

2016 CONNECTICUT

# HUNTING & TRAPPING



Connecticut Department of  
Energy & Environmental Protection

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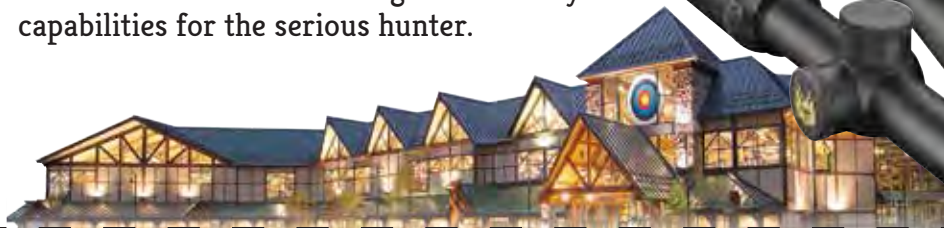


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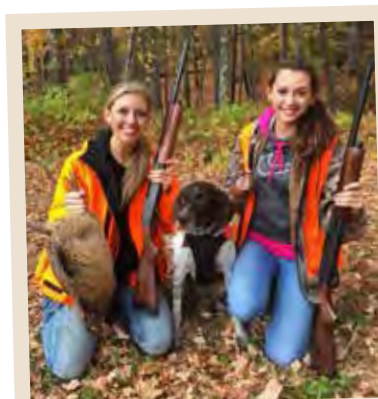
## BE BEAR AWARE, page 6

Learn what you should do if you encounter bears in the outdoors or around your home.



## 150 YEARS OF NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION IN CONNECTICUT, page 30

The DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources is celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2016.



### On the cover:

Sisters Chelsea (left) and Megan with their German shorthaired pointer, Jazz, after a successful pheasant hunt at Higganum Meadows Wildlife Management Area in Haddam. Chelsea and Megan also enjoy hunting for deer.

### Photo by:

Michael Salafia



# 2016 CONNECTICUT HUNTING & TRAPPING

## State of Connecticut

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### Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

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Susan Whalen, *Deputy Commissioner*

### Bureau of Natural Resources

William Hyatt, *Chief*

### Wildlife Division

Richard Jacobson, *Director*

### Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

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

### Directory of Services

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

<b>Wildlife Division</b> .....	<b>860-424-3011</b>
Division of Env. Cons. Police .....	860-424-3012
Licensing and Revenue.....	860-424-3105
Inland Fisheries Division.....	860-424-FISH
Marine Fisheries Division.....	860-434-6043
Parks and Recreation Division.....	860-424-3200
Forestry Division .....	860-424-3630
DEEP Home Page .....	<a href="http://www.ct.gov/deep">www.ct.gov/deep</a>
CT Fish and Wildlife Facebook Page .....	<a href="http://www.Facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife">www.Facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife</a>

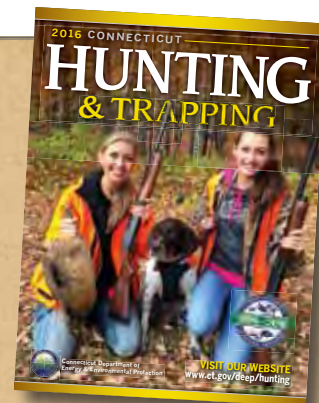
### Field Services

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

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

### 24 Hour Emergency Numbers

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



## About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

J.F. Griffin is an award winning publishing house that specializes in producing state fish & wildlife regulation books. J.F. Griffin supports CT DEEP's staff in the design, layout and editing of the guides. They also manage the marketing and sales of advertising to appropriate businesses within the book.

The revenue generated through ad sales significantly lowers production costs and generates savings. These savings translate into additional funds for other important fisheries and habitat programs.

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### Graphic Design:

Jon Gulley, Dane Fay, Evelyn Haddad,  
and Chris Sobolowski



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# 2016 Summary of Hunting Season Dates

For further information regarding specific bag, possession, and season limits, please visit the pages noted in the table below. See page 15 for details on Junior Hunter Training Days.

GAMEBIRDS	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
<b>Upland Birds</b>	See page 16 for limit information
Pheasant <sup>A</sup>	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
Chukar Partridge	Jan. 1 – Jan. 9 Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 15 – Nov. 30
Quail <sup>B</sup>	Oct. 15 – Oct. 29
Crow <sup>C</sup>	Jan. 9 – Mar. 26 (Mon through Sat) Aug. 13 – Oct. 7 (Wed, Fri, Sat) Oct. 15 – Nov. 30 (Wed, Fri, Sat)
<b>Woodcock – Snipe – Rails</b>	See current Migratory Bird Hunting Guide
<b>Waterfowl</b> (ducks, mergansers, geese, and coot)	See current Migratory Bird Hunting Guide State and federal stamps required

<sup>A</sup> Pheasant Stamp Authorization required.

<sup>B</sup> See page 16 for areas with extended season dates.

<sup>C</sup> Crow hunting occurs only on certain days during the season.

SMALL GAME MAMMALS	
See page 16 for limit information.	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Gray Squirrel	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Sep. 1 – 30 Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
Cottontail Rabbit European Hare	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
Snowshoe Hare	Jan. 1 – Jan. 30 Nov. 19 – Dec. 31
Woodchuck	Mar. 14 – Apr. 26 May 30 – Oct. 7 Oct. 15 – Nov. 15

FURBEARERS	
See pages 16 and 17 for limit information and page 44 for trapping seasons and regulations.	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Coyote	Jan. 1 – Apr. 26 May 30 – Dec. 31
Red & Gray Foxes	Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
Raccoon & Opossum	Jan. 1 – Jan. 16 Oct. 15 – Dec. 31

TURKEY	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
<b>Spring Turkey</b>	See page 18 for limit information
State Land Private Land Landowner	Apr. 27 – May 28
<b>Fall Turkey Archery</b>	See page 18 for limit information
Private Land (zones 11–12)	Jan. 1 – Jan. 30
Private Land (all zones)	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land Bowhunting Only Areas	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land	Sep. 15 – Nov. 15 Dec. 21 – Dec. 31
<b>Fall Turkey Firearms</b>	See page 19 for limit information
State Land Private Land Landowner	Oct. 1 – Oct. 31

DEER	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
<b>Deer Bowhunting</b>	See page 20 for limit information
Private Land (zones 11–12)	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31
Private Land (all zones)	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land Bowhunting Only Areas	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land	Sep. 15 – Nov. 15 Dec. 21 – Dec. 31
<b>Deer Shotgun – State Controlled Areas</b>	See page 22 for limit information
No Lottery "A" Season	Nov. 16 – Nov. 25
No Lottery "B" Season	Nov. 26 – Dec. 6
<b>Deer Lottery</b>	See page 24 for lottery application and bag limit information
Archery-Only Controlled Hunt Lottery	Sep. 15 – Nov. 15
State Land and Controlled Hunt Lottery "A" Season	Nov. 16 – Nov. 25
State Land and Controlled Hunt Lottery "B" Season	Nov. 26 – Dec. 6
<b>Deer Shotgun/Rifle – Private Lands</b>	See page 20 for limit information
Shotgun/Rifle	Nov. 16 – Dec. 6
Landowner	Nov. 1 – Dec. 31
<b>Deer Muzzleloader</b>	See page 21 for limit information
Private Land	Dec. 7 – Dec. 31
State Land	Dec. 7 – Dec. 20







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# Be Bear Aware

**Connecticut's bear population is growing and encounters between people and bears are increasing.** When bears find human-provided foods, they can become habituated to humans and residential settings. Habituated bears are more likely to be struck by vehicles, cause property damage, and threaten human safety.

Removing and managing food sources can prevent these problems. Bears are rarely aggressive towards people, although habituated bears may act curious and approach more closely.

## Black Bear DO's and DON'TS

**Bears Seen When Hunting, Hiking, or Camping:** Bears normally leave an area once they have sensed a human. If you see a bear, enjoy it from a distance.

- DO watch bears from a distance if you are undetected in a hunting blind or stand.

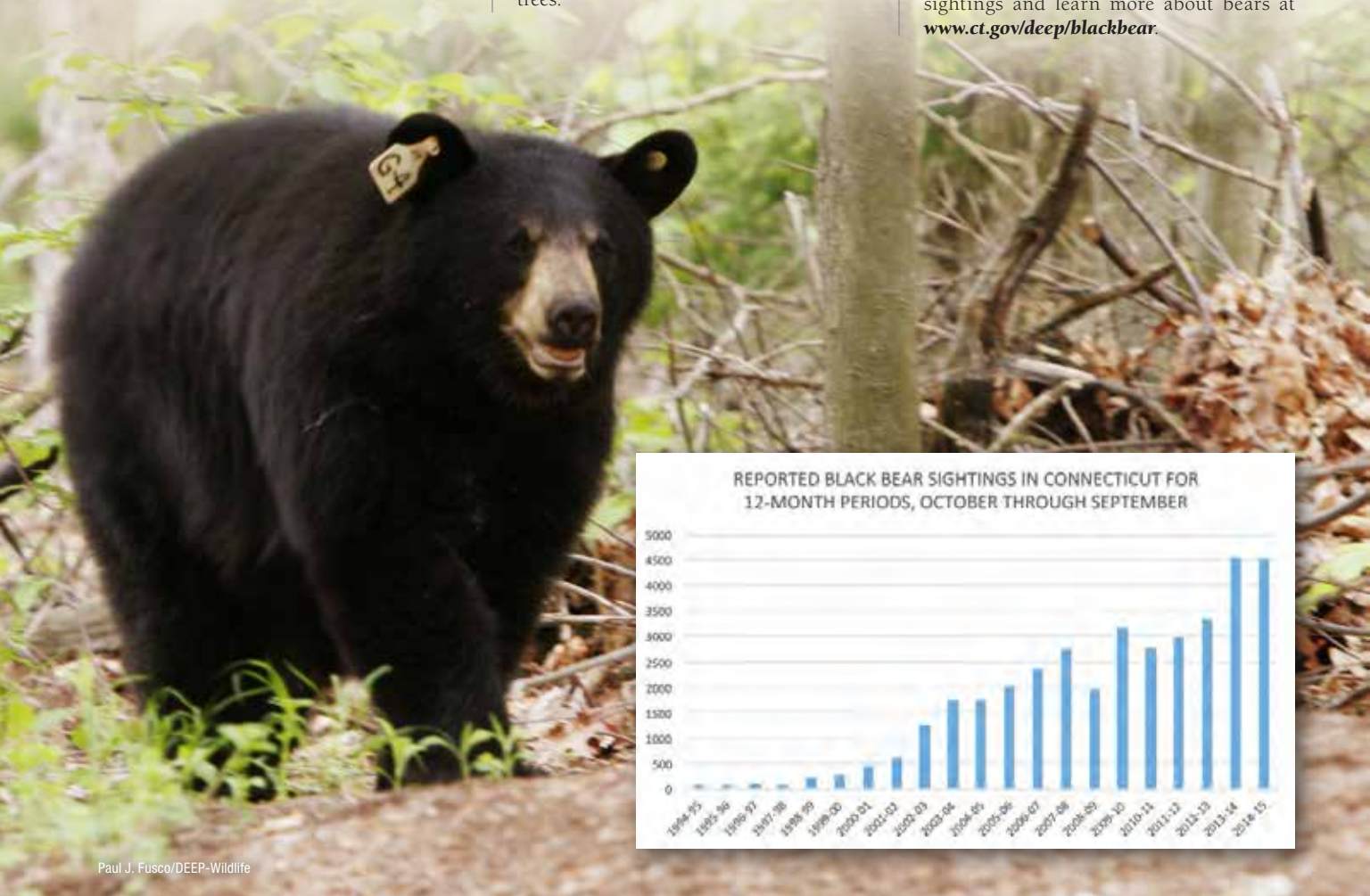
- DO make your presence known by making noise and waving your arms if you see a bear while hiking, and DO back away slowly. DON'T climb a tree or run away.
- DO increase your efforts to look large and offensive if a bear continues to approach you.
- DO keep dogs on a leash and under control.
- DON'T approach or try to get close to a bear to get a photo or video.
- DON'T cook food near your tent or store food inside your tent. Instead, store food in a secure vehicle or use rope to suspend it between two trees.

**Bears Near Your Home:** Bears are attracted to garbage, birdfeeders, pet food, compost piles, fruit trees, livestock, and beehives around houses.

- DON'T intentionally feed bears.
- DO remove birdfeeders and bird food from late March through November.
- DO store garbage cans inside a garage or shed. Add ammonia to trash to make it unpalatable.
- DO clean and store BBQ grills in a shed or garage after use.
- DO protect beehives, chickens, and other livestock with electric fencing and move chickens and livestock into coops, sheds, or barns at night if possible.
- DON'T approach or try to get close to a bear to get a photo or video.
- DON'T leave pet food outside overnight.

