of firing more than three consecutive shots.
- Electronic calling devices are legal for coyote hunting.
- It is legal to bait coyotes as long as any wild game used was legally taken.
- Illinois does not restrict the type of sights or scopes that are used (including laser sights and night vision scopes).
- Lights with any color of lens can be used while hunting coyotes as long as the lights are not used from any vehicle or conveyance (including ATVs and horses) and the lights are not connected to the vehicle or conveyance.
- It is unlawful for a coyote hunter to wantonly allow a dog to hunt on another person's land without first obtaining permission of the landowner or tenant. If a hunting dog crosses onto property in which the coyote hunter has no permission to hunt, the hunter has no legal right to follow the dogs. Illinois Animal Control Laws or other local animal control ordinances could apply to dogs running at large.
- Coyote hunters are required to keep their guns unloaded and in a case while in a vehicle or on a conveyance (including but not limited to ATVs and horseback) unless exempt by special DNR permit.
- Guns must remain unloaded until the hunter is clear of the road and right-of-way alongside the road.
- Coyote hunters must wear a cap and 400 square inches of solid blaze orange when hunting in a county when first and second firearm deer seasons are in progress.
- Before coyote hunting at public hunting areas, check with the site office for site specific regulations.
- It is legal to hunt coyotes while using or possessing a tree climbing device.

# Revocations/Suspensions for Violations



## POINT SYSTEM

Pages 29-30 is a synopsis of IDNR points, revocations, and suspensions. For more complete information, see the below applicable Acts and 17 IL Adm. Code 2530. For more information, contact DNR Office of Law Enforcement at (217) 782-6431, or visit [www.dnr.state.il.us/law3/](http://www.dnr.state.il.us/law3/)

APPLICATION WITHIN ACTS	POINTS	GROUPS
<p>The point system applies to revocations/suspensions authorized under the following conservation laws:</p> <p><b>Fish and Aquatic Life Code</b> (515 ILCS 5)</p> <p><b>Wildlife Code</b> (520 ILCS 5)</p> <p><b>Endangered Species Protection Act</b> (520 ILCS 10)</p> <p><b>Timber Buyers Licensing Act</b> (225 ILCS 735)</p> <p><b>Ginseng Harvesting Act</b> (525 ILCS 20)</p> <p>or any similar federal statutes or rules.</p>	<p>Each time a person is found guilty by a circuit court of the State of Illinois (including supervision or conditional discharge) or by a U.S. District Court in an Illinois District, the specific number of points assigned to such violation shall be charged against that person.</p> <p>Petty Offense = <b>3 points</b>                      Class C Misdemeanor = <b>6 points</b>                      Class B Misdemeanor = <b>9 points</b>                      Class A Misdemeanor = <b>12 points</b>                      Class 4 Felony = <b>24 points</b>                      Class 3 Felony or higher = <b>60 points</b></p> <p>Violation committed during a period of suspension = <b>60 points.</b></p> <p>Violations of section 2.33(cc) or 2.38 of the Wildlife Code = <b>13 points.</b></p> <p>Federal offenses shall be assessed points based upon the classification of offense for the corresponding Illinois violation.</p>	<p><b>Group A</b> Wildlife Code, Endangered Species Protection Act (Wildlife), Federal Offenses (Wildlife) and Section 5/48 - 3(b) of the Criminal Code of 2012 (Wildlife)</p> <p><b>Group B</b> Fish and Aquatic Life Code, Endangered Species Protection Act (Aquatic Life), Federal Offenses (Aquatic Life) and Section 5/48 - 3(b) of the Criminal Code of 2012 (Aquatic Life)</p> <p><b>Group C</b> Timber Buyers Licensing Act</p> <p><b>Group D</b> Ginseng Harvesting Act, Endangered Species Protection Act (Plants) and Federal Offenses (Plants)</p>

## TYPES OF OFFENSES

**Type I Offenses** = Those offenses related to commercial/business activities covered under the Timber Buyer, Taxidermist, Aquaculture, Aquatic Life Dealer, Minnow Dealer, Mussel Dealer, Commercial Roe Dealer, Commercial Fisherman, Commercial Mussel Harvester, Commercial Roe Harvester, Game and Game Bird Breeder, Wild Game Food Dealer, Fur Bearing Animal Breeder, Fur Tanner, Class A Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator or Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Area, charter fishing licenses and permits.

**Type II Offenses** = All other offenses related to activities covered under licenses and permits. (Example: hunting, trapping, fishing, etc.)

## COMPUTATION OF SUSPENSION PERIODS

For **Type I Offenses**, any person who, within an 18 month period, accumulates 13 or more points in a single group shall have all licenses, permits and stamps relevant to those types of activities revoked, and the person's privilege to engage in Type I activities shall be suspended for a period of time that equals one month for each point accumulated. All accumulated points shall remain in effect for 18 months from the date of arrest that resulted in the point accumulation and shall not be removed or reduced by a period of suspension. Any second or subsequent suspension imposed shall be served consecutively to any earlier suspension.

For **Type II Offenses**, any person who, within a 36 month period, accumulates 13 or more points in a single group shall have all licenses, permits and stamps relevant to that type and group revoked, and the person's privilege to engage in the activity covered by the type and group shall be suspended for a period of time that equals one month for each point accumulated. All accumulated points shall remain in effect for 36 months from the date of arrest that resulted in the point accumulation and shall not be removed or reduced by a period of suspension. Any second or subsequent suspension imposed shall be served consecutively to any earlier suspension.

## SINGLE INCIDENT RULE

In the event that multiple findings of guilt are entered against an individual arising out of a single incident or act, full points shall be assessed only for the finding of guilt with the highest point level with additional points being assessed for the remaining findings of guilt as follows:

Petty Offense = **1 point**  
 Class C Misdemeanor = **2 points**  
 Class B Misdemeanor = **3 points**

The Single Incident Rule shall not be applied in any cases where the highest level violation is a Class A Misdemeanor or higher (12 points or greater) or in cases where violations occurred while the individual was suspended.

## EXAMPLES

**A) Type I – Findings of Guilt for Separate Incidents:** A person found guilty of violations under the Wildlife Code of no taxidermy license, failure to tag specimens and failure to keep proper records (a Class B Misdemeanor and two petty offenses, respectively) occurring on different dates is assessed the full 15 points (9+3+3), and revocation of Type I licenses and suspension of Type I privileges is imposed for a period of 15 months.

## EXAMPLES

**B) Type I – Findings of Guilt for a Single Incident:** A person found guilty of the same violations as A) above (a Class B Misdemeanor and two petty offenses) arising out of a single incident has no revocation/suspension imposed, with 10 points assessed (9+1).

**C) Type II – Findings of Guilt for Separate Incidents:** A person found guilty of hunting by use of lights from a vehicle (Class A Misdemeanor=12 points) and taking an over limit of quail (Petty Offense 3 points) has his/her hunting license, trapping license, migratory waterfowl stamp, habitat stamp, deer/turkey permits, etc. revoked, and Type II privileges suspended in Group A for a period of 15 months.

### D) Type II – Findings of Guilt for a Single Incident

1) A person found guilty of violations of taking game birds with a rifle and no hunting license (Class A Misdemeanor and Petty Offense) arising out of a single incident is assessed 15 points and suspension imposed as described in C above. The Single Incident Rule does not apply to cases where the highest level violation is a Class A Misdemeanor or higher.

2) A person found guilty of violations of taking deer without a permit and no hunting license (Class B Misdemeanor and Petty Offense) arising out of a single incident has no revocation/suspension imposed, with 10 points assessed (9+1).

### E) Imposition of Subsequent Suspensions

1) The person in C above completes the 15 month suspension, and two months later (less than 36 months from the date of the first violation) again hunts by use of lights from a motor vehicle and is found guilty (12 points). This person's licenses are again revoked and privileges suspended for a period of 27 months (15+12).

2) The person in C above is found guilty of a violation under the Wildlife Code that occurred during the time that his/her privileges were suspended. 60 additional points are assessed and a second suspension is imposed, to run consecutively after the first suspension (15+60=75 months total).

## ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Any person whose license or permit has been revoked or his/her privileges suspended may not, during the period of revocation/suspension 1) apply for or obtain any licenses or permits of such type covered by the suspension, or; 2) be in the company of any person engaged in the activity covered by the revocation/suspension, or; 3) serve as a guide, outfitter or facilitator for any person who is engaged or prepared to engage in the activity covered by the revocation/suspension, until such time as the period of revocation/ suspension is completed and the appropriate licenses/permits have been obtained.

Whenever sufficient points have been accumulated, the suspension will be imposed by the Department on a quarterly basis. A person has the right to appeal any revocation/suspension to a Department of Natural Resources Hearing Officer, within the guidelines found in 17 IL Adm. Code 2530.

## REVOCATIONS/SUSPENSIONS IN OTHER STATES AND CANADA

It also shall be unlawful for any person to be issued or obtain an Illinois license or permit, or while in Illinois engage in any activity during the time that person's privileges to engage in the same or similar activities are suspended or revoked by another state, by a federal agency or by a province of Canada.

## Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact

Illinois is a participating member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact.

### How the IWVC works:

- Compact membership applies to aquatic life and wildlife violations.
- The Compact allows non-resident and resident violators receiving citations in participating states to be treated the same.
- A violator who fails to comply with the terms of a citation issued in a participating state faces the possibility of the suspension of his/her privileges in his/her home state until the terms of the citation are met.
- The Compact provides for the reciprocal recognition of the suspension of license privileges by participating states.
- The Compact provides that information on convictions in participating states may be forwarded to the home state of the violator.
- IWVC not only assures equal treatment of residents and non-residents of participating states, but also enhances the law enforcement services and deterrent value of time spent patrolling by uniformed officers. The reciprocal recognition of suspensions between states is intended to address the problems associated with the mobility of many violators.

### Compact Member States:

Alabama	Colorado	Illinois	Louisiana	Mississippi	New Mexico	Oregon	Tennessee	Washington
Alaska	Connecticut	Indiana	Maine	Missouri	New York	Pennsylvania	Texas	West Virginia
Arizona	Florida	Iowa	Maryland	Montana	North Dakota	Rhode Island	Utah	Wisconsin
Arkansas	Georgia	Kansas	Michigan	Nevada	Ohio	South Carolina	Vermont	Wyoming
California	Idaho	Kentucky	Minnesota	New Hampshire	Oklahoma	South Dakota	Virginia	

### Additional Provisions

Additional states may join the Compact throughout the year. It is your responsibility to contact any other state to determine your eligibility before you obtain or attempt to obtain any license or permit, or engage in any activity covered by your revocation/suspension.

Persons who violate the prohibitions of their revocation/suspension/denial of privileges shall be guilty of a Class A Misdemeanor with penalties of up to 364 days jail time and up to \$2500 in fines and up to an additional 5 year period of suspension to be served consecutively after the original suspension.



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## Outfitter Regulation Information

The development of outfitter regulations was initiated by concerned hunters and outfitters. Their interests were to ensure hunters utilizing outfitters were provided the proper services and treatment, to strengthen the reputation of the outfitting industry in Illinois, and to ensure the proper management of the state's deer herd, wild turkey flock, and waterfowl resource. A complete copy of the regulations contained in Admin. Rule 640 may be found at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) or by contacting the Office of Law Enforcement (217) 782-6431.

### Who needs to apply for an Outfitter Permit?

An outfitter is a person who both receives compensation (i.e., money, services or gifts) from hunters and provides outfitting services to hunters. Outfitting services include any service that, for financial or other consideration, offers or promises waterfowl, deer and/or wild turkey hunting access, assistance, guidance or opportunity on private or leased lands by way of one or more of the following: guides, guide services, or bringing or retrieving equipment, stands, blinds, decoys or a client to or from the field; or access to property that the person providing access leases or rents for waterfowl, deer and/or wild turkey hunting; or access to property subleased, at least in part, for waterfowl, deer or wild turkey hunting; or an individual or business that solicits or secures waterfowl, deer and/or turkey hunting clients for a landowner or tenant or another outfitter.