## Report Bear Sightings!

- Reports of bear sightings are valuable indicators of how the state's bear population is growing and expanding, as well as the activity and movements of bears. Report bear sightings and learn more about bears at [www.ct.gov/deep/blackbear](http://www.ct.gov/deep/blackbear).





## WHAT TO DO WHEN APPROACHED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICER

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

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

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



### When Hunting:

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

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

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



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# Licenses & Permits

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

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

**Hunter Education Requirements:** No hunting or trapping licenses will be issued to any person unless proof is provided that they have held a RESIDENT license in the respective sport within the last 5 years OR the person has a certificate indicating successful completion of a Connecticut Conservation Education/Firearms Safety (CE/FS) course (or recognized equivalent) in the respective sport for which they are applying. "Apprentice" or "Mentored" hunting licenses issued in other states do not qualify. Courses are available during most months. To become certified in firearms or bowhunting, a person must be 10 years or older. All bowhunters must show proof when purchasing a small game/deer archery permit that they have completed the

CE/FS bowhunting course (since 1982) or its equivalent from another state or country. Certifications from another state or country must specify Bowhunter Education. If you have previously purchased a 2002, or later, Connecticut bowhunting license you have already provided such proof. Obtain course listings by visiting the DEEP website at [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) or calling the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011.

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

**Hunting by Minors:** A person must be 12 years of age or older to hunt. Persons 12 through 15 years of age must be licensed and accompanied by a licensed hunter 18 years of age or older while hunting. A person may not supervise more than 2 minors at one time while hunting. Minors are entitled to their own bag limits. Junior license holders do not have to purchase a new license if they turn 16 years of age during the same calendar year.

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

**Free License for Hunters with Disabilities:** A person who has permanently lost the use of a limb may be issued a hunting or trapping license free of charge (permits, tags not included). Non-residents are eligible for this free license if their state provides the same privilege to Connecticut residents. Verification of the disability, signed by a licensed

physician, must be presented. See page 38 for more information. These licenses are available at town clerk and select DEEP offices.

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

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

## PHEASANT STAMPS, WATERFOWL STAMPS & HIP PERMITS

### Pheasant Stamps

- Valid for Calendar Year
- Fees: \$28 Resident, \$28 Non-Resident  
\$14 for resident 16 & 17-year-olds

Current firearms hunting license or Small Game and Archery Deer Permit required. Tags are no longer required. When purchased, authorization for pheasant hunting will be printed on your license.

### Connecticut Migratory Bird Hunting Authorization

- Valid for Calendar Year
- Fees: \$13 Resident, \$13 Non-Resident  
Junior hunters ages 12-15 are exempt  
\$7 for resident 16 & 17-year-olds
- The actual state stamp no longer needs to be signed or carried while hunting. If you want a copy of the actual stamp mailed to you, answer "yes" to the prompt when selecting the stamp for purchase. Physical stamps can also be purchased by mailing a request with the enclosed fee to DEEP Licensing & Revenue, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

### Connecticut Harvest Information Program (HIP) Permit

- Valid for Calendar Year
- Fees: \$4 Resident, \$4 Non-Resident  
\$2 for resident 16 & 17-year-olds

### Federal Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp

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

## FISHING/HUNTING GUIDE REGISTRATION

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

## SNAPPING TURTLE TRAPPING ENDORSEMENT

- Required when using traps to catch snapping turtles. Available for free online or at DEEP offices.

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- Season Dates: July 15 – September 30
- Bag Limits: Daily 5, Possession 30, Season 30
- Size Limit: Minimum 13" shell length
- Turtle eggs cannot be taken and turtle nests cannot be disturbed without DEEP authorization.
- Legal Methods: Hand capture, dip net, turtle hook, floating or non-floating turtle trap, or hook and line.
- A maximum of 3 turtle traps can be used per individual at any given time, traps must be set in such manner as to allow turtles to surface and breathe and be constructed of 1" minimum mesh size. All traps must have a functional escape hole with minimum diameter of 7.5" to allow passage of fish and smaller turtles. Box-type traps cannot exceed 4'x4' and hoop-style traps cannot exceed 84". Traps must be tagged with a plate or tag visible above the water line bearing the Conservation ID# of the trapper. All traps may only be tended by the authorized trapper and must be checked at least once every 24 hours and emptied of catch. Any other wildlife captured must be immediately released at the point of capture.
- Traps cannot be used on any body of water owned, leased or otherwise under control of the DEEP.
- Using a hook and line to capture snapping turtles requires a fishing license.

LICENSES	RESIDENT	16 & 17 YEAR-OLD RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Firearms Hunting	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$91.00
Firearms Hunting & Inland Fishing	\$38.00	\$19.00	\$110.00
Firearms Hunting & All Waters Fishing	\$40.00	\$20.00	\$120.00
Firearms Hunting & Marine Waters Fishing	\$25.00	\$13.00	\$94.00
Firearms Supersport <sup>1</sup> (see below for included items)	\$70.00	\$35.00	—
Firearms Supersport with Muzzleloader <sup>2</sup> (see below for included items)	\$84.00	\$42.00	—
Firearms Supersport Waterfowl <sup>3</sup> (see below for included items)	\$50.00	\$25.00	—
Junior Firearms Hunting (Ages 12 to 15)	\$11.00	—	\$11.00
Age 65+ Annual Hunting License	Free	—	—
Archery Deer/Small Game	\$41.00	\$21.00	\$135.00
Archery Deer/Small Game and All Waters Fishing	\$65.00	\$33.00	—
Archery Supersport <sup>4</sup> (see below for included items)	\$82.00	\$41.00	—
Junior Archery Deer/Small Game (Ages 12 to 15)	\$19.00	—	\$19.00
Trapping	\$34.00	\$17.00	\$250.00
Junior Trapping (Ages 15 and under)	\$11.00	—	—
Age 65+ Annual Trapping License	Free	—	—

- Firearms Supersport License:** Includes Firearms Hunting, Private Land Deer Shotgun/Rifle, Private Land Spring Turkey, and All Waters Fishing.
- Firearms Supersport with Muzzleloader License:** Includes Firearms Hunting, Private Land Deer Shotgun/Rifle, Private Land Deer Muzzleloader, Private Land Spring Turkey, and All Waters Fishing.
- Firearms Supersport Waterfowl License:** Includes Firearms Hunting, CT Migratory Bird Hunting Authorization (CT Duck Stamp), CT HIP Permit, and All Waters Fishing.
- Archery Supersport License:** Includes Archery Deer/Small Game, Private Land Spring Turkey, and All Waters Fishing. With the Private Land Spring Turkey Permit, you can also use a shotgun if you have a firearms hunting license.



## FIND A HUNTER

### LINKING LANDOWNERS AND HUNTERS

#### HUNTER PROFILE DIRECTORY

Free, quick and easy state-by-state reference for landowners seeking deer management assistance.

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- Lebanon Green Market - Lebanon, CT (860)642-7051
- Jeff's Custom Cutting - New Milford, CT (203)824-1163

For more information or questions please contact:  
**Info@HuntToFeed.com**  
203-215-2583

# Licenses & Permits

## FIREARMS DEER HUNTING PERMITS

- A current firearms hunting license is required to purchase firearms deer permits.
- Lottery permits can be applied for starting January 1. See page 24 for details.
- No one may purchase both a State Land Lottery Permit and a State Land No-Lottery Permit. If you are rejected for a lottery permit, you may still purchase a State Land No-Lottery Permit.
- Permit fee for resident 16 & 17-year-olds is \$10.

DEER PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	OPENING DAY	INFO
<b>State Land Lottery (includes Controlled Hunt Areas)</b>				
"A" Season	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 16	page 24
"B" Season	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 26	page 24
<b>State Land No-Lottery</b>				
"A" Season	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 16	page 22
"B" Season	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 26	page 22
<b>Private Land Shotgun/Rifle</b>	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 16	page 20
<b>Private Land Muzzleloader</b>	\$19.00	\$68.00	Dec. 7	page 21
<b>State Land Muzzleloader</b>	\$19.00	\$68.00	Dec. 7	page 21

### Revolver Deer Endorsement - Fee: \$5

Allows persons hunting with a Free Landowner Permit or Connecticut residents hunting with a Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Permit to use a revolver rather than a rifle or a shotgun to hunt deer on private lands of at least 10 acres in size.

## FALL TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS

- A current firearms hunting license is required to purchase firearms turkey permits.
- A current Small Game and Deer Archery Permit is required to purchase a Fall Archery Turkey Permit.
- If you obtain a Landowner Fall Firearms Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Fall Firearms Turkey Permit.
- If you obtain a Landowner Fall Archery Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Fall Archery Turkey Permit.
- Permit fee for resident 16 & 17-year-olds is \$10.

FALL TURKEY PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	OPENING DAY	INFO
Firearms Private Land	\$19.00	\$19.00	Oct. 1	page 19
Firearms State Land	\$19.00	\$19.00	Oct. 1	page 19
Fall Archery	\$19.00	\$19.00	Sept. 15	page 18

## SPRING TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS

- A current firearms hunting license or a Small Game and Deer Archery Permit is required to purchase spring turkey permits.
- If you obtain a Landowner Spring Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Spring Turkey Permit.
- Permit fee for resident 16 & 17-year-olds is \$10.

SPRING TURKEY PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	OPENING DAY	INFO
Private Land	\$19.00	\$19.00	April 27	page 18
State Land	\$19.00	\$19.00	April 27	page 18

## LANDOWNER HUNTING PERMITS (10 OR MORE CONTIGUOUS ACRES REQUIRED)

- If you obtain a Landowner Spring Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Spring Turkey Permit.
- If you obtain a Landowner Fall Firearms Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Fall Firearms Turkey Permit.
- If you obtain a Landowner Fall Archery Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Fall Archery Turkey Permit.

LANDOWNER PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	OPENING DAY	INFO
Deer	Free	Free	Nov. 1	page 21
Fall Firearms Turkey	Free	Free	Oct. 1	page 19
Fall Archery Turkey	Free	Free	Sept. 15	page 18
Spring Turkey	Free	Free	April 27	page 18

## Hunter Education Needs You!

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 call 860-424-3011



## Pass on the Tradition

### SPORTSMEN'S DOLLARS AT WORK

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



## To Report a Wildlife Violation

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CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

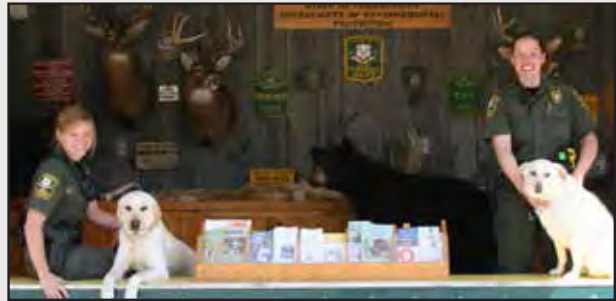


## FISH AND GAME ENFORCEMENT IN CONNECTICUT

DEEP's Division of Environmental Conservation (EnCon) Police is responsible for the enforcement of the State's wildlife and fisheries laws and to provide public safety and law enforcement services in Connecticut's state parks and forests and on the State's waterways. The men and women of the Division are dedicated officers that take pride in their mission that supports the protection and management of the State's natural resources. In 2015, three of the Division's K-9 units were trained in the detection of certain species of fish and game. The officers and their Labrador Retriever partners completed three weeks of fish detection training and two weeks of game detection training offered by the Connecticut State Police K-9 Unit. The training is the first of its kind within the New England State Police Administrator Compact (NESPAC.) No fish and game detection training curriculum existed within NESPAC until this training program.

"Fish and game detection canines have been used throughout the country to assist officers in combatting illegal fishing, hunting, and trapping," said DEEP Deputy Commissioner Susan Whalen. "It is a credit to our EnCon officers that were interested in working with their dogs to expand their abilities and usefulness to the agency. These canines and their handlers will be a valuable asset when it comes to protecting the State's natural resources."

The officers and their canine partners are Officer Holly Bernier and Saydee, Officer William Logiodice and Ruger, and Officer Karen Reilly and Hunter. They were originally certified in tracking and evidence recovery in June 2012. DEEP obtained the dogs from Connecticut Labrador Rescue Inc., in Haddam.



**EnCon Officer Erin Crossman (left) and her K-9 partner Ellie Mae and EnCon Officer Hollie Bernier and her K-9 partner Saydee in the EnCon Police Division Turn in Poachers (TIP) Trailer.**

Through enforcement and education, the Environmental Conservation Police Division will continue to provide public safety and protect the State's natural resources. We encourage the citizens of Connecticut to take an active role in this mission by reporting fish and game violations to our 24-hour toll-free line at 1-800-842-4357.

Thank you and good luck!

**Colonel Kyle Overturf**

Director - State Environmental Conservation Police





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# Hunting Laws & Regulations

The use and possession of firearms, ammunition and bowhunting equipment is regulated in the interest of public safety and the conservation of wildlife. Hunters are also subject to any federal, state, or municipal firearms regulations. General restrictions on the use of firearms, air guns and bowhunting equipment are described below.

## HUNTING — GENERAL

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

Archery deer hunters can hunt on Sundays on private land only in Deer Management Zones 1, 4b, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 (see zone map on page 20). Deer Management Zones 2, 3, and 4a are NOT open to Sunday archery deer hunting. All archery deer hunting on Sundays must take place at least 40 yards away from blazed hiking trails.

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

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

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

## Hunting While Under the Influence or Impaired:

No person shall engage in hunting while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or both, or while impaired by the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

**Hunting Near Roads, Buildings, People, and Domestic Animals:** Hunting or shooting from or across the travelled portion of any public roadway is prohibited. Shooting toward any person, building, or domestic animal when within range is prohibited.

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

**Closed Season:** No hunting and no training of dogs from October 8 through 7:00 a.m., EDT, on October 15, 2016, except for the hunting of rails in marshes; waterfowl hunting; legal deer, turkey, and coyote hunting; licensed private shooting preserves operating under the provisions of Sec. 26-48; field trials held under the provisions of Sec. 26-51 and Sec. 26-52; the training of hunting dogs under the provisions of Sec. 26-49 of the General Statutes; and the training of hunting dogs on any area approved by the department for this purpose. There is also a closed season for hunting all other wildlife during the spring wild turkey seasons.

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

## FIREARMS HUNTING

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

**500 Foot Zone:** It is prohibited to hunt with, shoot, or carry a loaded firearm within 500 feet of any building occupied by people or domestic animals, or used for storage of flammable material, or within 250 feet of such buildings when waterfowl hunting in tidal areas from land shooting positions or from floating blinds anchored adjacent to land or from rock positions, unless written permission for lesser distances is obtained from the

owner and carried. Landowners, their spouse, and lineal descendants are exempt from this restriction, providing any building involved is their own. The 500 foot zone does not apply to bowhunting.

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

**Rifles and Handguns:** Rifles or handguns using ammunition larger or heavier than .22 caliber rimfire long rifle are prohibited on state-owned land. Rifles or handguns of any caliber are prohibited on State-leased and Permit-Required Hunting Areas (see Permit-Required and State-Leased Hunting Area sections for exceptions). The use of rifles or handguns to hunt turkeys, waterfowl, or any other federally regulated migratory game bird (except crows) is prohibited. Hunting on private land with ammunition larger than .22 caliber rimfire long rifle during the private land shotgun/rifle deer season is prohibited unless the user has a valid private land deer season permit and landowner consent form. The use of rifles or revolvers to hunt deer is subject to additional restrictions (see Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Season). The use of ammunition larger or heavier than .22 caliber rimfire long rifle to hunt raccoon or opossum at night is prohibited. A person using a handgun for hunting must possess any required state/town permits to carry. Note: it is legal to use .17 caliber rimfire firearms in all situations where it is legal to use .22 caliber rimfire long rifle firearms.

**Shotguns:** The possession of shotgun ammunition larger or heavier than #2 shot is prohibited on state-owned lands, state-leased lands, and Permit-Required Hunting Areas, at all times, and is prohibited on private lands during the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Deer Season (see Permit-Required and State-Leased Hunting Area sections for exceptions). However, on any lands, waterfowling hunting from a boat, blind, or stationary position may use up to and including size BB steel shot. The possession of lead shot while hunting waterfowl is prohibited. The use of shotguns larger than 10-gauge for hunting waterfowl is prohibited. Shotguns must not be capable of holding more than 3 shells (2 in the magazine, 1 in the chamber) when hunting waterfowl, other migratory birds (except crows), deer on state lands, and turkey. The exception is that unplugged shotguns are legal to use during the September Canada goose season. The use of shotguns to hunt deer or turkey is subject to additional restrictions (see Deer Hunting and Turkey Hunting).

**Muzzleloaders:** During Muzzleloader Deer Seasons, a muzzleloader means a rifle or shotgun, .45 caliber minimum, incapable of firing a self-contained cartridge, using powder and a single projectile loaded separately at the muzzle end. Shotgun converters and telescopic sights are legal. Restrictions on the use of smoothbore muzzleloaders for hunting small game and waterfowl are the same as those for shotguns. Restrictions on the use of muzzleloading rifles for hunting

## NEW LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Public Act 15-204, An Act Authorizing Bow and Arrow Hunting on Certain Private Property on Sundays, was signed into law in 2015. It authorizes DEEP to establish a season for Sunday bowhunting for deer on private properties during the fall archery season in areas of the state with an overpopulation of deer. The law also requires that all such hunting must take place at least 40 yards away from blazed hiking trails. DEEP determined that Sunday archery deer hunting on private lands will be permitted in Deer Management Zones (DMZ) 1, 4b, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12. The three zones where Sunday hunting will NOT be permitted are DMZs 2, 3, and 4A.



small game are the same as those for rifles, except that on state-owned land, up to a .36 caliber muzzleloading rifle using round ball ammunition only may be used. A percussion/in-line muzzleloader with a cap or primer installed, an electronic muzzleloader with a battery connected or a flintlock muzzleloader having powder in the pan is considered a loaded firearm.

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

#### BOWHUNTING

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

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

**Crossbows:** The use of crossbows for hunting deer, turkey and all other species is permitted.

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

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

**Possession of a Firearm:** Possession of a firearm while bowhunting for deer is prohibited.

#### DEFINITION OF BAG LIMITS

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

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

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

#### PRIVATE LAND PERMISSION

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

**Deer Hunters and Turkey Hunters:** must have written permission of the landowner for the current season on official DEEP forms. Copies of the form do not have to be sent to DEEP, but must be carried while hunting. Old forms, still available at some town clerks and DEEP offices, or a photocopy of the official form found in this guide must be used. Forms may also be downloaded from the DEEP website ([www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting)). The form must be dated for the current season, indicate the hunting implement types authorized by the landowner, and have the landowner's original signature. A landowner must have a minimum of 10 acres to authorize the use of a rifle or revolver for deer hunting. There is no minimum acreage requirement for using a shotgun, muzzleloader or archery equipment.

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

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# Hunting Laws & Regulations

## LANDOWNER LIABILITY RELEASE

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

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

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

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

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

## FLUORESCENT ORANGE REQUIREMENT

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

The following hunters are exempt from this requirement:

- **Archery Deer Hunters** hunting from September 15 to November 15 and from January 1 to January 31.
- **Archery Deer Hunters** hunting during the November 16 to December 31 time period may remove their fluorescent orange clothing when hunting from an elevated stand at least 10 feet above the ground.
- **Firearms and Archery Turkey Hunters**
- **Waterfowl Hunters** while hunting from boats, duck blinds, or other stationary positions.
- **Crow Hunters** while hunting from a blind or a stationary position.
- **Coyote and Fox Hunters** when hunting from a blind except during firearms deer seasons and fall firearms turkey seasons.
- **Raccoon and Opossum Hunters** when hunting from ½ hour after sunset until ½ hour before sunrise.

- **Landowners** while hunting deer on their own property. Family members are still required to wear fluorescent orange.

## YOUTH REGULATIONS

Public Act 14-201, which was signed into law in 2014, established a 50% reduction in all license fees for resident 16 and 17-year old hunters and anglers. Additionally, a companion section in the bill provides a 50% reduction in hunting and sport fishing permit, tag, and stamp fees for all resident 16 and 17-year old hunters and anglers. For more details, check the appropriate sections of this guide to find out the license, permit, tag, and stamp fees for resident 16 and 17-year-old hunters.

## LICENSE SUSPENSION—REMEDIAL HUNTER ED REQUIREMENT

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

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

## Laws

- **Sec. 26-62:** Hunting related injuries/death to any person, animal other than a wild animal or damage to property of another
- **Sec. 26-73:** Hunting on Sunday
- **Sec. 26-74:** Use of motor vehicle in hunting
- **Sec. 26-91:** Taking of migratory birds—violations for hunting before or after legal hunting hours
- **Sec. 53-204:** Hunting from a public highway
- **Sec. 53-205:** Loaded weapon in a motor vehicle
- **Sec. 53-206d:** Carrying of firearm while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug
- **Sec. 53a-217e:** Negligent Hunting

## Regulations — Behavior and Actions of Hunters

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

## FALCONRY

Individuals wishing to participate in the sport of falconry must obtain a Connecticut falconry permit prior to obtaining a falconry bird. Falconers are required to abide by the same regulations that pertain to other hunters who hunt

small game and waterfowl. Any public hunting area open for small game or waterfowl hunting may also be used by falconers. Verbal permission is required on private lands. Falconers must wear fluorescent orange and must obtain the same licenses and permits required for small game and waterfowl hunting. A non-resident falconry permit is required prior to any non-resident practicing falconry in Connecticut. To obtain application materials or find out more about the falconry program, please visit the DEEP website ([www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting)).

## TRAP & TARGET SHOOTING

Trap or target shooting on any state property or public hunting area is prohibited unless the area is a designated shooting range. There are four state owned public shooting ranges available for target shooting, patterning shotguns and sighting in rifles.

**Wooster Mountain State Park Cooperative Shooting Range:** Wooster Mountain State Park, Danbury. Operated by the Danbury Shooting Sports Association. Located on Rte. 7, approximately two miles south of the Danbury Mall. Clay target shooting allowed. Call 845-279-4513 for daily time and fee schedule.

**High Rock Cooperative Shooting Range:** Naugatuck State Forest, Naugatuck. Operated by the High Rock Shooting Association, Inc. Range hours: Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m. Range fee: \$5.00 for the first hour, fractional for more time. No clay targets allowed. State pistol permit required to shoot handguns. Call 860-491-9921 for information.

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

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

## DEALING WITH HARASSMENT

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

Connecticut has a hunter harassment law that protects the rights of sportsmen. If you decide to



press charges, make sure you have a strong case by: (1) making it evident that the antagonists are following you by going in several directions, (2) asking your antagonists why they are harassing you, (3) being able to identify and describe the

individuals, (4) taking the license numbers of their vehicles if possible, and (5) not responding with violence or threatening a protester with bodily harm.

## 2016 JUNIOR HUNTER TRAINING DAYS

Regulations designate certain days for youth hunting in Connecticut. On these days, licensed junior hunters (12 to 15 years of age) may hunt when accompanied by a licensed adult hunter 18 years of age or older. The adult mentor may not carry a firearm and at all times must remain within physical contact in a position to provide direct supervision and instruction. These training days will provide junior hunters with an opportunity to learn safe and effective hunting practices from experienced hunters. Check out the Junior Hunter webpage on the DEEP website ([www.ct.gov/deep/JuniorHunter](http://www.ct.gov/deep/JuniorHunter)) to learn about special events, activities, and information for junior hunters.

### SPRING TURKEY:

**Saturday, April 16 through**

**Saturday, April 23, 2016 (excluding Sunday)**

- **Private Land:** Licensed junior hunter must have a valid spring season private land turkey permit and written consent from landowner. Adult mentor must have a valid spring season turkey permit and written consent from the landowner. Adult mentor may assist in calling turkeys. Hunting hours for Junior Hunter Training Days only: ½ hour before sunrise to 5:00 p.m. Harvested turkeys must be reported by telephone or internet.
- **State Land:** Licensed junior hunter must have a spring season state land turkey permit. Adult mentor must have a valid spring season turkey permit of any permit type. Adult mentor may assist in calling turkeys. Hunting hours for Junior Hunter Training Days only: ½ hour before sunrise to 5:00 p.m. Harvested turkeys must be reported by telephone or internet.

### PHEASANT:

**Saturday, October 8, 2016**

- **Private Lands Only:** Youth participants must possess a current junior hunting license and pheasant stamp. There may be exceptions if hunting on a private shooting preserve or a hunting club property with a pheasant stamp exemption. Youth must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age. Adults must possess a valid hunting license; however, they are not allowed to carry a firearm.

### WATERFOWL:

#### See Current Migratory Bird Hunting Guide

- Participants must possess a valid junior hunting license and a HIP permit and be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age. Adults must possess a valid hunting license; however, they are not allowed to carry a firearm. Ducks, geese, mergansers and coots may be hunted. Bag limits and shooting hours are the same as for the regular duck and goose hunting seasons.