Guide services is defined as providing any of the following: advice to hunters while hunting about how and/or where to hunt; setting decoys; calling, stalking, pursuing, tracking, field dressing; caring for meat; field preparation of trophies; carriage of hunters, hunter equipment, and/or animals harvested by the hunter. It is unlawful to advertise outfitting services at a time when the outfitter does not hold a current valid outfitters permit.

A person, other than the landowner, who leases or rents land for the purpose of providing hunting opportunity to others or subleasing such land for deer, wild turkey, or waterfowl hunting is required to obtain an

Outfitter Permit. A landowner who leases his/her property to a hunter or group of hunters does not need to obtain an Outfitter Permit as long as he/she does not provide outfitting services to hunters.

## NORTH AMERICAN MODEL OF CONSERVATION

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, along with many other state agencies, follows the North American Model of Conservation. This Model was created due to a Supreme Court decision that declared that wildlife belongs to the people and not the government, corporations, or individuals. The Model also guides how wildlife is to be used and managed for the benefit of wildlife and people. Without this Model and many other efforts, we would not have an abundance of wildlife we have today. There are seven principles, or pillars, to the model:

1. Wildlife resources are a public trust.
2. Markets for game are eliminated.
3. Allocation of wildlife is by law.
4. Wildlife can be killed only for a legitimate purpose.
5. Wildlife is considered an international resource.
6. Science is the proper tool to discharge wildlife policy.
7. Democracy of hunting is standard.

*Courtesy of The Wildlife Society*

(Photo courtesy Danny Brown.)

## Special Hunts on Department Sites

Special hunting opportunities are provided on some areas. These hunts require special hunting permits. In some instances, fees are charged.

### CONTROLLED PHEASANT HUNTS

On controlled pheasant hunting areas State Habitat Stamps are not required when hunting captive-reared pheasants. State Habitat Stamps are required when hunting quail, Hungarian partridge, rabbits and woodcock on controlled pheasant hunting areas where these species can be harvested during the controlled pheasant hunting season.

Thanksgiving Day hunting hours at all controlled pheasant hunting sites are 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

### Hunts Requiring Reservations

Information about controlled pheasant hunting permit reservations is available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov).

### Hunting Areas & Season Dates

Green River SWA (Nov 3 - 5, 10,12,24 - 26, Dec 8 - 10, 15 - 17 2017)

Closed Mondays, Tuesdays and Christmas Day:

- Des Plaines SFWA(Nov. 1, - Dec. 31, 2017, closed Nov. 17 - 19, 2017)

- Eldon Hazlet SP (Carlyle Lake; Nov. 8, 2017 - Jan.7, 2018)

- Iroquois Co. SWA (Nov. 1, - Dec. 31, 2017, closed Nov. 17 - 19, 2017)

- Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA (Nov. 4, 2017 - Jan. 14, 2018, closed Nov. 17 - 19 and Nov. 30 - Dec. 3, 2017)

- Johnson-Sauk Trail SP and Kankakee River SP (Nov. 4, 2017 - Jan. 7, 2018, closed New Year's Day)

- Moraine View SP (Nov. 1 - Dec. 31, 2017)

- Sand Ridge SF (Nov. 4, 2017 - Jan. 14, 2018)

- Wayne Fitzgerald SP (Nov. 8, 2017 - Jan. 7, 2018)

### Hunts by Public/Private Partnership Operator

Information about controlled pheasant hunting permit reservations for the public/private partnership areas is available at [www.tmillerc.com](http://www.tmillerc.com).

Private Operator: T. Miller, Inc., (217) 793-6146

### Hunting Areas & Season Dates

Closed most Mondays, Tuesdays, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Special hunts on some Mondays and Tuesdays may be available at some sites. Check [www.tmillerc.com](http://www.tmillerc.com) for 2017-18 fee information.

Chain O'Lakes SP, Horseshoe Lake SP (Madison Co.), Ramsey Lake SP, and Silver Springs SP - Season Dates: check [www.tmillerc.com](http://www.tmillerc.com)

### Illinois Youth Controlled Pheasant Hunts for Hunters ages 10-17

Information about controlled pheasant hunting permit reservations is available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov). Each hunter must be accompanied by a non-hunting supervising adult who must wear blaze orange. Hunters or supervising adult must possess a Firearm Owner's Identification Card.

### Hunting Areas & Season Dates

- Oct. 21, 2017: Edward Madigan SFWA
- Oct. 28, 2017: Clinton Lake SRA and Mackinaw River SFWA
- Nov. 4, 2017: World Shooting and Recreational Complex
- Nov. 11, 2017: Chain O'Lakes, Des Plaines, Eldon Hazlet (Carlyle Lake), Green River, Iroquois Co., Jim Edgar Panther Creek, Johnson-Sauk Trail, Mackinaw River SFWA, Moraine View, Sand Ridge, Sangchris Lake, Wayne Fitzgerald (Rend Lake)
- Nov. 12, 2017: Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co.),
- March 3, 2018: Pere Marquette SP

### Additional Youth Controlled Pheasant Hunts

Information about controlled pheasant hunting permit reservations is available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov). Hunters under 18 hunt for free, but each young hunter must be accompanied by an adult hunter. Adult hunters must pay the permit fee.

### Hunting Areas & Season Dates

- Nov. 26, 2017: Green River
- Nov. 26 & Dec. 30, 2017: Des Plaines, Eldon Hazlet (Carlyle Lake), Iroquois Co., Jim Edgar Panther Creek, Johnson-Sauk Trail, Kankakee River, Moraine View, Sand Ridge and Wayne Fitzgerald (Rend Lake)

### Hunts for Disabled Hunters

Disabled hunters with Standing Vehicle Permits may obtain Controlled Pheasant Hunting Permits for Eldon Hazlet, Des Plaines and Moraine View where special vehicles are available to assist with the hunt. Disabled hunters, as defined by law (520 ILCS 5/2.33), may apply to the DNR Office of Law Enforcement (217/782-6431) for a Standing Vehicle Permit. Information about controlled pheasant hunting permit reservations for disabled hunters is available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov).

### FREE UPLAND GAME PERMIT HUNTS

Apply for free upland game hunting permits, and obtain additional information and hunting dates, at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov). Applicants can receive only one permit per year and the application deadline is Aug. 31. Selected hunters may each bring three hunting partners except at Finrock, Green River, Mackinaw, Sand Prairie, Saybrook, Sibley and Victoria where they may bring five, and Pyramid where they may bring two. Hunting is for cock pheasant, gray partridge, quail, and rabbit. Daily limit for quail is 4 at Coffeen Lake SFWA and **Maxine Loy Land and Water Reserve**. Sites with season dates that extend beyond the regular Upland Game season (Jan. 8 north zone, Jan. 15 south zone) to February 15 are for rabbit hunting only.

**Quail Management Areas:** Pyramid SP (Captain, Denmark and East Conant Units) in Perry Co.

**Upland Game Areas:** Coffeen Lake SFWA\* (Upland Management Area only, Montgomery Co.), Eagle Creek SP (Shelby Co.), Edward R. Madigan SFWA (Logan Co.), Freeman Mine SWA (Montgomery Co.), Green River SWA (Lee Co.), Harry "Babe" Woodyard SNA (Vermilion Co.), Ilo Dillin HA (Tazewell Co.), Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA (Cass Co.), Larry D. Closson HA (Douglas Co.), Little Rock Creek HA (Carroll Co.), Mackinaw River SFWA (Tazewell Co.), Mautino SFWA (Bureau Co.), **Maxine Loy Land and Water Reserve\*** (Marion Co.), Nachusa Prairie c/o Franklin Creek SNA (Ogle Co.), Paul C. Burrus HA (Coles Co.), Sand Ridge SF (Sparks Pond Land and Water Reserve, Mason Co.), Sangchris Lake SP (Christian Co.), Willow Creek HA (Edgar Co.), Wolf Creek SP (Shelby Co.)

\*Daily limit of quail is 4

**Pheasant Habitat Areas:** Bradford (Stark Co.), Clifton, Loda and Milks Grove (Iroquois Co.), Dublin Highlands (Stephenson Co.), Birkbeck, Finrock and Hallsville (DeWitt Co.), Gifford (Champaign Co.), Herschel Workman (Vermilion Co.), Hindsboro (Douglas Co.), Manito (Tazewell Co.), Maytown, Sand Prairie and Steward (Lee Co.), Perdueville and Sibley (Ford Co.), Saybrook (McLean Co.), Victoria (Knox Co.), Whitefield (Marshall Co.)

### WATERFOWL HUNTS

All initial applications for the Public Duck & Goose Hunting Area Permit program must be made at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov).

### Application Dates

Applications from Illinois residents will be accepted from Aug. 16-31 for inclusion in the first lottery with a deadline of Aug. 31. A second lottery, with a deadline of Sept. 14, will be held for non-residents, unsuccessful applicants or anyone who did not apply in the first lottery. A third lottery, with a deadline of Sept. 28, will be held for applicants to receive either a first and/or second permit. Additional permits, up to five total, may be obtained from unfilled quotas on a first come, first-served basis ending 72 hours prior to the hunt date by visiting <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/waterfowl/Pages/default.aspx> beginning Oct. 1.

### Goose Permit Area

Fee \$15 (partners under 16 are free). Available at Snakeden Hollow SFWA. A site goose hunting permit holder is allowed to bring one hunting partner and one non-hunting partner or two non-hunting partners; three persons per blind but not more than two hunters per blind. Non-hunting partners must be under 21 years of age. A daily drawing shall be held to allocate blind sites. Hunters under 16 may apply for and receive a permit, but only hunters over the age of 16 may draw for a blind. Hunters under the age of 16 with a permit must be accompanied by a supervising adult who is at least 18 who will draw for the blind.

### Duck Permit Areas:

Non-hunting partners must be under 21 years of age.

Free hunts: Anderson Lake (3 permits/day, 3 days/week, permit holder can bring up to three partners), Rice Lake Walk-In Units and Kidd Lake (permit holder can bring up to two partners) and Double T Embarras River and Larry D. Closson

Fee hunts (\$10; partners under 16 are free)

- Banner Marsh, Marshall SFWA (Duck Ranch Unit) and Spring Lake (Spring Lake Bottoms Unit): permit holder allowed to bring up to three partners (hunters or non-hunters) with four persons per blind
- Horseshoe Lake and Union County: permit holder allowed to bring one hunting partner and one non-hunting partner or two non-hunting partners; three persons per blind, but not more than two hunters per blind

### Daily Draw Areas:

- Donnelley SFWA: free youth hunt first weekend and third Saturday; open to youth Sunday of statewide youth hunt; hunting

closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays except opening day.

**Youth Waterfowl Hunts (for Ages 10-17):**

Spring Lake SFWA (Spring Lake Bottoms Unit; second Sunday in November); Donnelley SFWA (Sunday prior to first gun deer season and the first weekend and third Sunday of the north zone duck season); Union County and Horseshoe Lake SFWA (Dec. 28); Banner Marsh on Saturday and Sunday, October 21 and 22, 2017.

**Free permit required:** Hunters 10-17 years old; hunters must be accompanied by supervising adult; resident hunter or supervising adult must possess a valid Firearm Owner's Identification Card; supervising adult may hunt.

**FREE DOVE HUNTS**

All initial applications for the Free Dove Hunting Area Permit program must be made at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov). Dove permit applicants can apply with a partner who will receive a permit for the same site and date. Applicants can apply for up to five different sites.

**Support the Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger Program by donating your deer or providing monetary donations to process**



**venison for needy families in Illinois.**

**Call today at (217) 785-5091**

**Application Dates**

Applications from Illinois residents will be accepted June 1 - June 30 for the first lottery. From July 7 - 21, a second lottery will be held for non-residents, unsuccessful applicants or anyone who did not apply in the first lottery. From July 28 - Aug. 25, applicants may apply online for a first and/or second permit from the remaining open areas and dates by visiting <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/dove/Pages/default.aspx>.

Sept. 1 - 5, 2017: permit required; first five days of season; check in 9-11 a.m.; openings after 11 a.m. filled by daily draw if more standbys than openings are available

- Non-toxic shot required: Big Bend SFWA, Des Plaines CA, Green River SWA, Horseshoe Lake SP (including SP, Bend Road, Madison Co.), Johnson-Sauk SP, Kankakee River SP, Mackinaw River SFWA, Matthiessen/Starved Rock SP, Sam Parr, Sangchris Lake SP, Silver Springs SP, Snakeden Hollow SFWA
- Non-toxic shot not required: Coffeen Lake SFWA, Edward R. Madigan SFWA and Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA

**Youth Dove Hunt:** Saturday Sept. 2, 2017: permit required; hunters 10-17 years old; check in 10-11 a.m.; no standbys available; hunters must be accompanied by supervising adult; hunter or supervising adult must possess a Firearm Owner's Identification Card.

- Non-toxic shot required: Horseshoe Lake SP (Bend Road Unit, Madison Co.), Jubilee College SP, Kankakee River SP, Mackinaw River SFWA, Mt. Vernon Game Propagation Center, Sam Parr SP, Sangchris Lake SP, Silver Springs SP, Stephen A. Forbes SRA

- Both youth and supervisor may hunt: Jubilee College SP, Kankakee River SP, Mackinaw River SFWA, Mt. Vernon Game Propagation Center, Ramsey Lake SP, Sam Parr SP, Sangchris Lake SP, Silver Springs SP

**DEER HUNTS**

**Youth Deer Hunt:** (hunters 17 years of age or younger)

- Permit required (Nov. 17 - 19, 2017): Lake Le-Aqua-Na SP
- Fort Massac SP and Crab Orchard NWR
- Permit required, apply using statewide application (Nov. 17 - 19 and Nov. 30 - Dec. 3, 2017): Dixon Springs SP
- Unfilled Youth Deer Permits are not valid for hunting during the first firearm deer season on public land sites that limit the number of hunters during the firearm season via the use of a site permit quota (i.e., only public sites that allow unrestricted access may be hunted).

Special Deer Hunts for Hunters with Disabilities: Qualified disabled persons only.

- Clinton Lake SRA; Lost Mound Unit FL; Rend Lake WMA (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers); Rock Cut SP; Starved Rock SP, Wolf Creek SP/Shelbyville FL (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
- Physically Challenged Archery Deer Hunt: Kankakee River SP
- Additional deer hunt locations for disabled individuals may be available. Contact DNR Disabled Outdoor Opportunities Coordinator Jay Williams at [jay.d.williams@illinois.gov](mailto:jay.d.williams@illinois.gov) for further details.

**DISABLED OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES**

DNR is committed to providing greater access and programs for persons with disabilities and making it easier for disabled individuals to hunt, fish and pursue other outdoor activities. Establishing in 1999, the "Disabled Outdoor Opportunities" program establishes partnerships with organizations representing people with disabilities and works cooperatively to mainstream DNR programs and facilities to better meet the needs of the individuals they represent. Program staff reviews existing DNR recreational opportunities to identify and eliminate barriers to participation, develop and coordinate training programs for staff and work with DNR site planners and engineers to develop integrated barrier-free designs for recreational facilities.

DNR is continuing to expand its program for disabled hunters and anglers. Disabled hunters can participate in deer, pheasant, waterfowl and dove hunting at various sites throughout Illinois. A number of fishing events are held each year. For information on special events, such as hunting and fishing, in your area visit [www.dnr.illinois.gov/DOO](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/DOO), call your state park or refer to the list of public hunting areas (pages 36-42).

**DNR Accommodates Hunters with Disabilities**

DNR makes reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities. Many sites also offer special hunting programs for hunters with disabilities (see Public Hunting Areas section pp. 36-42). Although not all sites offer special hunting events for disabled hunters, **know that all DNR-managed sites that offer hunting will make reasonable accommodations for disabled hunters, providing hunters contact the site superintendent at least 10 days prior to the intended hunt date.**

**Special Permits**

DNR offers two special permits (received by applying to the Office of Law Enforcement at (217) 782-6431 or visit [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov)) for people with disabilities:

**Crossbow:** DNR may issue special permits to qualified, permanently or temporarily disabled persons allowing them to use a crossbow to hunt during regular archery seasons. This permit must be carried by the hunter along with all required hunting licenses, stamps or permits. To qualify for a crossbow permit, a person must either have a permanent or temporary physical impairment due to injury or disease, congenital or acquired, that renders him/her so severely disabled as to be unable to use a conventional bow and arrow device, or must be legally blind.

**Standing Vehicle:** DNR also may issue permits to paraplegics or other disabled persons to hunt from a vehicle, if the person meets the criteria set forth in DNR Rules. While hunting, the vehicle must be immobile with the engine turned off. When the vehicle is moving, firearms must be unloaded and enclosed in a case, except, however, holders of standing vehicle permits who are in the field legally hunting pheasant, quail, Hungarian partridge or rabbit, are permitted to carry a loaded and uncased shotgun in or on a vehicle under conditions described in DNR Rules.

Refer to page 8 (foot notes 8 and 9) for appropriate disability classifications.

For more information about the Disabled Outdoors Opportunities Program, contact Jay Williams, DNR, 11731 St. Hwy 37, Benton, IL 62812, (618) 435-8138 ext. 130 or email [jay.d.williams@illinois.gov](mailto:jay.d.williams@illinois.gov).

## Frequently Asked Questions – FAQs

### **Q: Is it legal for an Illinois Concealed Carry Permit holder to be in possession of a concealed firearm when hunting?**

**A:** It is illegal to conceal carry while deer or turkey hunting, but it is legal to carry while hunting all other species. However, a deer hunter hunting during the firearm deer seasons can carry a concealed firearm if that firearm is of the legal type for firearm deer hunting. The specifications for legal deer hunting handguns can be found on page 17 of this Digest. For more information on concealed carry and IDNR rules and regulations, please visit <http://dnr.state.il.us/law3/Documents/ConcealedCarryQnA.pdf>.

### **Q: Can I use a centerfire rifle for hunting in Illinois? Or handguns?**

**A:** The following species may be taken with a rifle or handgun: coyote, striped skunk, woodchuck, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, opossum and red and gray fox. We do not regulate the caliber of handgun or rifle that may be used, except on state-owned or managed areas, which normally allow only the use of shotguns or .22 caliber rimfire rifles. Squirrel, furbearers and woodchuck hunters may use a .17 caliber rimfire rifle on some state-owned or managed areas. No rifles may be possessed in the field, however, during firearm deer season except that trappers may carry a .22 rimfire rifle to dispatch animals during firearm deer season. Certain handguns are lawful for deer hunting (see pages 15-16 for regulations).

At all times when in possession of firearms, hunters must comply with all firearms regulations as outlined in the Illinois Criminal Code.

### **Q: Can I use walkie-talkies or cell phones to keep in touch with my hunting partners while in the field hunting?**

**A:** Yes.

### **Q: Can I use a scope on my gun or bow?**

**A:** Yes.

### **Q: Can I use a shotgun primer as a percussion cap for my muzzleloader?**

**A:** Yes. A shotgun primer is a type of percussion cap and therefore legal for use in hunting with muzzleloaders.

### **Q: Can I use mechanical deer decoys or electronic calls for deer hunting?**

**A:** Yes. (Note: both electronic turkey decoys and electronic calls are illegal for turkey hunting).

### **Q: Do I need a F.O.I.D. card to hunt with a muzzleloader?**

**A:** Yes. Illinois residents possessing or using modern muzzleloading firearms are required to have a valid F.O.I.D. card.

### **Q: Is there a set distance from a roadway I have to be in order to hunt?**

**A:** No. There is no set distance. It is simply unlawful to hunt, trap, or discharge a gun or bow and arrow device along, upon, across or from a public roadway, highway, or right-of-way (see page 13).

### **Q: Is there a set distance from another person's property I must be in order to hunt?**

**A:** No. But there are a couple of issues to keep in mind. One, you must have permission to hunt from the landowner or tenant before you enter their property. That includes tracking wounded game. Although it is illegal

to kill game and not make an attempt to retrieve it, your attempt ends if you are not granted access to the property where the animal goes. Second, you cannot hunt within 100 yards of an inhabited dwelling if hunting with bow and arrow device or shotgun loaded with shot shells (or 300 yards if using a rifle, handgun or deer slugs) unless you have permission from the person occupying the dwelling. You could theoretically be on your own property but if it is too close to another person's dwelling, and you don't have permission from the person who occupies that dwelling, you can't hunt there.

### **Q: How may I safely and legally transport a firearm in a vehicle?**

**A:** Residents of Illinois must possess a valid Firearm Owner's Identification Card (F.O.I.D.) and the firearm must be unloaded and enclosed in a case (see definition of "case" in the "Definitions" section on page 10). Unloaded and properly enclosed firearms can be placed anywhere in the vehicle. (See Transporting Bow and Arrow Devices in Vehicles page 12).

### **Q: How may I safely and legally transport ammunition in a vehicle?**

**A:** The location of ammunition being transported, including ammunition being transported in loaded magazines, is not regulated as long as the firearm is unloaded and encased, and the resident possessing the firearm/ammunition holds a valid F.O.I.D. card.

### **Q: How may I legally transport firearms and ammunition in another state?**

**A:** The particular state in which you will be traveling should be contacted for that information.

### **Q: Where can I get more information on transporting firearms?**

**A:** For more information, contact: Illinois State Police at (217) 782-6637, or the F.O.I.D. office at (217) 782-7980, [www.isp.state.il.us](http://www.isp.state.il.us); or DNR's Clearinghouse at (217) 782-7498, [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov) and ask for the brochure "Transport Your Gun Legally – Commonly Asked Questions on Transporting Firearms."

### **Q: Can I use an electronic call to hunt coyote and fox?**

**A:** Yes. They can also be used at night when night hunting is allowed.

### **Q: What are the most frequently cited areas of violation?**

**A:** Hunting without permission, hunting deer over a baited area, hunting after legal hours, permit violations (no permit in possession or using someone else's permit), not wearing blaze orange when required, no or wrong license/stamps, hunting from a vehicle, uncased or loaded gun in vehicle, using shotgun capable of holding more than three rounds, falsifying licenses or permits.

## DO NOT SPREAD EXOTIC INVASIVE PLANTS

Wildlife habitat throughout Illinois is being degraded and destroyed by invasive plants such as Russian olive, multiflora rose, bush honeysuckle and garlic mustard. Native vegetation supports a much greater variety of wildlife than a habitat of exotic plants. Invasive plants reduce the number and variety of forest wildlife by reducing the availability of food and suitable cover. For instance, bush honeysuckle will shade out oak tree seedlings and, over time, reduce the oak component of a forest. Fewer acorn-producing trees mean lower food availability and reduced habitat quality for white-tailed deer, squirrel, and turkey. Invasive plants in wetland areas and along lake shores, such as common reed, have a negative effect on a host of water birds. If invasive plants win, native plants and wildlife lose, and so do the people who enjoy them.