### DEER:

**Saturday, November 5 through**

**Saturday, November 12, 2016 (excluding Sunday)**

- **Private Land:** Licensed junior hunter must have a valid private land shotgun/rifle deer permit and written consent from landowner. Adult mentor must have a valid private land deer permit and written consent from the landowner. Harvested deer must be reported by telephone or internet.
- **State Land:** Licensed junior hunter must have a state land shotgun deer permit (Lottery or No-Lottery). Adult mentor must have a valid deer permit of any type. Deer hunting on Junior Hunter Training Days is permitted on any Lottery or No-Lottery Deer area, regardless of area designated on the permit, with the following exceptions:
  1. Yale Forest, MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir Barkhamsted East Block, MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir Hartland East Block, MDC Nepaug Reservoir Valentine Block, and MDC Nepaug Reservoir Pine Hill Block are not open during Junior Hunter Training Days.
  2. Centennial Watershed State Forest and Bristol Water Company are only open to junior hunters who have been awarded a permit for these areas.Harvested deer must be reported by telephone or internet.

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# Small Game Hunting

## SMALL GAME HUNTING SEASONS

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

## PHEASANT HUNTING

**Season Dates** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 15 – Dec. 31

**Bag Limits** Daily (2); Season (10)

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except on Oct. 15 (7:00 a.m. until ½ hour after sunset)

**License & Permits** Firearms or Archery Hunting License, and Pheasant Stamp Authorization

**Legal Firearms** See firearms and ammunition regulations on pages 12–13.

### Special Conditions

- Landowners hunting pheasants on their own land are exempt from stamp requirements, but are still restricted to daily and season bag limits. Private hunting clubs can apply for exemption from stamp requirements. Contact Wildlife Division for details. Members and guests of such exempt clubs are not subject to seasonal bag limits when hunting on club lands. They are also exempt from daily bag limits if they use club tags on all pheasants taken on such club lands. Club tags must be applied immediately upon kill and contain club name, hunting license number and date taken. Pheasants identified in this manner do not count towards the statewide daily limit of two.
- **Junior Hunter Training Day:** Saturday, October 8, 2016. See page 15 for details.

## OTHER UPLAND GAME BIRDS

**Species** Ruffed Grouse, Quail, Chukar Partridge, Crow

### Season Dates

- **Ruffed Grouse:** Oct. 15 – Nov. 30
- **Quail:** Oct. 15 – Oct. 29
- **Chukar Partridge:** Jan. 1–9 and Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
- **Crow:** Hunting only on certain days.  
Jan. 9 – Mar. 26: *Mon through Sat*  
Aug. 13 – Oct. 7: *Wed, Fri, Sat*  
Oct. 15 – Nov. 30: *Wed, Fri, Sat*

### Bag Limits

- **Ruffed Grouse:** Daily (1); Season (8)
- **Quail:** Daily (2); Season (10)
- **Chukar Partridge:** Daily (2), Season (10)
- **Crow:** No limit

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except on Oct. 15 (7:00 a.m. until ½ hour after sunset)

**License & Permits** Firearms or Archery Hunting License

**Legal Firearms** See firearms and ammunition regulations on pages 12–13.

### Special Conditions

- **Extended Quail Season:** Quail may be hunted at the Nod Brook WMA and the Flaherty, Mansfield, and Sugarbrook Field Trial Areas from Jan. 1–9 and from Oct. 15–Dec. 31.
- **Crow Hunting:** While crow hunting from a stationary position a hunter is exempt from the fluorescent orange clothing regulation (see page 14).

## WOODCOCK, SNIPE & RAIL HUNTING

**Season Dates** See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

**Bag Limits** See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

**Hunting Hours** See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

**License & Permits** Firearms or Archery Hunting License and a Connecticut HIP permit.

**Legal Firearms** Shotguns are the only firearms which may be used. Shotguns must be capable of holding no more than 3 shells. See ammunition regulations for shotguns on pages 12–13.

### Special Conditions

- **Federal Regulations:** in addition to Connecticut hunting laws, migratory bird hunters are subject to all Federal Laws and Regulations.

## WATERFOWL HUNTING

**Species** Duck, Merganser, Goose, Coot

**Season Dates** See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

**Bag Limits** See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

**Hunting Hours** See *Migratory Bird Hunting Guide*

**License & Permits** Firearms or Archery Hunting License. Connecticut HIP permit. Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp and Connecticut Migratory Bird Hunting Authorization also required for hunters 16 years or older. See page 8 for information about obtaining the CT stamp. Note, federal waterfowl stamps are not valid unless signed in ink on the face of the stamp.

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

### Special Conditions

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

## SMALL GAME MAMMALS

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

### Season Dates

- **Gray Squirrel:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29, Sept. 1–30, and Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
- **Cottontail Rabbit:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
- **Snowshoe Hare:** Jan. 1–30 and Nov. 19 – Dec. 31
- **European Hare:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
- **Woodchuck:** March 15 – April 26, May 30 – Oct. 7 and Oct. 15 – Nov. 15



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See page 27 of this guide for an order form.



### Bag Limits

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

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except on Oct. 15 (7:00 a.m. until ½ hour after sunset)

**License & Permits** Firearms or Archery Hunting License

**Legal Firearms** See firearms and ammunition regulations on pages 12–13.

**Special Conditions** None

### FOX & COYOTE HUNTING

**Species** Red Fox, Gray Fox, Coyote

#### Season Dates

- **Red & Gray Foxes:** Jan. 1 – Feb. 29 and Oct. 15 – Dec. 31
- **Coyote:** Jan. 1 – April 26, May 30 – Dec. 31

#### Bag Limits

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

**Hunting Hours:** ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except on Oct. 15 (7:00 a.m. until ½ hour after sunset)

**License & Permits** Firearms or Archery Hunting License

**Legal Firearms** See firearms and ammunition regulations on pages 12–13.

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

### RACCOON & OPOSSUM HUNTING

**Season Dates** Jan. 1–16 and Oct 15 – Dec. 31

#### Bag Limits

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

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

**License & Permits** Firearms or Archery Hunting License

**Legal Firearms** See firearms and ammunition regulations on pages 12–13. Also, when hunting at night, rifles or handguns using ammunition larger than .22 caliber rimfire long rifle, or shotgun shells larger than #2 shot may not be used.

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

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# Turkey Hunting

## TURKEY HUNTING SEASONS

Licensing and permit costs are listed on page 8–10. Specific laws and regulations for each turkey season are below.

## SPRING TURKEY SEASONS

### Season Dates

- April 27 – May 28 State Land
- April 27 – May 28 Private Land
- April 27 – May 28 Landowner

### Bag Limits

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

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to 12 noon.

**License & Permits** Firearms hunting license or Small Game and Deer Archery Permit and a spring turkey permit. You may obtain both a private land (either Private Land or Free Landowner) and a state land spring turkey permit.

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

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

### Special Conditions

- **State Land Hunting:** See tables on pages 40–43 for state lands open for spring turkey hunting.
- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner

on official forms for current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).

- **Decoys:** Decoys may be used, but live decoys are prohibited.
- **Free Landowner Permits:** Only available to persons owning 10 or more contiguous acres of land.
- **Junior Hunter Training Days:** Saturday, April 16 through Saturday, April 23 (excluding Sunday). See page 15 for details.

## FALL ARCHERY TURKEY SEASONS

### Season Dates

- Jan. 1 – Jan. 30 Private Lands (Zones 11–12)
- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31 Private Lands (All Zones)
- Sept. 15 – Nov. 15 State Land
- Dec. 21 – Dec. 31
- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31 State Land Bowhunting Only Areas

**Bag Limit** 2 Either Sex

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

**License & Permits** Small Game & Deer Archery Permit and Fall Archery Turkey Permit. You may obtain only one type of fall archery turkey permit (either a state/private land permit or a free landowner permit).

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

### Special Conditions

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



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- **Decoys:** Decoys may be used, but live decoys are prohibited.
- **State Land Hunting:** See tables on pages 40–43 for listing of lands open to fall bow hunting.
- **Free Landowner Permits** — only available to persons owning 10 or more contiguous acres of land.

#### FALL FIREARMS TURKEY SEASONS

##### Season Dates

- Oct. 1 – Oct. 31 State Land
- Oct. 1 – Oct. 31 Private Land
- Oct. 1 – Oct. 31 Landowner

##### Bag Limits

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

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

**License & Permits** Firearms hunting license and a Fall Firearms Turkey Permit. You may obtain both a private land (either Private Land or Free Landowner) and a state land fall firearms turkey permit.

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

##### Special Conditions

- **State Land Hunting:** See table on pages 40–43 for open state land hunting areas.
- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **Decoys:** Decoys may be used, but live decoys are prohibited.
- **Free Landowner Permits** — only available to persons owning 10 or more contiguous acres of land.

#### TURKEY HUNTING PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

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

#### TAGGING & REPORTING TURKEY KILLS

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

#### TURKEY HUNTER SURVEYS

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

#### TURKEY HUNTING SEMINARS

Turkey hunting seminars are held each spring. Watch your newspaper and [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) for times and locations, or contact the Wildlife Division (860-424-3011) for further information.

## FUNDAMENTAL RULES FOR SAFE GUN HANDLING: ACTT

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

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



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# Deer Hunting Seasons

Licensing and permit costs are listed on page 8–10. Specific laws and regulations for each deer season are below.

## ARCHERY DEER

### Season Dates

- Jan. 1 – Jan. 31 – Private Lands (Zones 11–12)
- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31 – Private Lands (All Zones)
- Sept. 15 – Nov. 15 – State Land  
Dec. 21 – Dec. 31
- Sept. 15 – Dec. 31 – State Land Bowhunting Only Areas

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

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

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

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

## Special Conditions

- **Possession of a Firearm:** Possession of a firearm while bowhunting for deer is prohibited.
- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **State Land Hunting:** See tables on pages 40–43 for listing of lands open to archery deer hunting. Certain state lands that do not allow firearms deer hunting are designated as bowhunting only areas. These lands are open to deer bowhunting during the state land shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons (Nov. 16 – Dec. 20).
- **Fluorescent Orange:** Bowhunters are required to wear 400 sq. in. of fluorescent orange from Nov. 16 – Dec. 31. Bowhunters may remove fluorescent orange clothing while in a tree stand at least 10 feet off the ground.
- **Decoys:** Decoys may be used during the early and late archery deer seasons, but must be covered with 400 sq. in. of fluorescent orange during transport. Decoys can not be used during the Nov. 16 – Dec. 31 time period.
- **Replacement Tags:** Available for this permit type. See page 26 for details.
- **Notice:** Saturday, November 5 through Saturday, November 12 (excluding Sunday) are

Junior Hunter Training Days and junior hunters with firearms deer permits may be hunting with firearms. See page 15 for details.

- **Sunday Archery Deer Hunting:** Archery deer hunters can hunt on Sundays on private land only in Deer Management Zones 1, 4b, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 (see zone map below). Deer Management Zones 2, 3, and 4a are NOT open to Sunday archery deer hunting. All archery deer hunting on Sundays must take place at least 40 yards away from blazed hiking trails.