### **Here is what you can do to help:**

1. Clean your boots and gear after each hunting trip to ensure you are not spreading invasive seeds to new locations.
2. Do not plant invasive plants for wildlife. Native species provide much better food and cover for native wildlife.
3. Learn to identify invasive plants and report any new sightings to local land managers.

# Public Hunting Areas

Hunting regulations on the public hunting areas listed on the following pages are often more restrictive than the statewide regulations. Hunter fact sheets are available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting) or from the site. Taking wildlife species not listed in this digest or on the hunter fact sheet is generally unlawful. Hunting may be allowed for species not listed here, such as teal, woodchuck, skunk, rail, snipe, partridge and crow. Contact the site for information on opportunities to hunt these species.

Some site-specific regulations that apply to all state sites are as follows:

## Blaze Orange Clothing Requirements

See page 14.

It is unlawful to:

- hunt with any weapon except shotgun or bow and arrow unless otherwise specified.
- possess any alcoholic beverage while in any hunting/trapping area for the purpose of hunting or trapping.

- hunt or trap on any site with a manned check station without first declaring game killed on a previous hunt and in possession either on the hunter's person or in his/her vehicle.
- construct or use any tree stand using nails, screws or any device which pierces or cuts the bark of the tree on which it is installed. Tree stands must be portable and removed at the end of each day, unless otherwise specified in site-specific regulations. Only one tree stand is allowed per deer permit holder at each site.
- hunt or trap in a restricted area.
- hunt or trap outside designated areas at the site.
- enter a refuge, restricted area or waterfowl rest area unless authorized by DNR.
- buy, sell or commercialize hunting or trapping rights, directly or indirectly, except for DNR hunting or trapping fees or to the operation of controlled pheasant hunting on DNR lands pursuant to a written concession agreement.

- hunt or trap without a valid permit where permits are required.

## Hunting Opportunities for Disabled Hunters

Disabled hunters are given the opportunity to hunt a variety of game species on DNR-managed land, federal land or private land where the Department issues permits. Sites offering disabled hunting opportunities are listed in the following tables and hunters are encouraged to contact the site for specific regulations. To utilize a site's disabled hunting program, a hunter must meet the qualifications for being disabled as described in footnotes 8 and 9 on page 8.

## Shawnee National Forest

- The construction, use or occupancy of any permanent tree stand or other permanent elevated device for the purpose of hunting is prohibited [36 CFR 261.58(v)].

Center fire and rim fire rifles are not legal hunting devices for deer, even on federal land in Illinois.

# Public Hunting Areas Region 1

SITE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE SITE OR VISITING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WEBSITE:  
[www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/pages/publichuntingareas.aspx](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/pages/publichuntingareas.aspx). PLEASE CONTACT THE SITE OR OBTAIN A HUNTER FACT SHEET FROM THE WEBSITE PRIOR TO HUNTING.

Name	Mailing Address	Hunttable Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	CWD Deer Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opossum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping
1 Anderson Lake SFWA	647 N. State Highway 100, Astoria, 61501; (309) 759-4484	1900	x	x/@	x		x				c		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
2 Apple River Canyon SP Salem and Thompson Units	8763 E. Canyon Rd., Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	1052	x		x	s	x	s		s	s	c	x	x					x	x	x	
3 Argyle Lake SP	640 Argyle Park Rd., Colchester, 62326; (309) 776-3422	950	x		x	s	x		c		c	c	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x
4 Banner Marsh SFWA	19721 N. U.S. 24, Canton, 61520; (309) 647-9184	3000	x	@/x			x							x	x	x						x
5 Big Bend SFWA	P.O. Box 181, Prophetstown, 61277; (815) 537-2270 or 2926	2338	x		x		x				s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6 Big River SF	RR1, Box 118, Keithsburg, 61442; (309) 374-2496	2970	x		x	s	x		c		s	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
7 Bradford PHA	c/o Hennepin Canal Parkway; (815) 454-2328	103	x				x							@		@	@					
8 Buffalo Prairie PHA	c/o Snakeden Hollow SFWA; (309) 879-2607	300	x											x		x	x					x
9 Buffalo Rock SP	1300 N. 27th Rd., Ottawa, 61350; (815) 433-2220	310	x				x															
10 Castle Rock SP	1365 W Castle Rd, Oregon, 61061; (815) 732-7329	1620	x		x	s	x	s		s	s		x									
11 Donnelly SFWA	c/o DePue SFWA; (815) 447-2353	676	x	@																		
12 Double "T" SFWA	19721 N. U.S. 24, Canton, 61520; (309) 647-9184	460	x	@											x							e
13 Dublin Highlands PHA	c/o Lake Le-Aqua-NA SP; (815) 369-4282	122	x				x							@		@	@					
14 Franklin Creek SNA	1872 Twist Rd, Franklin Grove, 61031; (815) 456-2878	635	x			s	x		x				x									
15 Franklin Creek-Nachusa Prairie SNA	c/o Franklin Creek SNA; (815) 456-2878	72	x											@		@	@					
16 French Bluff SNA	c/o Mississippi Palisades SP; (815) 273-2731	342	x		x	s	x	s			s		x									
17 George S. Park SNA	c/o DePue SFWA; (815) 447-2353	80	x			c	x	c	c													
18 Green River SNA	375 Game Rd, Harmon, 61042; (815) 379-2324	2515	x		x	s	x		s		s		x	@	x	@	@		x	x	x	
19 Hanover Bluff SNA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP, Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	332	x		x	s	x	s		s	s	c	x	x					x	x	x	x
20 Henderson Creek SFWA	RR1 Box 118 Keithsburg, 61442; (309) 374-2496	800	x	x																		
21 Hennepin Canal ST	16006 875 E St., Sheffield, 61361; (815) 454-2328	350	x				x						x		x				x			x
22 Ilo Dillin SHA	c/o Mackinaw River SFWA; (309) 963-4969	75	x				x							@		@	@					x
23 Johnson-Sauk Trail SRA	28616 Sauk Trail Rd., Kewanee, 61443; (309) 853-5589	862	x		x		x				s		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x
24 Jubilee College SP	13921 West Rt., 150, Brimfield, 61517; (309) 446-3758	2900	x		x	@/s	@	s			s		x	x	x	x	☒	x				x
25 Kishwaukee River SFWA	c/o Shabbona Lake; (815) 824-2106	484	x			s	x			s	s		x									x
26 Lake DePue SFWA	Box 52, DePue, 61322; (815) 447-2353	1700	x	x												x						x
27 Lake Le-Aqua-Na SP	8542 N Lake Rd, Lena, 61048; (815) 369-4282	560	x			s	x									x						x
28 Little Rock Creek SHA	c/o Morrison Rockwood SP; (815) 772-4708	148	x				x							@		@	@					x
29 Lost Mound Unit FL	7071 Riverview Rd., Thompson, 61285; (815) 273-2732	6000		x	x	s/c	x		x	x		c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
30 Lowden-Miller SF	c/o Castle Rock SP; (815) 732-7329	2225	x		x	s	x			s	s		x									
31 Lowden SP	1411 N. River Rd, Oregon, 61061; (815) 732-6828	80	x				x															
32 Mackinaw River SFWA	15470 Nelson Rd., Mackinaw, 61755; (309) 963-4969	1400	x		x	s	x				s		x	@	x	@	@					x
33 Manito PHA	7982 S. Park Rd., Manito, 61546; (309) 968-7135	70	x											@		@	@					x
34 Marseilles SFWA	2660 E. 2350th Rd, Marseilles, 61341; (815) 795-2448	2239	x		x	s	x	s		s	s		x	x	x	x	x					x
35 Marshall SFWA	236 State Rt. 26, Lacon, 61540; (309) 246-8351	5804	x	x/@	x	s	x	c	c		s		x	x	x	x	☒	x	x			x
36 Matthiessen SP	c/o Starved Rock SP, Box 509, Utica, 61373; (815) 667-4726	1500	x	x	x	s	x	s		s	s		x		x							x
37 Mautino SFWA	c/o Hennepin Canal Parkway; (815) 454-2328	891	x				x				x		x	@	x	@	@					x

# Public Hunting Areas Region 1

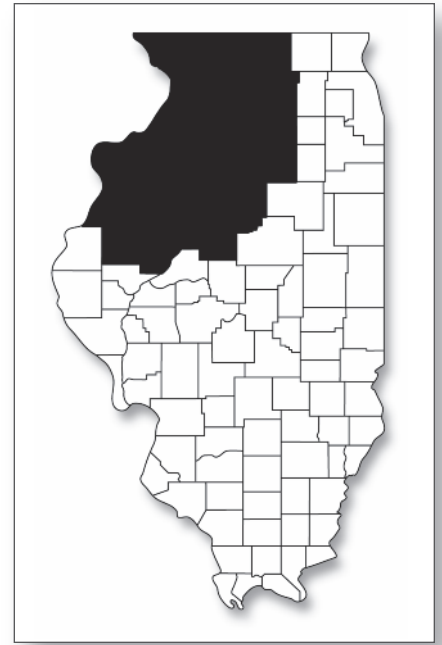
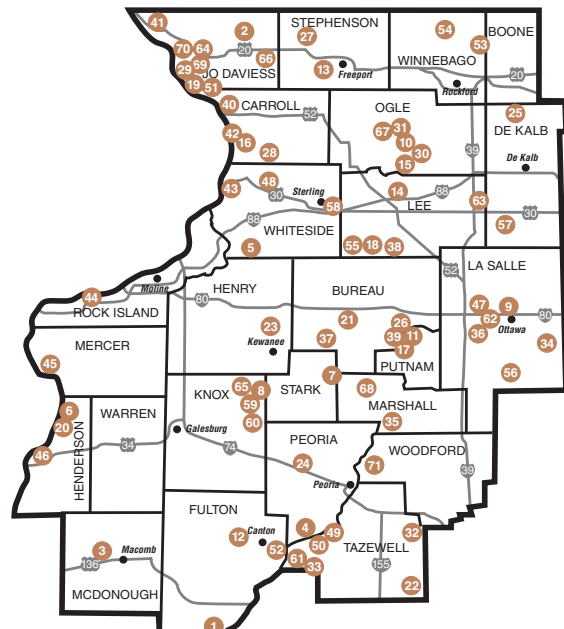
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Name	Mailing Address	Huntible Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	CWD Deer Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opossum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping
38	Maytown PHA	c/o Green River SWA; (815) 379-2324	159	x			x							@		@						
39	Miller Anderson Woods SNA	c/o DePue SFWA; (815) 447-2353	524	x		c	x	c	c													
40	Mississippi Palisades SP	16327A IL Rt., 84, Savanna, 61074; (815) 273-2731	1500	x		s	x				@/s	x										
41	Mississippi River (pool 12) FL	7071 Riverview Road, Thomson, 61285; (815) 273-2732	7990	x	x	x	c	x	x	c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
42	Mississippi River (pool 13) FL	7071 Riverview Road, Thomson, 61285; (815) 273-2732	10482	x	x	x	c	x	c	x		c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
43	Mississippi River (pool 14) FL	7071 Riverview Road, Thomson, 61285; (815) 273-2732	1472	x	x	x	c	x	c	x		c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
44	Mississippi River (pool 16) FL	Rock Island County near Rock Island; (815) 273-2733	4492	x	x	x	c	x	c			c	c	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
45	Mississippi River (pool 17) FL	Mercer County near New Boston; (309) 344-2617	2883	x	x	x	c	x	c	c		c	c	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
46	Mississippi River (pool 18) FL	Henderson County near Oquawka; (309) 344-2617	5173	x	x	x	c	x	c	c		c	c	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
47	Mitchell's Grove SNA	c/o Starved Rock SP; (815) 667-4726	185	x		s	x	s		s												
48	Morrison-Rockwood SP	18750 Lake Rd., Morrison, 61270; (815) 772-4708	950	x		x	s	x			s				x							x
49	Pekin Lake SFWA	c/o Spring Lake SFWA; (309) 968-7135	1200	x	x			x														x
50	Powerton Reservoir SFWA	c/o Spring Lake SFWA; (309) 968-7135	855	x	x																	
51	Rail Woods SNA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP, Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	283	x		x	s	x	s		s	s	c	x	x				x	x	x	
52	Rice Lake SFWA	19721 N. U.S. 24, Canton, 61520; (309) 647-9184	2500	x	x/@			x														e
53	Rock Cut SP	7318 Harlem Rd, Loves Park, 61111; (815) 885-3311	2570	x			@					@										x
54	Rockton Bog SNA	c/o Rock Cut SP; (815) 885-3311	103	x				x														
55	Sand Prairie PHA	c/o Green River SWA; (815) 379-2324	316	x										@	x	@	@					
56	Sandy Ford SNA	c/o Starved Rock SP; (815) 667-4726	203	x		x	s	x	s		s	s		x								
57	Shabbona Lake SP	4201 Shabbona Grove Rd, Shabbona, 60550; (815) 824-2106	776	x	@			@					@		@							x
58	Sinnissippi Lake SFWA	Lee & Whiteside counties near Sterling; (815) 454-2328	700	x	x																	x
59	Snakeden Hollow SFWA	P.O. Box 295, Victoria, 61485; (309) 879-2607	2497	x	@/@			e						@/x		@	@	x				e
60	Spoon River SF	c/o Snakeden Hollow SFWA; (309) 879-2607	1680	x		x	s	x	s	c		s	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
61	Spring Lake SFWA	7982 S. Park Rd., Manito, 61546; (309) 968-7135	1500	x	x/@	x		x														x
62	Starved Rock SP	Box 509, Utica, 61373; (815) 667-4726	2817	x	x		@/s	x	s		s	s		x		x						
63	Steward PHA	c/o Shabbona Lake SRA; (815) 824-2106	80	x										@		@	@					
64	Tapley Woods SNA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP, Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	259	x		x	s	x	s		s	s	c	x	x				x	x	x	
65	Victoria PHA	c/o Snakeden Hollow SFWA; (309) 879-2607	241	x	x									@	x	@	@	x				x
66	Wards Grove NP	c/o Apple River Canyon SP; (815) 745-3302	337	x			s	x	s		s											
67	White Pines SP	6712 W. Pines Rd., Mt. Morris, 61054; (815) 946-3717	300	x			s	x			s											
68	Whitefield PHA	c/o Marshall SFWA; (309) 246-8351	117	x				x						@		@	@					
69	Winston Tunnel SNA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP; (815) 745-3302	207	x		x	s	x	s		s		c	x	x				x	x	x	
70	Witkowsky SFWA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP, Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	1069	x		x	s	x	s		x	s	s	x	x							x
71	Woodford SFWA	c/o Marshall SFWA; (309) 246-8351	1350	x	x	x	x	x											x			

- Site Classification and Symbol Key:**
- SF - State Forest
  - CA - Conservation Area
  - FL - Federal Land
  - NP - Nature Preserve
  - PHA - Pheasant Habitat Area
  - SFWA - State Fish & Wildlife Area
  - SHS - State Historic Site
  - SNA - State Natural Area
  - SP - State Park
  - SRA - State Recreation Area
  - ST - State Trail
  - SWA - State Wildlife Area
  - SWMA - State Wildlife Management Area
  - @ - Opportunities available for disabled hunters

- @ - Lottery permit required for waterfowl & upland game hunting. See section on Special Hunts on Dept Sites. Standby hunting may be available for waterfowl hunting.
- @/s - Rare on site but legal to take cocks only.
- c - County permit required.
- e - Contact site office for site-specific permit.
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## Public Hunting Areas Region 1 Map Locations



### FREE SITE HUNTING PERMITS ONLINE

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# Public Hunting Areas Region 2

SITE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE SITE OR VISITING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WEBSITE: [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/pages/public hunting areas.aspx](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/pages/public hunting areas.aspx). PLEASE CONTACT THE SITE OR OBTAIN A HUNTER FACT SHEET FROM THE WEBSITE PRIOR TO HUNTING.

Name	Mailing Address	Huntible Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opossum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping
1 Adeline Jay Geo-Karis Illinois Beach SP	Lake Front-Park Office, Zion, 60099; (847) 662-4811	900	x				x														
2 Braidwood Lake SFWA	PO Box 126, Braceville, 60407; (815) 237-0063	1100	x	x																	
3 Chain O'Lakes SP	8916 Wilnot Rd., Spring Grove, 60081; (847) 587-5512	2578	x	x	x	s	x					x	x	x		x					
4 Des Plaines SFWA	24621 N. River Rd., Wilmington, 60481; (815) 423-5326	3500	x	x		s	x						x	x	x	⊗				x	
5 Des Plaines Game Propagation Center	30550 S. Boathouse Rd, Wilmington, 60481; (815) 476-6741	134	x				x														x
6 Goose Lake Prairie SNA	5010 N Jugtown, Morris, 60450; (815) 942-2899	3127	x			s	x	s	s												
7 Heidecke Lake SFWA	5010 N Jugtown, Morris, 60450; (815) 942-6352	1800	x	x	x	s	x	s	s												
8 I & M Canal ST	402 Ottawa St., Morris, 60450; (815) 942-0796		x																		x
9 James Pate Phillip SP	2050 W. Stearns Rd., Bartlett, 60103; (847) 608-3100	415	x				e														
10 Kankakee River SP	5314 W. Rt. 102, Bourbonnais, 60914; (815) 933-1383	2017	x	x	x		⊗		s				x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
11 Mazonia SFWA	PO Box 126, Braceville, 60407; (815) 237-0063	2250	x	x			x						x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
12 Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie	30239 South State Rt. 53, Wilmington, 60481; (815) 423-6370	9117	x			s	x	s	s												
13 Momene Wetlands	c/o Kankakee River SP; (815) 933-1383	460	x	x	x	s	x		s											x	
14 Moraine Hills SP	1510 S. River Rd, McHenry, 60051; (815) 385-1624	2400	x			s	e														
15 Redwing Slough/Deer Lake SNA	c/o Chain O'Lakes SP; (847) 587-5512	155	x	x																	
16 Silver Springs SFWA	13608 Fox Rd, Yorkville, 60560; (630) 553-6297	900	x		x		x						x	x	x	x				x	
17 Vesely/Wilmington Shrub Prairie SNA	c/o Des Plaines SFWA; 24621 N. River Rd., Wilmington, 60481; (815) 423-5326	300	x			s	x		s												
18 Volo Bog SNA	28478 West Brandenburg, Ingleside, 60041; (815) 344-1294	1000	x				e														
19 William W. Powers SRA	12949 S Ave. O, Chicago, 60633; (773) 646-3270	419	x	x																	

**Site Classification and Symbol Key:** SFWA - State Fish & Wildlife Area  
 CA - Conservation Area  
 FL - Federal Land  
 PHA - Pheasant Habitat Area  
 SF - State Forest  
 SHS - State Historic Site  
 SNA - State Natural Area  
 SP - State Park

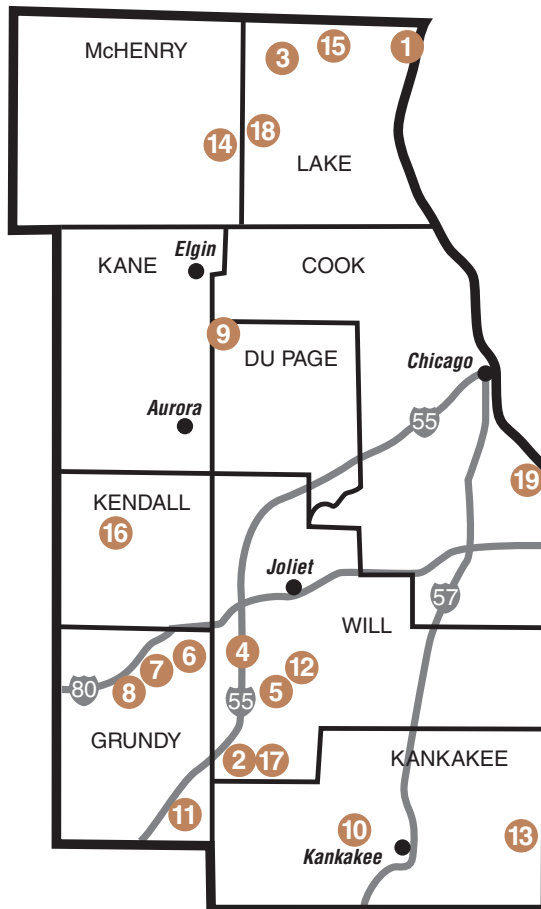
SRA - State Recreation Area  
 ST - State Trail  
 SWA - State Wildlife Area  
 SWMA - State Wildlife Management Area  
 ⊗ - Opportunities available for disabled hunters

⊗ - Lottery permit required for waterfowl & upland game hunting. See section on Special Hunts on Dept Sites. Standby hunting may be available for waterfowl hunting.  
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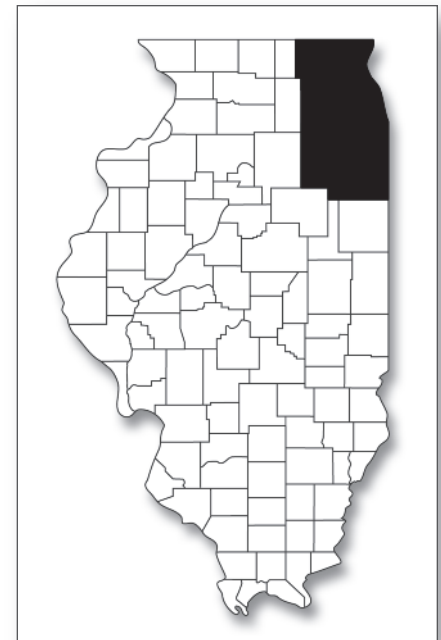
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## Public Hunting Areas Region 2 Map Locations





# Public Hunting Areas Region 3

SITE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE SITE OR VISITING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WEBSITE: [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/pages/publichuntingareas.aspx](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/pages/publichuntingareas.aspx). PLEASE CONTACT THE SITE OR OBTAIN A HUNTER FACT SHEET FROM THE WEBSITE PRIOR TO HUNTING.