## PRIVATE LAND SHOTGUN/RIFLE

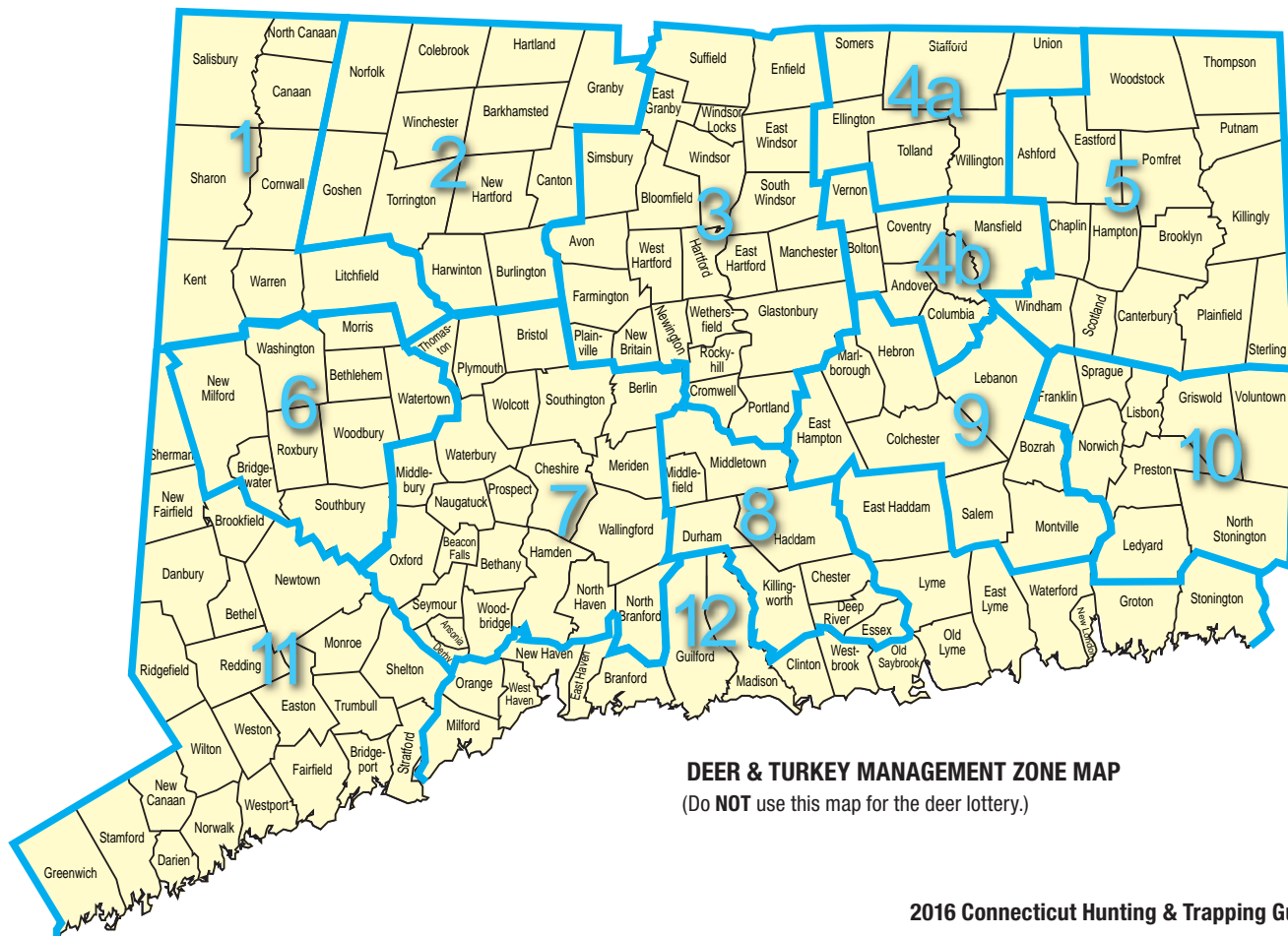
**Season Dates** Nov. 16 – Dec. 6

**Bag Limits** 1 Either Sex and 1 Antlerless (2 total); **Zone 7:** 1 Additional Antlerless; **Zones 11 and 12:** 2 Additional Antlerless; “Antlerless Only” tag not valid in **Zones 2 and 4a**. Only the “Either-sex” tag will be valid in **Zones 2 and 4a**.

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

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

**Legal Firearms** 12, 16, or 20 gauge breech loading shotgun loaded with single soft alloy projectile ammunition. Rifled or smoothbore barrels allowed. Centerfire rifle 6mm (.243 caliber) or larger or revolver .357 caliber or larger



**DEER & TURKEY MANAGEMENT ZONE MAP**  
(Do NOT use this map for the deer lottery.)





may be used if the landholding is 10 or more acres and the landowner has authorized use on the consent form. To use a revolver, you must also have Revolver Deer Endorsement for the current season. Muzzleloading rifle or shotgun, .45 caliber minimum. Single projectile loaded from muzzle end. Telescopic sights and shotgun converters are permitted. No minimum acreage required for shotguns or muzzleloaders.

#### Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See page 27–34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Private Land Permission:** Signed written consent of the landowner on official forms for current season must be carried while hunting (see page 35).
- **Replacement Tags:** Available for this permit type. See page 26 for details.
- **Junior Hunter Training Days:** Saturday, November 5 through Saturday, November 12 (excluding Sunday). See page 15 for details.

#### PRIVATE LAND MUZZLELOADER

**Season Dates** Dec. 7 – Dec. 31

**Bag Limits** 1 Either Sex and 1 Antlerless (2 total); **Zone 7:** 1 Additional Antlerless; **Zones 11 and 12:** 2 Additional Antlerless; “Antlerless Only” tag not valid in **Zones 2 and 4a**. Only the “Either-sex” tag will be valid in **Zones 2 and 4a**.

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

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

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

#### Special Conditions

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

#### STATE LAND MUZZLELOADER

**Season Dates** Dec. 7 – Dec. 20

**Bag Limits** 1 Either Sex

**Hunting Hours:** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

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

**Legal Firearms** Muzzleloading rifle or shotgun .45 caliber minimum. Single projectile loaded

from muzzle end. Telescopic sights and shotgun converters are permitted.

#### Special Conditions

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

#### FREE LANDOWNER DEER SEASON

Available for persons owning 10 or more acres of land.

#### Season Dates

Nov. 1 – Dec. 31

#### Bag Limits

1 Either Sex and 1 Antlerless (2 total)

#### Hunting Hours

½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

#### License & Permits

Free Landowner Deer Permit. Appropriate hunting license required if landowner does not live on qualifying property. Note: Revolver Deer Endorsement is also required if using a revolver. For hunting with a bow, a Small Game & Deer Archery Permit is required even for landowners living on the property.



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# Deer Hunting Seasons

## Legal Firearms

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

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## Legal Bows

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

## Special Conditions

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

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Fluorescent Orange:** Landowners hunting deer on their own land are not required to wear 400 sq. in. of fluorescent orange, but their spouse, lineal descendants, parents, grandparents and siblings are required to do so.

## STATE LAND NO-LOTTERY

### Season Dates

- Nov. 16 – Nov. 25 No-Lottery “A” Permits
- Nov. 26 – Dec. 6 No-Lottery “B” Permits

**Bag Limits** 1 Either Sex

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

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

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

## Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Open Areas:** See pages 40–43 for areas open for the No-Lottery “A” and “B” seasons.
- **Junior Hunter Training Days:** Saturday, November 5 through Saturday, November 12 (excluding Sunday). See page 15 for details.

See pages 27–29 and 34 for how to tag and report Deer and Turkeys.

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## CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)

**What is CWD?** CWD is a naturally occurring disease of the brain and nervous system in deer and elk. It attacks the brain of deer and elk, producing small lesions that eventually result in death. CWD was first recognized in the late 1960s in a herd of captive mule deer in Colorado. Although the disease was discovered over 30 years ago, it recently has received much media attention because of its discovery in free-ranging deer in southern Wisconsin and western Colorado. Only four species, mule deer, white-tailed deer, moose and elk, appear to be naturally susceptible to CWD. Domestic livestock and humans are not known to be susceptible to CWD.

**Where is CWD found?** Prior to 2005, the disease had only been found in North America west of Illinois. In 2005, CWD was documented in captive and free-ranging herds in New York and in free-ranging herds in West Virginia. Since then, it has also been discovered in several other states. CWD has not been found in Connecticut or New England. States and Canadian provinces where CWD has been confirmed include: Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Montana, South Dakota, Kansas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, Oklahoma, New York, West Virginia, Michigan, Virginia, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Texas, Alberta, and Saskatchewan.

**What is CT doing about CWD?** Connecticut, along with many other states, banned the importation of live cervids (species in the deer/elk family) across state lines. In 2005, Connecticut passed an emergency regulation banning the importation of whole carcasses or parts thereof of any deer or elk from wild or captive herds from other states or Canadian Provinces where Chronic Wasting Disease has been confirmed. The ban on importation did not apply

to meat that was de-boned, cleaned skullcaps, hides or taxidermy mounts. The regulation became permanent in 2007.

From 2003 to 2011, the DEEP Wildlife Division tested hunter and vehicle-killed deer as part of a nationwide CWD monitoring and surveillance program. Due to a loss of funding, only deer exhibiting symptoms of CWD were tested from 2012-2013. In 2014, CWD testing resumed thanks to a cooperative effort between the Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge and the DEEP Wildlife Division, and with financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Refuge System.

**How do I know if an animal has CWD?** As the disease advances, infected animals begin displaying abnormal behavior, such as staggering or standing with very poor posture. Infected animals become emaciated and appear to be in very poor health. The only efficient method to diagnose CWD is to dispatch the animal and examine the brain tissue for lesions. Anyone observing a deer exhibiting symptoms of CWD should notify the DEEP Wildlife Division (860-424-3011) or the DEEP's 24-hour line (1-800-842-HELP). If the animal is dispatched, the head should be kept intact so that a brain sample can be collected for testing.

**Should hunters be concerned?** No known link exists between CWD and humans, however, health officials advise hunters not to consume meat from animals known to be infected with CWD and recommend boning out meat. As usual, hunters should continue to employ normal precautions when field dressing deer, such as wearing rubber gloves. Concerns about CWD should not keep hunters from participating in Connecticut's deer seasons.



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# Deer Lottery

## STATE LAND & CONTROLLED HUNT LOTTERY

### Season Dates

- Nov. 16 – Nov. 25 Lottery “A” Season
- Nov. 26 – Dec. 6 Lottery “B” Season

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

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

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

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

### Special Conditions

- **Tagging and Reporting:** See pages 27–34 for information on tagging and reporting.
- **Junior Hunter Training Days:** Saturday, November 5 through Saturday, November 12 (excluding Sunday). See page 15 for details.

## ARCHERY-ONLY CONTROLLED HUNT LOTTERY

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

Follow existing deer lottery application instructions for the archery-only controlled hunt lottery. The only exceptions are that the archery-only lottery will run through August 1 and no permits will be available to youth hunters 12 to 17 years old.

### Season Dates

- Sept. 15 – Nov. 15

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

**Hunting Hours** ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

**License & Permits** Archery Deer/Small Game License. Only one of this permit type may be received each year. Lottery permits for archery-only controlled hunt areas may be applied for starting on January 1. Persons rejected in the archery-only lottery may hunt any state or

## LOTTERY “A” SEASON AREAS

AREA	LOCATION	TOWN(S)	QUOTA	ACRES
Area 27	Camp Columbia SF	Morris	22	470
Area 51	Yale Forest ^	Union*	230	7,700
Area 53	NU-Maromas (Co-op)	Middletown	70	1,400
Area 54	NU-Skiff Mt. (Co-op)	Sharon	35	710
Area 64	MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir - Barkhamsted East Block** ^	Barkhamsted	80	2,856

## LOTTERY “B” SEASON AREAS

AREA	LOCATION	TOWN(S)	QUOTA	ACRES
Area 65	MDC Barkhamsted Reservoir - Hartland East Block** ^	Hartland	40	1,426

## LOTTERY “A” AND “B” SEASON AREAS

AREA	LOCATION	TOWN(S)	QUOTA	ACRES
Area 26	Trout Brook Valley SP	Easton	15	330
Area 28	Naugatuck SF - Quillinan Reservoir Block	Ansonia	25	511
Area 52	Bristol Water Co.^	Harwinton	75	4,500
Area 56	Centennial Watershed SF^	Easton*	170	3,450
Area 58	MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Valentine Block** ^	New Hartford*	53	1,075
Area 59	MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Pine Hill Block** ^	New Hartford	16	325
Area 60	Tankerhoosen WMA	Vernon	20	449
Area 61	Roraback WMA	Harwinton	99	1,976
Area 62	Aldo Leopold WMA	Southbury	20	553
Area 63	Mohawk SF - Ziegler/Johnson Tract	Cornwall*	15	329

## LOTTERY ARCHERY-ONLY AREAS

AREA	LOCATION	TOWN(S)	QUOTA	ACRES
Area 66	MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Sweetheart Mt. Block** ^	Canton*	20	345

\* and adjacent town or towns

\*\* **Special Requirements:** To apply for Areas 58, 59, 64, 65, and 66 hunters must be at least 18 years of age. Hunters selected for these 5 MDC areas will be required to attend a mandatory pre-hunt meeting, pass a background check conducted by MDC, and sign a waiver of liability before receiving access for hunting.

^ No access during Junior Hunter Training Days.

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

controlled hunt area that is open to bowhunting. The archery-only controlled hunt lottery is completely separate from the firearms deer lottery.

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

## DEER LOTTERY APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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

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

member’s “shopping cart.” The permit may be purchased at the time of selection or at a later date. Each group member is responsible for purchasing their own permit. All permits must be purchased by June 30. If a permit is not purchased by that date, it will be forfeited.

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

Select lottery permits not purchased by June 30 will be made available on a first-come, first-serve basis starting July 15. Unsold lottery permits can be purchased online or at select DEEP offices up until sold out or the season ends. All unsold lottery permits must be purchased at the end of the transaction.