Name	Mailing Address	Huntable Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opossum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping	
1 Birkbeck PHA	c/o Clinton Lake SRA; (217) 935-8722	80	x										@		@	@					x	
2 Butterfield Trail SRA	c/o Iroquois County CA; (815) 435-2218	120	x		x	s	x	s		s		x						x				x
3 Clifton PHA	c/o Iroquois County CA; (815) 435-2218	79	x										@		@	@						
4 Clinton Lake SRA	7251 Ranger Rd., DeWitt, 61735; (217) 935-8722	4125	x	@	x	⊗/s	x	s		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e	
5 Eagle Creek SRA	RR1, Box 198-B, Findlay, 62534; (217) 756-8260	520	x				⊗			s		x	@		@	@	x	x				
6 Finrock PHA	c/o Clinton Lake SRA; (217) 935-8722	365	x				x						@		@	@						x
7 Fox Ridge SP	18175 State Park Road, Charleston, 61920; (217) 345-6416	1082	x	x	x	s	x			s			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
8 Gifford PHA	c/o Kickapoo SRA; (217) 442-4915	100	x										@		@	@						x
9 Hallsville PHA	c/o Clinton Lake SRA; (217) 935-8722	82	x				x						@		@	@						x
10 Harry "Babe" Woodyard SNA	c/o Kickapoo SRA; (217) 442-49157	1150	x		x	s	x		c	s			@	x	@	@	x	x	x	x	x	x
11 Herschel Workman PHA	c/o Kickapoo SRA; (217) 442-4915	141	x										@		@	@						x
12 Hidden Springs SF	RR1, Box 200, Strasburg, 62465; (217) 644-3091	963	x	x	x	s	x	s		s			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
13 Hindsboro PHA	c/o Walnut Point SP; (217) 346-3336	88	x		x		x						@		@	@						x
14 Hurricane Ck. (Paul C. Burrus) SHA	c/o Fox Ridge SP; (217) 345-6416	376	x		x	s	x			s			@		@	@						x
15 Iroquois County SWA	2803 East 3300 North Rd., Beaverville, 60912; (815) 435-2218	2185	x		x	s	x			s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
16 Kickapoo SRA	10906 Kickapoo Rd, Oakwood, 61858; (217) 442-4915	1253	x		x	s	x	c	c	s			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
17 Larry D. Closson SHA	c/o Shelbyville SWMA; (217) 665-3112	130	x	@	x	x	x	e					@		@	@						x
18 Lincoln Trail SP	16985 E 1350th Rd., Marshall, 62441; (217) 826-2222	875	x				x												x			x
19 Loda PHA	c/o Iroquois County CA; (815) 435-2218	160	x										@		@	@						
20 Middle Fork SFWA	c/o Kickapoo SP; (217) 442-4915	2628	x		x	s	x	c	c	s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
21 Milks Grove PHA	c/o Iroquois County CA; (815) 435-2218	78											@		@	@						
22 Moraine View SRA	27374 Moraine View Pk. Rd., Leroy, 61752; (309) 724-8032	1191	x		x		x			s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
23 Perdueville PHA	c/o Moraine View SP; (309) 724-8032	120	x										@		@	@						x
24 Saybrook PHA	c/o Moraine View SP; (309) 724-8032	646	x										@		@	@						x
25 Shelbyville FL	RR4, Box 128B, Shelbyville, 62565; (217) 774-3951	9000	x	⊗	x	⊗/s	x	s		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
26 Shelbyville SWMA	562 Ste Hwy 121, Bethany, 61914; (217) 665-3112	6343	x	x	x	s	x	s		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
27 Sibley PHA	c/o Moraine View SP; (309) 724-8032	630	x										@		@	@						x
28 Walnut Point SP	2331 E. County Rd 370 North, Oakland, 61943; (217) 346-3336	571	x		x		x												x			
29 Weldon Springs SP	4734 Weldon Springs Rd., Clinton, 61727; (217) 935-2644	100																				x
30 Weldon Springs-Piatt County Unit	c/o Weldon Springs SP; (217) 935-2644	770	x		x	s	x			s			x		x	x						
31 Willow Creek SHA	c/o Walnut Point SP; (217) 346-3336	87	x		x		x						@		@	@						x
32 Wolf Creek SP	RR1, Box 99, Windsor, 61957; (217) 459-2831	500	x			⊗/s	x			s			@		@	@		e				

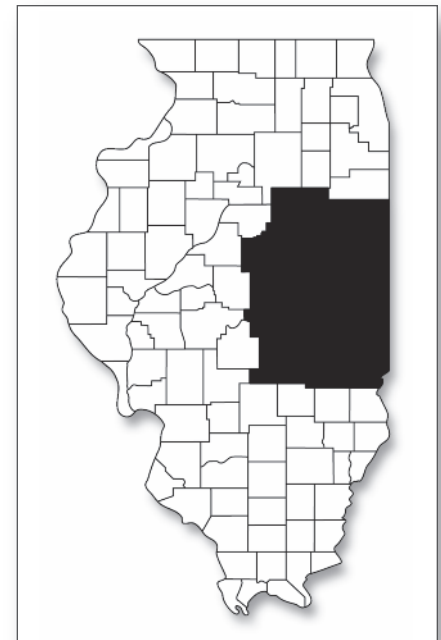
**Site Classification and Symbol Key:**  
 CA - Conservation Area  
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 SFWA - State Fish & Wildlife Area  
 SHS - State Historic Site  
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 SRA - State Recreation Area

SWA - State Wildlife Area  
 SWMA - State Wildlife Management Area  
 ⊗ - Opportunities available for disabled hunters  
 ⊙ - Lottery permit required for waterfowl & upland game hunting. See section on Special Hunts on Dept Sites. Standby hunting may be

available for waterfowl hunting. Clinton Lake has areas open to statewide regulation.  
 ☒ - Rare on site but legal to take cocks only.  
 c - County permit required.  
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 s - Special Hunt Area permit required from the Springfield permit office.

## Public Hunting Areas Region 3

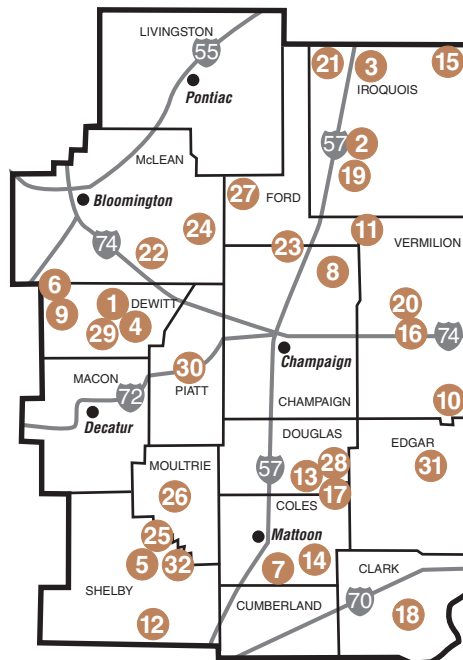
### Map Locations



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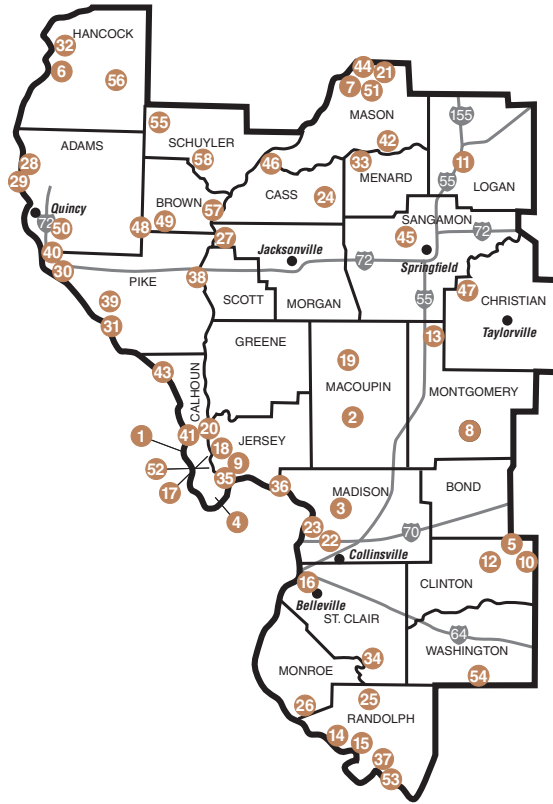
# Public Hunting Areas Region 4

- d - Web Page - fws.gov/midwest/greatriver
- e - Lottery permit required for waterfowl & upland game hunting. See section on Special Hunts on Dept Sites. Standby hunting may be available for waterfowl hunting. JEPG, Sand Ridge & Sangchris also have some areas open to statewide regulations.
- c - County permit required.
- e - Contact site office for site-specific permit.
- s - Special Hunt Area permit required from the Springfield permit office.

## FREE SITE HUNTING PERMITS ONLINE

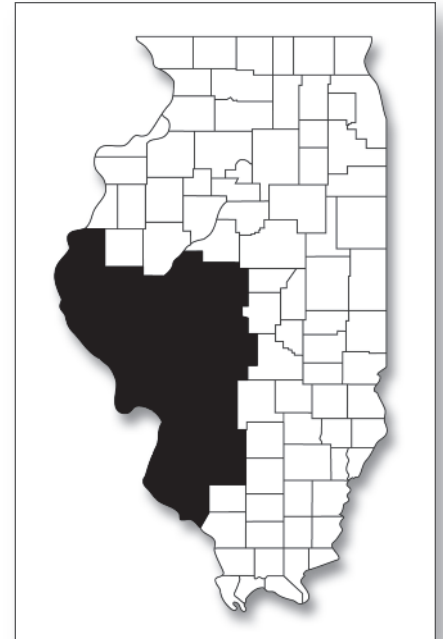
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## Public Hunting Areas Region 4

### Map Locations



# Public Hunting Areas Region 5

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1 Alvah Borah SHA	102 Park Office Rd., McLeansboro, 62859; (618) 773-4340	87	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
2 Beall Woods SP	9285 Beall Woods Ave., Mt. Carmel, 62863; (618) 298-2442	516	X			X															e
3 Bluff Lakes FL	Union County near Jonesboro; (618) 833-8576	516		X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
4 Burning Star SFWA	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 993-7148	4508	X	X	S	X	S		S					X			X	X	X	X	X
5 Cache River SNA	930 Sunflower Lane, Belknap, 62908; (618) 634-9678	12417	X	X	X	C	X	C		C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	e
6 Campbell Pond SHA	Perry & Jackson counties, c/o Pyramid SP; (618) 357-2574	520	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
7 Cape Bend SFWA	c/o Union County SFWA; (618) 833-5175	1380	X	X	X	C	X	C		C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
8 Cedar/Draper Bluff HA	P.O. Box 10 Goreville, 62939; (618) 995-2411	1275	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	e
9 Carlyle Lake SFWA	RR2, Box 233, Vandalia, 62471; (618) 425-3533	9868	X	X	C	X	C		C		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	e
10 Chauncey Marsh SNA	c/o Red Hills SP, near Chauncey in Lawrence Co.; (618) 936-2469	519	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	S		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
11 Crab Orchard Refuge FL	Williamson County near Carterville; (618) 997-3344	23000	X	X	X	⊗/s	X	C	C	c/s	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
12 Crawford County SFWA	12609 E. 1700th Ave., Hutsonville, 62433; (618) 563-4405	1129	X		X	C	X	C	C	S	S	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
13 Cretaceous Hills NP	c/o Ft. Massac SP; (618) 524-4712	238				C	X	C		C	C	X									
14 Cypress Creek Refuge FL	137 Rustic Campus Dr., Ullin, 62992; (618) 634-2231	16,000	X	X	X	C	X	C		C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
15 Cypress Pond SNA	c/o Ferne Clyffe SP, Box 10, Goreville, 62939; (618) 995-2411	1047	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
16 Deer Pond SNA	c/o Ferne Clyffe SP, Box 10, Goreville, 62939; (618) 995-2411	190	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
17 Devil's Island SWMA	c/o Union County SFWA, 2755 Refuge Rd., Jonesboro, 62952; (618) 833-5175	2741	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
18 Dixon Springs SP	RR2, Golconda, 62938; (618) 949-3394	265	X		⊗	X			⊗/s		X										
19 Dog Island SWMA	c/o Dixon Springs SP, RR2, Box 178, Golconda, 62938; (618) 949-3394	220	X	X	X	C	X	C		C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
20 Embarras River Bottoms SHA	c/o Red Hills SP; (618) 936-2469	535	X	@	X	S	X	S		S	C	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
21 Ferne Clyffe SP	Box 10, Goreville, 62939; (618) 995-2411	450	X		X	c/s	X	C	C	c/s	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	e
22 Flag Pond SNA	c/o Prairie Ridge SNA, 4295 N. 1000th St. Newton, 62448; (618)783-2685	255			X	S	X			S	C	X									
23 Giant City SP	235 Giant City SP, Makanda, 62958; (618) 457-4836	2891	X		X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X				e
24 Hamilton County SFWA	102 Park Office Rd., McLeansboro, 62859; (618) 773-4340	1530	X		X	C	X	C	C	S	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
25 Horseshoe Lake SFWA (Alexander Co.)	Box 85, Miller City, 62962; (618) 776-5689	4190	X	@/⊗	X	c/s	X	C		C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
26 Kinkaid Lake SFWA	52 Cinder Hill Dr, Murphysboro, 62966; (618) 684-2867	3700	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X

**Site Classification and Symbol Key:**  
 CA - Conservation Area  
 FL - Federal Land  
 SF - State Forest  
 SFWA - State Fish & Wildlife Area

SHA - State Habitat Area  
 SHS - State Historic Site  
 SNA - State Natural Area  
 SP - State Park  
 SRA - State Recreation Area

SWMA - State Wildlife Management Area  
 ⊗ - Opportunities available for disabled hunters  
 @ - Lottery permit required for waterfowl & upland game hunting. See section

on Special Hunts on Dept Sites. Standby hunting may be available for waterfowl hunting. Horseshoe Lake also has some areas open to statewide regulations.  
 ⊗ - Youth Firearm only.