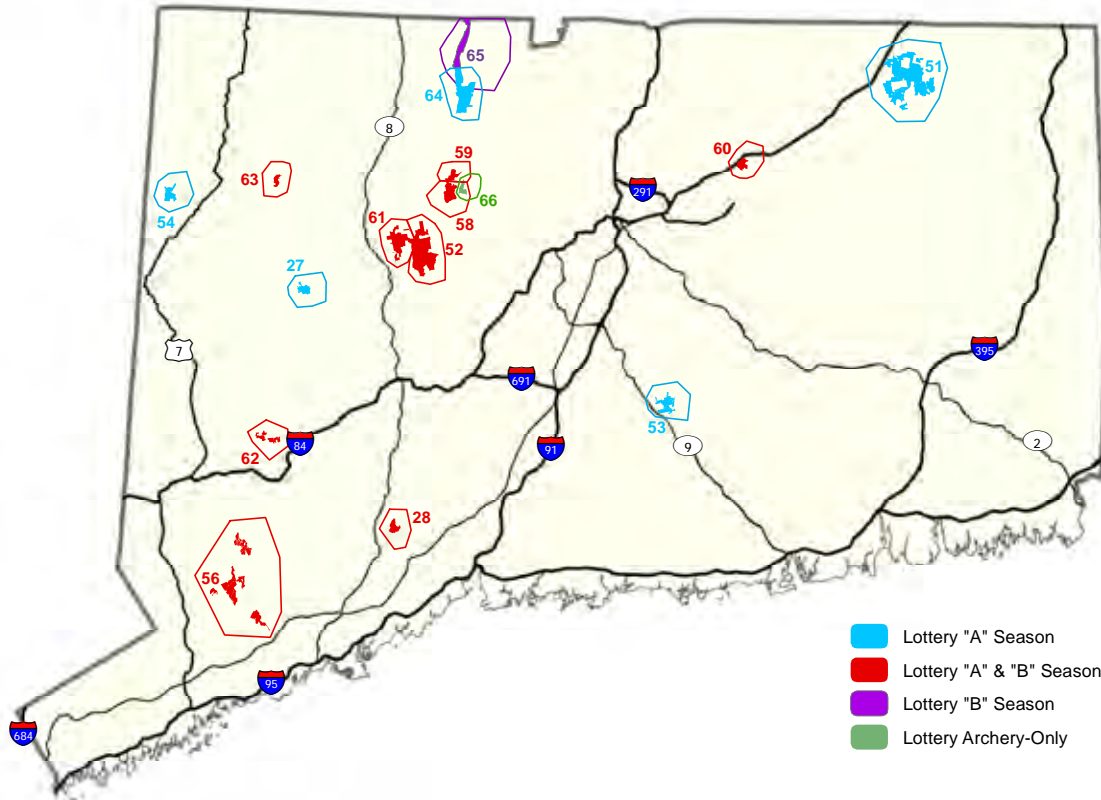
For more information about deer lottery permits, check the Department’s website at [www.ct.gov/deep/DeerLottery](http://www.ct.gov/deep/DeerLottery).

**Lottery Questions:** Email [michael.gregonis@ct.gov](mailto:michael.gregonis@ct.gov) or call the Deer Program at 860-424-3011.





## DEER LOTTERY HUNTING AREA MAP

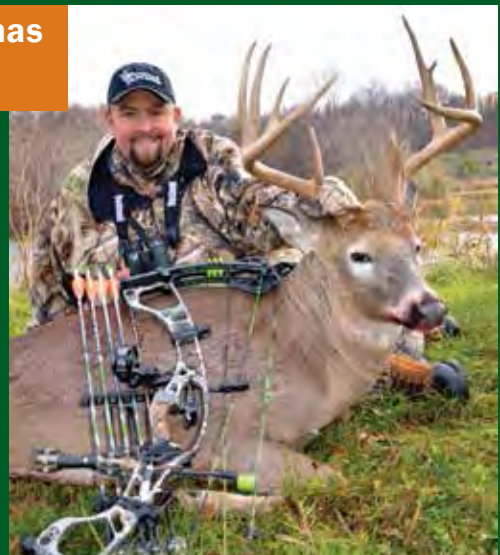


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## National Spokesperson Travis "T-Bone" Turner has **10 Reasons** to start a WTU Chapter

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- Recognition in your community as a conservationist
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- Local youth participation in *My First Deer* program
- Protect your local deer herd with *Whitetail Watch*
- Create a local college scholarship fund
- Improve hunter/landowner relations with *Project POLITE*
- Support local hunter education courses
- Exclusive membership benefits for local members
- The satisfaction of supporting and belonging to the nation's premier whitetail organization



**Get involved!** Call WTU's New England Field Director  
Bill Bailey at (413) 244-2304

## REPLACEMENT ANTLERLESS TAGS

**Replacement Antlerless Tags:** If you register an antlerless deer, taken on private land, at one of the check stations which issues replacement tags, you may qualify for a replacement antlerless tag. A current list of “Replacement Tag Deer Check Stations” is available on the DEEP website at [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) or by calling the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011.

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

**Note:** Hunters must bring their deer or deer head and a completed Harvest Tag along with their report confirmation number in order to be issued a replacement tag. The deer must be reported within 24 hours, but the deer or deer head and confirmation number may be brought to a check station within 72 hours. All replacement tags will be issued in limited numbers based on a zone’s deer population management goals. Replacement tags are available in Zones 11 and 12 during the private land shotgun/rifle season, the private land muzzleloader season and the archery season. Consult the Private Land Deer Management Zone Map for a description of zones. Replacement tags will only be valid for use on private lands within designated zones and only where written consent of the landowner has been granted.

## DEER HUNTING PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

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

## BAITING & USE OF ATTRACTANTS

**Attractants allowed during the statewide deer hunting seasons.**

- Deer decoys during the early and late archery seasons only.
- All types of scent attractants (i.e., doe in heat, buck lure, urine, tarsal glands, food smells, smoke pole) that provide no substance for deer to consume.
- All types of sound attractants (i.e., doe calls, buck calls, antler rattling, electronic calls).
- Hunting over planted fields where normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation is used.

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

## TREE STAND SAFETY RULES

Serious injury or death can occur to a hunter who improperly uses a tree stand for hunting. If you use a tree stand, follow these safety rules.

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

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

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

## DEFINITION OF ANTLERLESS DEER

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

## TAGGING & TRANSPORTING DEER

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

## DEER CHECK STATIONS

Hunters only need to bring their antlerless deer or antlerless deer head, along with a kill report and confirmation number, to a check station if they wish to obtain a replacement tag for use in Deer Management Zones 11 and 12. All other deer must be reported within 24 hours using the phone or internet.

## DEER HUNTER SURVEY

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

## TREE STANDS ON STATE PROPERTIES

The construction or placement of permanent tree stands involving damage to any tree or shrub is prohibited. The use of portable tree stands (climber, ladder or hang-on) is permissible. The use of a full-body safety harness when using a tree stand is strongly recommended.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU HARVEST A DEER WITH A NECK COLLAR

Over the past four winters, DEEP Wildlife Division researchers have captured and placed neck collars on over 150 white-tailed deer in northwestern Connecticut, specifically in the towns of Canaan, Cornwall, North Canaan, Salisbury, and Sharon. Some of the collared deer have moved from the initial towns of capture into Colebrook, Goshen, and Norfolk.

The marked deer may have a leather or nylon brown-colored collar; ear tags may or may not be present. Hunters should know that it is both completely legal and safe to harvest and consume these animals. The Wildlife Division asks that if hunters come across a collared deer during the upcoming hunting season, that they should hunt as they normally do — intentionally targeting collared deer or passing on them biases the mortality data. We also ask that if you do harvest a collared deer, please contact us using the phone number on the collar, or at 860-418-5921. We would like to collect the collar and jawbone from the animal if possible.





## TAGGING AND REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS

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

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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

You can report your kill on the Department's website or by calling the toll free number 1-877-337-4868. After reporting your kill you will be given a confirmation number to write on your Harvest Tag. This confirmation number serves as proof that you have legally reported your kill. You may find that submitting kill reports on the Department's website is much easier than using the telephone reporting system. The telephone reporting system uses an automated attendant that prompts you to answer a series of questions by pressing the appropriate numbered responses. On the website, you answer questions by using convenient drop-down menus. Other advantages of using the website to report your kill is that you can

review reports that you have previously submitted and print out copies of these reports for your records.

### Reporting Your Kills by Telephone

Call 1-877-337-4868 (1-877-DEP-HUNT) After a short delay, you will hear an introductory message and instructions on how to report by telephone. **Hint:** You can skip the introductory message by pressing 1 on your phone.

### Reporting Your Kills on the Internet

Go to [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) and look for the link for reporting deer and turkey kills.

## KILL REPORT INFORMATION

Before going on the Internet or calling in to report your kill, you can use this form to make sure you have all of the information you will need to accurately report your kill.

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



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City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift card to read: \_\_\_\_\_

## HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY

This program allows hunters to donate their game to charitable food organizations. The meat must be processed and refrigerated. Whole deer may also be donated through participating processors.

For information on where you can donate, call one of the following Hunters for the Hungry contacts:

### Bob Crook

203-245-8076  
Madison

### Bob Jean

860-608-8555  
Oakdale

### John Michelotti

203-629-8772  
Greenwich

### Guy Rosato

860-350-1001  
New Milford







### Warren Speh

860-536-6640  
North Stonington

**Share your harvest with those in need!**

## TURKEY IDENTIFICATION GUIDELINES

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

FALL TURKEY		SPRING TURKEY
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Tom <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Tom or Jake <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Hen <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Hen <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure of Sex/Age		<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Tom <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Tom or Jake <input type="checkbox"/> Bearded Hen <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure of Sex/Age
<input type="checkbox"/> Beard longer than 6 inches <input type="checkbox"/> Beard shorter than 6 inches		<input type="checkbox"/> Beard longer than 6 inches <input type="checkbox"/> Beard shorter than 6 inches
<input type="checkbox"/> Spur longer than 1/2 inch <input type="checkbox"/> Spur shorter than 1/2 inch		<input type="checkbox"/> Spur longer than 1/2 inch <input type="checkbox"/> Spur shorter than 1/2 inch
<input type="checkbox"/> Outer two wing feathers pointed with no barring <input type="checkbox"/> Outer two wing feathers rounded with barring to the tip		n/a
<input type="checkbox"/> Breast feathers black-tipped <input type="checkbox"/> Breast feathers buff-tipped		n/a
n/a		<input type="checkbox"/> Tail fan smooth in shape <input type="checkbox"/> Middle tail feathers longer than others

## DEEP STORE

The DEEP Store is a must for any Connecticut outdoor enthusiast. We carry hundreds of publications about our state, including information about wildlife, fishing, boating, biking, hiking, wetlands, and plant life. All of the USGS topographic maps of Connecticut are also available for purchase.



**Visit us on the Web at:**  
[www.ct.gov/deep/store](http://www.ct.gov/deep/store)

### Contact Information

Phone: 860-424-3555

Fax: 860-424-4122

E-mail: [deep.store@ct.gov](mailto:deep.store@ct.gov)

## Saturday, September 24, 2016

at Sessions Woods WMA, Burlington CT

[www.ct.gov/deep/HuntFishDay](http://www.ct.gov/deep/HuntFishDay)





# Town Reporting Codes

## TOWNS 3-DIGIT NUMBER CODES FOR REPORTING KILLS

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

Hunting Area Reporting Codes can be found in the Hunting Area tables on pages 40-43.

## YOU CAN HELP...

You can help the Wildlife Division keep track of

**Bobcat • Black Bear • Fisher • Moose • Ruffed Grouse**

If you see one of these animals, please contact the Wildlife Division at [deep.wildlife@ct.gov](mailto:deep.wildlife@ct.gov). You should include the date, time, and exact location where the animal was observed. Bear and moose can be reported online at [www.ct.gov/deep/Wildlife](http://www.ct.gov/deep/Wildlife).



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529 Sharon Turnpike, Goshen, CT  
[NewburyArchery.com](http://NewburyArchery.com)

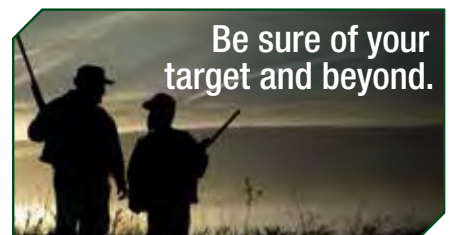
WHERE TRADITION MEETS TECHNOLOGY

## WWW.CT.GOV/DEEP/HUNTING

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

[www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting)

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



# Celebrating 150 Years of Natural Resource Conservation in Connecticut



## The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection's Bureau of Natural Resources is celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2016.

Joining in the celebration are the Divisions of Wildlife, Inland Fisheries, Marine Fisheries, Forestry, and the Environmental Conservation (EnCon) Police, as well as many partners. Throughout 2016, we will look back at our history and also look ahead to the future of natural resources in our state. Follow along with the celebration and participate in special events to be held year-long. Learn more on our Facebook page at [www.Facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife](http://www.Facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife) and the DEEP website at [www.ct.gov/deep/NaturalResources150](http://www.ct.gov/deep/NaturalResources150).

**1866**

**Fisheries Commission Created by the State Legislature**  
Game (Wildlife) was added to the equation in 1895 to create the Connecticut Board of Fisheries and Game.

**1884**

### First Rainbow Trout Introduced

Early state fisheries workers were fish culturists with the charge to experiment with introducing new species. During the mid- to late 1800s, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, walleye, landlocked salmon, brown trout, lake trout, bluegill, common carp, and calico bass were introduced to many waters.