⊗ - Rare on site but legal to take cocks only.  
 c - County permit required.  
 s - Special Hunt Area permit required from the Springfield permit office.  
 e - Contact site office for site-specific permit.

# Public Hunting Areas Region 5

SITE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE SITE OR VISITING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WEBSITE: [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/pages/publichuntingareas.aspx](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/pages/publichuntingareas.aspx). PLEASE CONTACT THE SITE OR OBTAIN A HUNTER FACT SHEET FROM THE WEBSITE PRIOR TO HUNTING.

Name	Mailing Address	Huntable Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opossum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping
27 LaRue Swamp FL	Union County near Wolf Lake; (618) 833-8576	1000	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
28 Meeker SHA	c/o Sam Parr SFWA, 13225 E. Hwy. 33, Newton 62448; (618) 783-2661	72	X		X	C	X	C		S	S	X	X	X	X	☒	X	X	X	X	
29 Mermet Lake SFWA	1812 Grinnell Rd., Belknap, 62908; (618) 524-5577	2000	X	X	X	C	X	C		S	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
30 Mt. Vernon Game Propagation Center	13995 E. Game Farm Rd., Mt. Vernon, 62864; (618) 242-0830	600	X		X	X	X			S	X	X	X	X							X
31 Newton Lake SFWA	3490 E 500th Ave., Newton, 62448; (618) 783-3478	6500	X	X	X	S	X			e	e	X	X	X	X	☒	X				X
32 Oakwood Bottoms FL	Jackson County near Murphysboro; (618) 833-8576	3400	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
33 Prairie Ridge SNA	4295 N 1000th St., Newton, 62448; (618) 783-2685	2614	X			S	X														
34 Pyramid SRA - Park Unit	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	2754	X		X	S	X	C		S		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
35 Pyramid SRA - East Conant Unit @	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	2824	X	X	X	S	X	C		S		X	@	X	@	@	X	X	X	X	X
36 Pyramid SRA - Denmark Unit @	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	4385	X	X	X	S	X		C	S			@	X	@	@	X	X	X	X	X
37 Pyramid SRA - Galum Unit	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	2520	X	X	X	S	X		C	S			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
38 Pyramid SRA - Captain Unit @	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	6105	X	X	X	S	X		C	S			@	X	@	@	X	X	X	X	X
39 Ramsey Lake SRA	Ramsey Lake Rd., P.O. Box 97, Ramsey, 62080; (618) 423-2215	1610	X		X		X			S		X	X	X	X	@	X	X	X	X	X
40 Rauchfuss Hill SRA	c/o Dixon Springs SP; (618) 949-3394	150					X					X									
41 Red Hills SP	3571 Ranger Lane, Sumner, 62466; (618) 936-2469	736	X		X		X			S		X	X	X	X	☒	X				X
42 Rend Lake SFWA	10885 E. Jefferson Rd., Bonnie, 62816; (618) 279-3110	7690	X	⊗	X	C	X	C		C	C	X	X	X	X	☒	X	X	X	X	X
43 Rend Lake FL	11981 Rend City Rd., Benton, 62812; (618) 724-2493	7740	X	⊗	X	C	X	C		C	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
44 Sahara Woods SFWA	1210 Tipple Road, Carrier Mills; (618) 994-2022	3800	X		X				S	S			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
45 Saline County SFWA	85 Glenn O. Jones Rd., Equality, 62934; (618) 276-4405	1000	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
46 Sam Dale Lake SFWA	620 Cty Rd 1910 N., Johnsonville, 62850; (618) 835-2292	950	X	X	X		X			S		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
47 Sam Parr SFWA	13225 E. St. Hwy. 33, Newton, 62448; (618) 783-2661	840	X		X		X			S	S	X	X	X	X	☒	X	X	X	X	X
48 Shawnee Nat'l Forest FL	Jackson, Union, Alexander, Johnson, Williamson, Massac, Pope, Hardin, Gallatin & Saline counties; (618) 253-7114	277645	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
49 Sielbeck Forest SNA	c/o Mermet Lake SFWA; (618) 524-5577	385	X	X	X	C	X	C		C		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
50 Skinner Farm SHA	c/o Ferne Clyffe SP; (618) 995-2411	70	X		X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
51 Stephen A. Forbes SRA	6924 Omega Rd., Kinnundy, 62854; (618) 547-3381	2580	X	X	X		X			S		X	X	X	X	☒	X	X	X	X	e
52 Ten Mile Creek SFWA	4283 State Route 14, McLeansboro, 62859; (618) 643-2862	4995	X	X	X	C	X	C	C	S	S	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
53 Trail of Tears SF	3240 State Forest Rd., Jonesboro, 62952; (618) 833-4910	4784	X		X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
54 Union County SFWA	2755 Refuge Rd, Jonesboro, 62952; (618) 833-5175	2800	X	⊗	X	C/S	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X				e
55 Wayne Fitzgerald SRA	11094 Ranger Rd., Whittington, 62897; (618) 629-2320	1800	X				X			S		X				X					
56 Wildcat Hollow SHA	c/o Stephen A. Forbes SRA; (618) 547-3381	675	X		X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X	☒	X	X	X	X	
57 Wise Ridge SNA	c/o Ferne Clyffe SP; (618) 995-2411	550	X		X	C	X	C	C	C	C	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X

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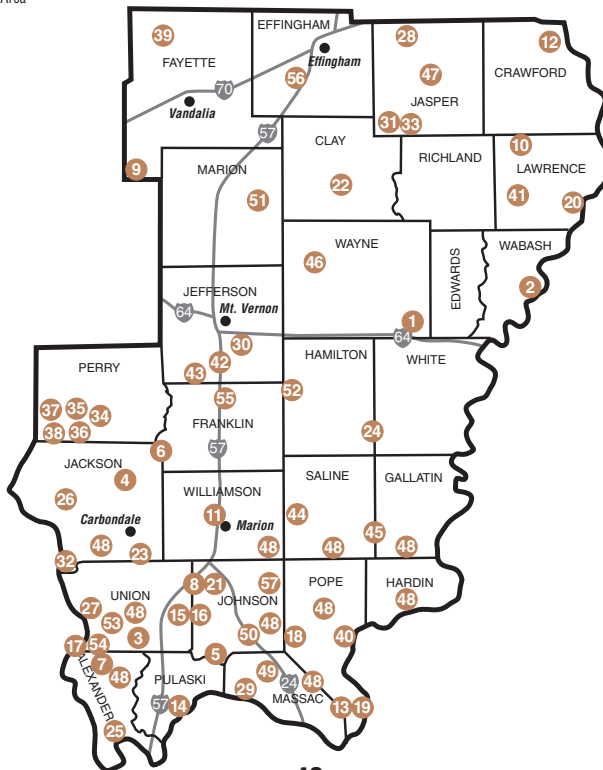
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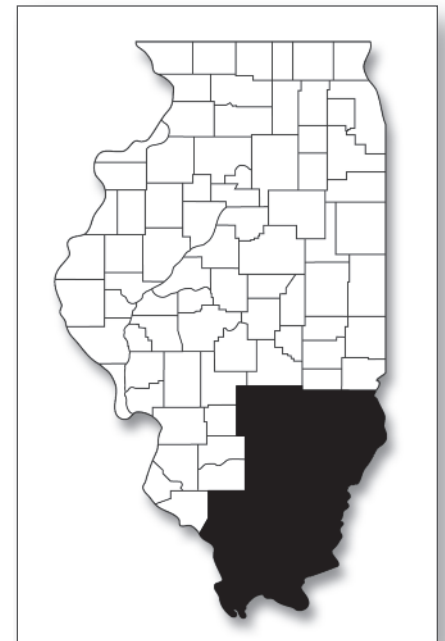
## FREE SITE HUNTING PERMITS ONLINE

Hunters are reminded that "Free Site Hunting Permits" (windshield cards) to hunt upland, forest game and waterfowl at many Illinois Public Hunting Areas are available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov). Navigate to Hunting/Trapping and then Public Hunting Areas to print these permits and view the link to hunter fact sheets. For information or assistance, contact the site where you intend to hunt.

**For most species, hunters are required to return to this website prior to Feb. 15 each year to record harvest information.**



## Public Hunting Areas Region 5 Map Locations



# Torstenson Youth Conservation Education Center

Leaders in Conservation Education



- AWARENESS GROWS
- SELF-DISCOVERY IS FOSTERED
- CONSERVATION LEADERS EMERGE
- YOUTH EXPLORE, DISCOVER, ENJOY AND GROW

## TURNING SCREEN TIME INTO GREEN TIME

As the charitable partner of the IL Department of Natural Resources, the Illinois Conservation Foundation serves more than 6,000 children annually at the Torstenson Youth Conservation Education Center (TYCEC) near Rockford. On the 750-acre property, youth are introduced to hunting, fishing, archery, camping and nature observation, often for the first time in their lives.

With the support of our generous donors, Cabela's Outdoor Fund, National Wild Turkey Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Federation, NRA, Shikar Safari Club International the ICF is able to deliver quality, hands-on programs that bring youth conservation education to life. This outdoor "classroom" is available year-round to anyone who would like to learn about woodlands, wetlands, restored prairie, river habitats and wildlife. It is also available for private events.

One Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, IL 62702  
217/785-2003  
[www.ilcf.org](http://www.ilcf.org)

TYCEC  
13735 Cook Road  
Pecatonica, IL 61063  
815/298-4037  
[hoffman.icflc@gmail.com](mailto:hoffman.icflc@gmail.com)

- CLASSROOM FIELD TRIPS
- SCOUTING GROUP EXPERIENCES
- CORPORATE RETREATS
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- YOUTH HUNTING, FISHING, CAMPING AND ARCHERY.

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and Twitter



# TOM ROSTER'S 2012 NONTOXIC SHOT LETHALITY TABLE<sup>©</sup>

## Proven Nontoxic Shot Loads For Waterfowl & Upland Game Birds<sup>1</sup>

Load Velocity: 1,225 - 1,450 FPS

### ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY	Typical Shooting Range of Activity (Yards)	Most Effective Nontoxic Shot Size(s) For Birds Listed Under the First Column Entitled ACTIVITY	Minimum Load Weight (Ounces)	Minimum Pellet Hits Needed on Lethal Areas for Clean Kills	Minimum Pattern Count Needed at Any Distance for Clean Kills (# of Pellets in 30" Circle)	Most Effective Choke(s) (Given in Lead Shot Choke Designations)	NOTE: The pellets in the steel shot loads listed in this table were traditional, highly spherical ball-shaped pellets of ~ 7.86 g/cc density and 90-95 DPH hardness. The HEVI-Shot pellets were of 12.0 g/cc density and slightly harder than traditional steel pellets.
Large Geese At Long Range Giant, Western, Atlantic and Interior Canadas	50-65	Steel BBB to T	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved Modified	
	50-70	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55	Improved Modified, Full	
Large Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
Medium/Small Geese Long Range Snow, White-fronted, Lesser Canadas	50-65	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved Modified	
	50-65	HEVI-Shot 2	1-1/2	1-2	60-65	Improved Modified, Full	
Medium/Small Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel 2 to BB	1-1/8	1-2	60-65	Light Modified, Modified	
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 4 to 2	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
Large Ducks At Long Range Mallard, Black, Pintail, Goldeneye, Gadwall	45-65	Steel 2 to 1	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full	
	45-65	HEVI-Shot 4	1-1/4	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full	
Large Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 2	3/4 - 1	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
Medium Ducks Over Decoys Wigeon, Scaup, Shoveler	20-45	Steel 6 to 3	1	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
Small Ducks Over Decoys Teal, Ruddy, Bufflehead	20-45	Steel 6 to 4	1	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/8	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)	
Ring-Necked Pheasants	20-50	Steel 3 to 2	1	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)	
	20-50	HEVI-Shot 4	1-1/8	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)	
Turkeys (Head and Neck Shots)	20-40	Steel 4	1-1/4	3-4	210-230	Full or Extra Full	
Swatter Load For Wounded Birds	20-30	Steel 7 to 6	1	1	175	Improved Modified, Full	

This table summarizes Tom Roster's analyses to date of the waterfowl lethality data bases for certain of the 15 U.S. steel versus lead waterfowl shooting tests run between 1968 & 1982 & one steel-only pheasant shooting test plus lethality data bases owned by ammunition companies for birds taken with nontoxic shotshell loads Roster tested for them & the CONSEP organization.

Note: Steel #BBB (.190") and HEVI-Shot #2 (.150") have exhibited the best all-around performance for taking geese; steel #3 (.140") and HEVI-Shot #4 (.130") the best all-around performance for taking ducks; and steel #2 and HEVI-Shot #4 the best all-around performance for taking ring-necked pheasants.

<sup>1</sup>These findings are derived from testing 3" 20 gauge; 2 3/4", 3" and 3 1/2" 12 gauge; and 3 1/2" 10 gauge steel loads; plus 3" 20 gauge and 2 3/4" and 3" 12 gauge HEVI-Shot loads.

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# Sunrise–Sunset Time Table

The map and table provide Central Standard Time sunrise and sunset times by region from August through May.

Match month and date with the zone you hunt in and add the appropriate number of minutes for the sunrise/sunset time. These times have been adjusted to reflect the correct time on all dates, including Standard Time and Daylight Saving Time. This table is also available at [www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting).



	August		September		October		November		December	
Day	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1	5:51	8:07	6:21	7:24	6:50	6:35	7:23	5:50	6:56	4:28
2	5:52	8:06	6:22	7:22	6:51	6:33	7:24	5:49	6:57	4:28
3	5:53	8:04	6:23	7:21	6:52	6:32	7:25	5:48	6:58	4:28
4	5:54	8:03	6:24	7:19	6:53	6:30	7:26	5:47	6:59	4:27
5	5:55	8:02	6:25	7:18	6:54	6:28	7:27	5:46	7:00	4:27
6	5:56	8:01	6:26	7:16	6:55	6:27	7:28	5:45	7:01	4:27
7	5:57	8:00	6:27	7:14	6:56	6:25	7:29	5:44	7:02	4:27
8	5:58	7:59	6:28	7:13	6:57	6:24	7:30	5:43	7:03	4:27
9	5:59	7:57	6:29	7:11	6:58	6:22	7:31	5:42	7:04	4:27
10	6:00	7:56	6:29	7:09	6:59	6:20	7:32	5:41	7:04	4:27
11	6:01	7:55	6:30	7:08	7:00	6:19	7:33	5:40	7:05	4:28
12	6:02	7:53	6:31	7:06	7:01	6:17	7:34	5:39	7:06	4:28
13	6:03	7:52	6:32	7:05	7:02	6:16	7:35	5:38	7:07	4:28
14	6:04	7:51	6:33	7:03	7:03	6:14	7:36	5:37	7:07	4:28
15	6:05	7:49	6:34	7:01	7:04	6:13	7:37	5:36	7:08	4:28
16	6:06	7:48	6:35	7:00	7:05	6:11	7:38	5:35	7:09	4:29
17	6:07	7:47	6:36	6:58	7:06	6:10	7:39	5:34	7:10	4:29
18	6:08	7:45	6:37	6:56	7:07	6:08	7:40	5:33	7:10	4:29
19	6:09	7:44	6:38	6:55	7:08	6:07	7:41	5:32	7:11	4:30
20	6:09	7:42	6:39	6:53	7:09	6:06	7:42	5:31	7:11	4:30
21	6:10	7:41	6:40	6:51	7:10	6:04	7:43	5:30	7:12	4:31
22	6:11	7:39	6:41	6:50	7:11	6:03	7:44	5:29	7:12	4:31
23	6:12	7:38	6:42	6:48	7:13	6:01	7:45	5:28	7:13	4:32
24	6:13	7:36	6:43	6:46	7:14	6:00	7:46	5:27	7:13	4:33
25	6:14	7:35	6:44	6:45	7:15	5:59	7:47	5:26	7:14	4:33
26	6:15	7:33	6:45	6:43	7:16	5:58	7:48	5:25	7:14	4:34
27	6:16	7:32	6:46	6:41	7:17	5:56	7:49	5:24	7:14	4:34
28	6:17	7:30	6:47	6:40	7:18	5:55	7:50	5:23	7:14	4:35
29	6:18	7:29	6:48	6:38	7:19	5:54	7:51	5:22	7:15	4:36
30	6:19	7:27	6:49	6:36	7:20	5:52	7:52	5:21	7:15	4:37
31	6:20	7:26			7:21	5:51			7:15	4:37

	January		February		March		April		May	
Day	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1	7:15	4:38	7:02	5:12	6:26	5:45	6:37	7:17	5:53	7:48
2	7:15	4:39	7:01	5:13	6:25	5:46	6:35	7:18	5:52	7:49
3	7:15	4:40	7:00	5:14	6:23	5:47	6:34	7:19	5:50	7:50
4	7:15	4:41	6:59	5:16	6:22	5:48	6:32	7:20	5:49	7:51
5	7:15	4:42	6:58	5:17	6:20	5:49	6:30	7:21	5:48	7:52
6	7:15	4:43	6:57	5:18	6:19	5:50	6:29	7:22	5:47	7:53
7	7:15	4:44	6:55	5:19	6:17	5:51	6:27	7:24	5:46	7:54
8	7:15	4:45	6:54	5:20	6:16	5:52	6:26	7:25	5:45	7:55
9	7:15	4:46	6:53	5:22	6:14	5:54	6:24	7:26	5:44	7:56
10	7:15	4:47	6:52	5:23	6:12	5:55	6:23	7:27	5:42	7:57
11	7:15	4:48	6:51	5:24	6:11	5:56	6:21	7:28	5:41	7:58
12	7:14	4:49	6:50	5:25	6:09	5:57	6:20	7:29	5:40	7:59
13	7:14	4:50	6:48	5:26	6:08	5:58	6:18	7:30	5:39	8:00
14	7:14	4:51	6:47	5:28	6:06	5:59	6:16	7:31	5:38	8:01
15	7:13	4:52	6:46	5:29	6:04	6:00	6:15	7:32	5:37	8:02
16	7:13	4:53	6:45	5:30	6:03	6:01	6:13	7:33	5:37	8:03
17	7:12	4:54	6:43	5:31	6:01	6:02	6:12	7:34	5:36	8:04
18	6:12	4:55	6:42	5:32	6:00	6:03	6:11	7:35	5:35	8:05
19	7:11	4:57	6:41	5:34	6:58	6:04	6:09	7:36	5:34	8:05
20	7:11	4:58	6:39	5:35	6:56	6:05	6:08	7:37	5:33	8:06
21	7:10	4:59	6:38	5:36	6:55	6:06	6:06	7:38	5:32	8:07
22	7:10	5:00	6:37	5:37	6:53	6:07	6:05	7:39	5:32	8:08
23	7:09	5:01	6:35	5:38	6:52	6:08	6:03	7:40	5:31	8:09
24	7:08	5:02	6:34	5:39	6:50	6:09	6:02	7:41	5:30	8:10
25	7:08	5:04	6:32	5:40	6:48	6:10	6:01	7:42	5:30	8:11
26	7:07	5:05	6:31	5:42	6:47	6:11	5:59	7:43	5:29	8:12
27	7:06	5:06	6:29	5:43	6:45	6:12	5:58	7:44	5:28	8:12
28	7:05	5:07	6:28	5:44	6:43	6:13	5:57	7:45	5:28	8:13
29	7:04	5:08			6:42	6:14	5:55	7:46	5:27	8:14
30	7:03	5:10			6:40	6:15	5:54	7:47	5:27	8:15
31	7:03	5:11			6:39	6:16			5:26	8:15

Source data for Champaign Illinois: [http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/RS\\_OneYear.php](http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/RS_OneYear.php). Times have been adjusted to reflect the correct time on all dates, including during Standard Time and Daylight Saving Time. Hunters and Trappers using these tables DO NOT NEED TO ADD OR SUBTRACT AN HOUR. These times are a guide and may not be the official sunrise/sunset times for hunting seasons.



## Serving Since 1885 Illinois Conservation Police

To be a vigilant guardian of the natural resources, public safety and homeland security of Illinois.



The Illinois Conservation Police would like to thank YOU, the sportsmen of Illinois, for your continued support over the last 130 years. It's your passion for conservation that has enabled us to protect the natural resources of this great state while providing a safe place to enjoy the outdoors. Our unique partnership will continue to provide future generations with lifelong outdoor recreational opportunities.

## Contacting a Conservation Police Officer

The Department of Natural Resources' Office of Law Enforcement developed the Target Illinois Poachers program to encourage any concerned citizen who witnesses a poaching offense to report the violation. The toll-free number is (877) 2DNRLAW (1-877-236-7529). Simply defined, "poaching" is the illegal taking or possession of game and non-game animals, fish or other resources. Hunting out of season and hunting at night with spotlights are two of the most obvious signs of poaching. Hunters and fishermen possessing more than the legal limit is another. Slow-moving or partially hidden vehicles, shots heard at unusual hours or game being concealed are all suspect.

But there is another serious problem that affects everyone: pollution. DNR is teaming up with the Illinois Attorney General and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to investigate and bring to prosecution those who would intentionally pollute our land, water and air. If you are aware of improper dumping of discarded chemical or petroleum barrels or of any other potential environmental crime, please report it. If you locate an environmental hazard, keep a safe distance and call the TIP hotline with the details at (877) 2DNRLAW (1-877-236-7529).

Remember: Good law enforcement is everybody's responsibility. If you see a violation, report it. Let's Target Illinois' Poachers and Polluters!



**T.I.P.**  
**TARGET ILLINOIS POACHERS**

**REPORT VIOLATIONS TO:**  
**1-877-2DNRLAW**  
**(236-7529)**

**Operates 24 hrs./day, 7 days a week.**

Ameritech Relay 1-800-526-0644 for the deaf and hearing impaired.

**For all other requests for an Illinois Conservation Police Officer after regular business hours, contact your Illinois State Police district HQ dispatch center.**



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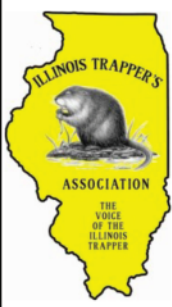
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