**1895**

### First Special Game Protectors Appointed



**1899**

### First State-owned Fish Hatchery at Windsor Locks

With increasing public demand for more trout and to support the pond fish program, additional hatcheries, still in existence, were established in Burlington (1923), Kensington (1930), and Plainfield (1972).



**1903**

### Meshomasic State Forest Became the First State Forest

John Cordella "Del" Reeves was the first warden/forester hired by the State of Connecticut to patrol the forest. Today there are 32 forests totaling about 170,000 acres in the Connecticut State Forest System. These forests are managed through the DEEP's Division of Forestry. The majority of this forestland was acquired during the early part of the 20th Century – a time period that saw the creation of a state forestry agency, the first state forests, and the first real efforts to protect and conserve our natural resources.



**1933**

### Edith Stoehr, First Female Game Warden

A trout stream was leased in North Branford and maintained for the exclusive use of women to encourage them to take a more active interest in fishing. Miss Edith A. Stoehr was appointed warden and assigned to the trout stream. In the fall, she was assigned to the public shooting ground in Farmington, of which a small portion was reserved for the exclusive use of women.



**1938**

### First List of Streams Stocked for Opening Day of Fishing



**1955**

### The Connecticut Wildlife Conservation Bulletin First Published by the State Board of Fisheries and Game

It was renamed *The Connecticut Environmental Bulletin* in 1973 after the Board became a part of the new Department of Environmental Protection in 1971.







**1905**

### Connecticut Forest Fire Law Enacted

The first such law in New England.

**1907**

### Sale of Hunting Licenses Began

With the successful generation of revenue to support hunting efforts, fish and game commissioners expanded the program to require fishing licenses for non-residents (1921), residents (1924), and marine waters (2010). By law, 100% of the proceeds from license sales must be allocated to support current Bureau of Natural Resource programs.

**1908**

### First Recorded Release of Ring-necked Pheasants

Pheasants, which could be produced on game farms, were brought into Connecticut to reduce hunting pressure on native gamebirds, which were declining due to population cycles and changing land uses. Today's pheasant program focuses on the release of adult birds during the fall hunting season and is funded solely by the sale of pheasant stamps and hunting licenses.

**1930s**



Early wildlife habitat managers from the 1930s created open water areas in marshland at Great Island, in Old Lyme, and other marsh areas by using dynamite. These ponds were created to provide quality waterfowl habitat. Today, DEEP uses specialized equipment to create open water without causing damage to the marsh ecosystem.

**1956**

### A Hunter Safety Program Was Established

It eventually became the Conservation Education/Firearms Safety Program in 1982.

**1956**

### First Official Photograph of a Moose Taken in Connecticut (Ashford)

The moose was killed two days after the photo was taken. In response to this historic sighting, the Board of Fisheries and Game passed an emergency regulation that gave full protection to moose found in the state. The next time a moose was observed in Connecticut was in October 1964. The state currently has a resident population of moose estimated at about 100 individuals.



**1963**

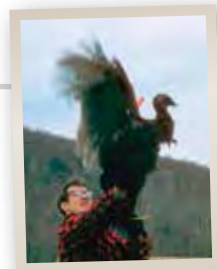
Coyotes were first documented in Connecticut during the 1950s. The coyote in this photo was one of the earliest recorded in the state. It was killed in 1963 behind the Kensington Fish Hatchery. Today, coyotes are common throughout the state.



**1975**

### Wild Turkeys Reintroduced into Connecticut

Our state's successful wild turkey restoration effort began in Canaan with the release of 22 wild-trapped turkeys from New York. The state's first legal, modern-day wild turkey hunting season was held in spring 1981.



1983

**First Two Certified K-9 Patrol Dog Teams in the Fish and Game Law Enforcement Division**

Today's DEEP Environmental Conservation Police Division has four K-9 teams, three of which have received special training in the detection of certain species of fish and game.



1992

**First Successful Bald Eagle Nesting Since the 1950s (Barkhamsted)**

1992

**First Documented Case of a Vehicle-killed Bear in Connecticut (Redding)**



Paul J. Fusco/CT DEEP

1981

**Wildlife Division First Published the Newsletter SCOPE**

It has evolved into the current *Connecticut Wildlife* magazine.



1989

**"An Act Establishing a Program for the Protection of Endangered and Threatened Species" Became Connecticut State Law**

1986

**The Nonharvested Wildlife Program Officially Established by the State Legislature**



Paul J. Fusco/CT DEEP

2005

**Connecticut's First Wildlife Action Plan Completed**

This plan, with the goal of keeping common species common, was revised in 2015.

2008

**White-nose Syndrome First Appears in Connecticut's Bat Hibernacula**

2009

**Wildlife Division Joins the Regional New England Cottontail Restoration Initiative Partnership with Other State and Federal Wildlife Agencies**

Due to the remarkable achievements to restore the abundance of New England cottontails within their native range, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced in 2015 that the species does not warrant listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

2012

**Emerald Ash Borer First Documented (Prospect)**

2012

**World Record Striped Bass Caught (Westbrook)**



2015

**Sunday Hunting Allowed for Archery Deer Hunters on Private Land (In certain deer management zones)**

1990s

**Fish Management Formalized**

In 1999, Statewide Bass Management and Trout Management Plans were developed to manage these important freshwater species into the 21st century. The first Wild Trout Management Area was established on the Tankerhoosen River (1993).

Appreciation is extended to Retired Environmental Conservation Police Officer William Myers for providing several historical photos and information for this article.



# Message from the Bureau Chief

## Celebrating 150 Years of Natural Resource Management in Connecticut!



The history of modern fisheries, wildlife and forestry management in Connecticut can be traced back to a few short words in the **Journal of the Senate of the State of Connecticut May Session, 1866**: "A resolution was introduced, raising a Joint Select Committee of one Senator and eight Representatives upon the subject of fisheries.

Passed." Within a year, a report was issued and laws were passed mandating that "The governor shall appoint three commissioners... whose duties shall be to make complaints of all violations of the acts relating to fisheries... to consider the subject of the introduction, protection and culture of fish in our waters, to cooperate with fish commissioners of other states, and to make report of such fact and suggestions as may be material to the legislature. Such commissioners shall receive for their services the sum of three dollars per day." With the passage of this law, the Commissioners set upon the task of compiling technical information on Connecticut's fisheries and the era of science-based natural resource management took its first small steps. To be sure,

Connecticut's fish, wildlife and forest resources have been actively managed for as long as people have inhabited these lands. However, the formal creation of the Fisheries Commission in 1866 transitioned us into a new era that recognized the value of natural resources to our economy and overall well-being and recognized the need for science based information to guide conservation and management. Subsequently, Game (Wildlife) was added to the equation in 1895 to create the Board of Fisheries and Game and the first State Forest land was acquired in 1903.

During 2016 we will host a number of events to celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, recognize accomplishments, honor our partners, and, most important of all, take stock of our natural resource heritage and talk about its future in Connecticut. Please watch for announcements of these events on our website ([www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep)) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/CTFishAndWildlife](https://www.facebook.com/CTFishAndWildlife)).

In last year's message I asked anglers and hunters to take advantage of every opportunity to get potential sportsmen into the field and on the water. What better way to celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary than by doing something to ensure that our legacy persists. Sportsmen continue to be the informed constituency that provides much of the political will and financial backbone to

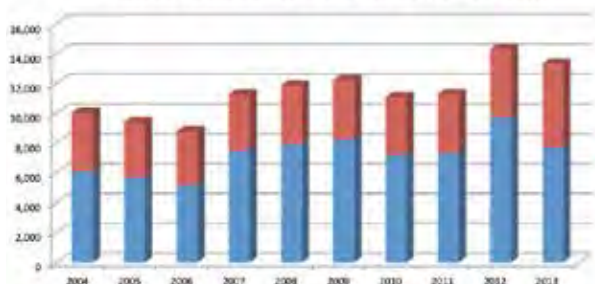
conserve our resources and to protect fishing and hunting access. Simply put, we need to add to our ranks if we are to guarantee that future generations will have the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in the manner in which we have been blessed. Below are two charts you've seen before. One chart is the number of licensed sportspersons in our state and the other is the number of students in our Aquatic Resource Education (CARE) and Conservation Education/Firearms Safety (CE/FS) programs. DEEP will continue to do everything we can to recruit and educate young anglers and hunters, but it will take all of us making a similar commitment in our personal lives to ensure that this legacy continues to grow and prosper over the next 150 years. Together we can make a difference!

Thank you and best wishes for a great year of hunting and fishing in Connecticut.

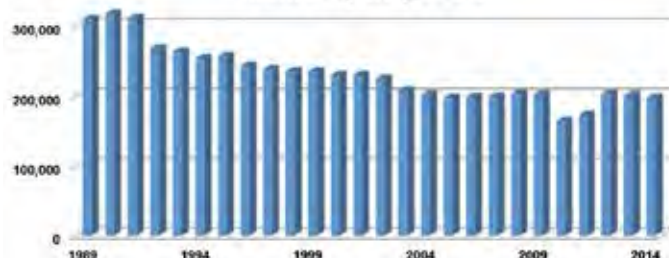
**William A. Hyatt**  
Chief, Bureau of Natural Resources



Annual Number of CARE and CE/FS Students



Licensed Sportspersons



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

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

#### Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Harvest: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

#### Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Harvest: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

#### Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Harvest: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

#### Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Harvest: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

#### Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Harvest: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

#### Game Bird Harvest Tag

Permittee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Harvest: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

# Harvest Tags

## DEER / TURKEY HARVEST TAGS

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

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

### LEAD BULLET FRAGMENTS IN WILD GAME

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

2016

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

2016

Conservation ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Kill: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Town of Kill: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PERMIT / TAG TYPE (check the appropriate boxes)

Antlerless Tags can not be used in Zone 4a during the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle and Muzzleloader seasons.

#### DEER

#### ☐ Antlerless

#### ☐ Either Sex

☐ Private – Shotgun/Rifle

☐ State – Lottery

☐ Private – Muzzleloader

☐ State – No Lottery

☐ Archery (Bow)

☐ State – Muzzleloader

☐ Landowner

#### SPRING TURKEY – Bearded birds only

☐ Private Land

☐ State Land

☐ Landowner

#### FALL TURKEY

☐ Private – Firearms

☐ Landowner – Firearms

☐ State – Firearms

☐ Landowner – Archery (Bow)

☐ Archery (Bow)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- Harvested deer and turkeys must be reported within 24 hours via the internet at [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) or by calling **1-877-337-4868**.

After reporting, you must write your report Confirmation Number below.

Confirmation #: \_\_\_\_\_

2016

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

2016

Conservation ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Kill: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Town of Kill: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PERMIT / TAG TYPE (check the appropriate boxes)

Antlerless Tags can not be used in Zone 4a during the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle and Muzzleloader seasons.

#### DEER

#### ☐ Antlerless

#### ☐ Either Sex

☐ Private – Shotgun/Rifle

☐ State – Lottery

☐ Private – Muzzleloader

☐ State – No Lottery

☐ Archery (Bow)

☐ State – Muzzleloader

☐ Landowner

#### SPRING TURKEY – Bearded birds only

☐ Private Land

☐ State Land

☐ Landowner

#### FALL TURKEY

☐ Private – Firearms

☐ Landowner – Firearms

☐ State – Firearms

☐ Landowner – Archery (Bow)

☐ Archery (Bow)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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2016

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

2016

Conservation ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Kill: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Town of Kill: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PERMIT / TAG TYPE (check the appropriate boxes)

Antlerless Tags can not be used in Zone 4a during the Private Land Shotgun/Rifle and Muzzleloader seasons.

#### DEER

#### ☐ Antlerless

#### ☐ Either Sex

☐ Private – Shotgun/Rifle

☐ State – Lottery

☐ Private – Muzzleloader

☐ State – No Lottery

☐ Archery (Bow)

☐ State – Muzzleloader

☐ Landowner

#### SPRING TURKEY – Bearded birds only

☐ Private Land

☐ State Land

☐ Landowner

#### FALL TURKEY

☐ Private – Firearms

☐ Landowner – Firearms

☐ State – Firearms

☐ Landowner – Archery (Bow)

☐ Archery (Bow)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- Harvested deer and turkeys must be reported within 24 hours via the internet at [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) or by calling **1-877-337-4868**.

After reporting, you must write your report Confirmation Number below.

Confirmation #: \_\_\_\_\_



# Private Land Consent Form

## HUNTING ON PRIVATE LAND CONSENT FORM

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

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

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

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

<b>CONSENT TO HUNT DEER OR TURKEY ON PRIVATE LAND DURING THE _____ CALENDAR YEAR</b>			
<b>Names of all landowners listed on deed</b>	Last	First	M.I.
<b>Location of Property</b>	Street	Town	No. of Acres
<b>Hunter's Information</b> (please print)	Name	First	M.I.
	Address		
	Town	State	Zip Code
	Conservation ID#		
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Signature of Permittee		Date	Signature of Landowner
			Date

# Public Hunting Areas

## PERMIT-REQUIRED HUNTING AREAS

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

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

**Vendors Issuance of Daily Permits:** Vendors issuing daily permits are required by the Division to issue permits as follows:

- Permits must be issued free-of-charge to any persons holding valid hunting licenses and who are not eligible for “season” permits.
- Each permit is valid for one licensed sportsman (unless it is a goose field or waterfowl blind permit) for a specified time frame and location.
- Issue daily permits on a first-come, first-served basis only. Issue the specified number of daily permits for any specific day. Once that number is reached, no more permits can be made available for that day.
- Issue a separate permit for a licensed junior hunter. Junior hunters may hunt on Permit-Required areas when accompanied by a licensed person at least 18 years of age.
- A person may obtain permits for himself and no more than one other person at any one time (Exception: An adult may obtain a permit for himself and two licensed junior hunters). Personal appearance is not required but a valid hunting license (or a photocopy of the license) of the person to whom the permit is to be issued must be presented.
- The vendor retains the “Department Copy” stub of the permit. The remainder of the permit is to be given to the permittee.
- Permits cannot be issued for a day more than two days (excluding Sunday) from the date of request (see Table). The only exception to this rule involves permits for “opening day.” Permits for the third Saturday in October, must be issued, if requested, beginning the prior Tuesday.

Date of Request	Days for Which a Permit May Be Issued
Monday	Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday
Tuesday	Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday
Wednesday	Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday
Thursday	Thursday, Friday, or Saturday
Friday	Friday, Saturday, or Monday
Saturday	Saturday, Monday, or Tuesday
Sunday	Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday

**Online Issuance of Permits:** Daily permits for some Permit-Required Hunting Areas can be obtained for free online. These permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Only one online permit can be

obtained per selected hunting date. The listing of Permit-Required Areas on the next page indicates which areas have online permitting.

**Junior Access Permits:** Season permits for junior hunters may be available for certain Permit-Required Hunting Areas. Check the DEEP's website ([www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting)) for further information and permit applications.

**Firearms Restrictions:** Rifles of any caliber or shotgun ammunition larger or heavier than #2 shot and hunting with any pistol or revolver of any caliber are prohibited on permit-required hunting areas, except by landowners, lineal descendants, and regular employees. Waterfowlers hunting from a boat, blind or stationary position may use up to and including BB size steel shot. Rifles, pistols or shotguns without regard to caliber or shot sizes may be used for legal hunting during the period from the last day in February to the third Saturday in October, only if written permission is obtained from the landowner. During firearms deer seasons, deer hunters with the proper permits and written landowner permission are also exempt from these firearms restrictions.

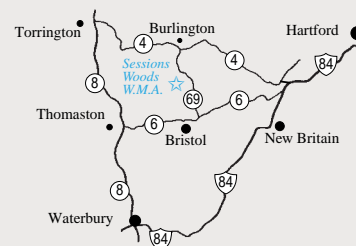
## VISIT SESSIONS WOODS

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

### Learn About Connecticut's Wildlife

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

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



Respect landowners' rights.





## PERMIT-REQUIRED AREA PERMIT VENDORS - STATE-OWNED, STATE-LEASED, AND STATE-MANAGED LANDS

Online permits are available through the DEEP's sportsmen licensing site at: [www.ct.gov/deep/SportsmenLicensing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/SportsmenLicensing)

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

### LITCHFIELD – HARTFORD COUNTIES

- **Bristol Fish and Game Association (1,663 acres)**  
*Hunting closes the Saturday after Thanksgiving.*
  - City True Value Hardware  
750 Farmington Avenue (Rte. 6)  
Bristol, CT: 860-582-7166
  - Online Permitting Available
- **NU-Skiff Mountain Cooperative WMA (710 acres)**
  - Backcountry Outfitters  
5 Bridge St.  
Kent, CT: 860-927-3377
  - Online Permitting Available
- **Stanley Works Cooperative WMA (1,100 acres)**
  - Backcountry Outfitters  
5 Bridge St.  
Kent, CT: 860-927-3377
  - Northwest Lumber-Hardware  
26 Kent Rd.  
Cornwall Bridge, CT: 860-672-4000
  - Online Permitting Available
- **Sessions Woods WMA (771 acres)**
  - Sessions Woods WMA  
341 Milford St. (Rte. 69)  
Burlington, CT: 860-424-3011
- **Suffield Sportsmen's Association (1,164 acres)**
  - Suffield Hardware  
114 Mountain Road (Rte. 168)  
Suffield, CT: 860-668-0268
  - Online Permitting Available

### TOLLAND – MIDDLESEX COUNTIES

- **Bolton Area (238 acres)**
  - Online Permitting Only
- **East Windsor-Enfield Area (1,530 acres)**
  - Yankee Bait and Tackle  
88 Main St.  
Enfield, CT: 860-741-5994
  - Online Permitting Available
- **Hebron Area (454 acres)**
  - Online Permitting Only
- **Higganum-Haddam Rod and Gun (66 acres)**
  - Fishing Factory III  
238 East Main St.  
Middletown, CT: 860-344-9139
  - Online Permitting Available
- **NU-Kings Island Coop. Area (158 acres)**  
*Waterfowl hunting only; special restrictions apply.*
  - Yankee Bait and Tackle  
88 Main St.  
Enfield, CT: 860-741-5994
- **NU-Maromas Coop. Area (1,400 acres)**
  - Fishing Factory III  
238 East Main St.  
Middletown, CT: 860-344-9139
  - Online Permitting Available

### WINDHAM-NEW LONDON COUNTIES

- **Lebanon Coop. Mgmt. Area (214 acres) Goose Field Permits**
  - Franklin Swamp WMA  
391 Rte. 32  
North Franklin, CT: 860-424-3011
- **Lebanon Coop. Mgmt. Area Marsh Permits**
  - Online Permitting Only
- **Norwich Fish & Game, SOUTH (700 acres)**
  - Online Permitting Only
- **Stone's Ranch Military Reservation (1,600 acres)**
  - Online Permitting Only for deer and turkey hunters (Typically open Tuesdays and Thursdays only)
- **Woodstock Landowners (1,156 acres)**
  - Woodstock Valley Country Store  
1484 Route 171  
Woodstock, CT: 860-974-1639
  - Online Permitting Available
- **Yale Forest\* (7,700 acres)**  
*Season Permits. Special restrictions apply. This area is not open for Junior Hunter Training Days.*
  - JT's Fly Shop  
664 Buckley Hwy.  
Union, CT: 860-684-1575

### FAIRFIELD – NEW HAVEN COUNTIES

- **Meriden Rod and Gun Club (1,364 acres)**
  - Fishing Factory II  
1426 Meriden-Waterbury Road (Rte. 322)  
Milldale, CT: 860-621-8145
  - Online Permitting Available
- **Pequonnock Valley (176 acres)**  
*Hunting on Mon., Wed., Fri. and Sat. only from Oct. 15 through Dec. 24.*
  - Online Permitting Only
- **Quinnipiac River State Park (340 acres)**  
*Daily permits not required before third Saturday in October or after first Saturday in December.*
  - Uncle B's Bait & Tackle  
854 South Colony Rd.  
Wallingford, CT: 203-294-1180
  - Online Permitting Available
- **Seymour Fish and Game Club (195 acres)**
  - Oxford Town Clerk (Mondays through Thursdays)  
46 Oxford Rd.  
Oxford, CT: 203-888-2543
  - Online Permitting Available
- **Trout Brook Valley (327 acres)**
  - Greiser Store  
299 Center Rd. (Rte. 136)  
Easton, CT: 203-268-9551
- **Wallingford Town Owned Area (840 acres)**  
*Hunting on Mon., Wed. and Sat. only from Oct. 15, 2016 through Feb. 28, 2017.*
  - Uncle B's Bait & Tackle  
854 South Colony Rd.  
Wallingford, CT: 203-294-1180
  - Online Permitting Available

# Public Hunting Areas

## HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



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

**CGS Sec. 26-29b:** provides a free hunting license to individuals who have permanently lost the use of a limb. Note, this law does not pertain to permits and tags that have to be purchased to hunt some types of game.

**CGS Sec. 26-74:** allows a person to obtain a special permit to hunt legally from an all-terrain vehicle so long as they do not possess or shoot a loaded hunting implement while the vehicle is in motion. Note: 4-wheel drive trucks, vans, SUV's, etc. are not considered all-terrain vehicles. Eligible persons must be paraplegic or suffer from the loss of or the loss of the use of both lower extremities and be unable to walk without the assistance of a brace, cane, crutch, prosthetic device, or be confined to a wheel chair. Application deadlines are February 15 and August 15.

**State Land Access:** Designated portions of state forests and wildlife management areas are accessible to disabled hunters with DEEP permits granted under CGS Sections 26-74 and 23-11 for use of all-terrain vehicles for hunting. Prior to access, approval by the unit/forest manager in charge of the specific area will be required.

## IMPROVED ACCESS HUNTING AREAS

There are several public hunting areas throughout the state which have been made more accessible for physically disabled sportsmen. In the listing of public hunting areas, these areas are denoted by the universal handicapped symbol. A brochure detailing the hunting opportunities for sportsmen with disabilities may be obtained by contacting the American Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinators at the Wildlife Division's Eastern District office (860-424-4144; 209 Hebron Rd., Marlborough, CT 06447) or Western District office (860-424-3032; P.O. Box 1550, Burlington, CT 06013).

## STATE-LEASED HUNTING AREAS

**Firearms Restrictions:** Rifles of any caliber or shotgun ammunition larger or heavier than #2 shot and hunting with any pistol or revolver of any caliber are prohibited on state-leased hunting areas, except by landowners, lineal descendants, and regular employees. Waterfowlers hunting from a boat, blind or stationary position may use up to and including BB size steel shot. Rifles, pistols or shotguns without regard to caliber or shot sizes may be used for legal hunting during the period from the last day in February to the third Saturday in October, only with written permission from the landowner. During firearms deer seasons, deer hunters with the proper permits and written landowner permission are also exempt from these restrictions.

**Deer and Turkey Hunting:** Deer and turkey hunting on private state-leased lands requires valid private land permits and consent forms signed by the individual private landowner.

## DOG TRAINING & FIELD TRIAL AREAS

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

### Dog Training Areas

The following areas have been established as Dog Training Areas where hunting dogs may be trained with the use of live birds. Game birds may not be shot on these areas except during the open hunting season.

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

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

### Field Trial Areas

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

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

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

## DO YOUR PART FOR WETLAND CONSERVATION — BUY A CONNECTICUT DUCK STAMP!

The Connecticut Duck Stamp Program provides the sole source of funding for many of the wetland projects that are conducted in the state. These projects benefit the approximately 274 fish, birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles of the state that rely upon clean, healthy wetlands. All waterfowl hunters are required to purchase a Duck Stamp, but those interested in wetland conservation also buy stamps. CT Duck Stamps may be purchased for \$13.00 wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold and at [www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing).



## PLEASE REPORT SIGHTINGS OF THIS BEETLE

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

The ALB has one generation per year. Adult beetles are usually present from July to October,

but can be found later in the fall if temperatures are warm. Adults usually stay on the trees from which they emerged or they may disperse short distances to a new host to feed and reproduce.

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

For more information regarding the ALB, visit the DEEP Forestry Division's website at [www.ct.gov/deep/forestry](http://www.ct.gov/deep/forestry).

To report any suspected findings, contact:  
Deputy State Entomologist Dr. Victoria Smith  
(203) 974-8474 or

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





## SPECIAL JUNIOR HUNTING EVENTS

The Connecticut DEEP Wildlife Division, along with volunteer instructors from the Conservation Education/Firearms Safety (CE/FS) Program and several Connecticut sportsmen's clubs, dog clubs, and other organizations, held special junior pheasant hunter training day events in fall 2015. Some of the events allowed junior hunters to learn from and hunt with certified volunteer CE/FS instructors over well-trained bird dogs with their handlers. All of the events were a huge success, and thanks to the efforts of the mentors and well-trained hunting dogs with their handlers, junior hunters were able to harvest their first pheasant.

Look for more of these types of events for junior hunters in 2016. Check out the Junior Hunter webpage on the DEEP website ([www.ct.gov/deep/JuniorHunter](http://www.ct.gov/deep/JuniorHunter)) to learn about special events and activities, see photos from events, and obtain more information for junior hunters.



## THE HUNTER'S PLEDGE

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

### Therefore, as a hunter, I pledge to:

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

## Quail Ridge Kennel & Preserve



[www.QuailRidgeKennelandPreserve.com](http://www.QuailRidgeKennelandPreserve.com)

- We offer German Shorthair pups from high quality bloodlines, occasionally started or finished dogs are available.
- Custom guided hunts on our exquisite shooting preserve guarantee a satisfying yield of pheasant and chukar partridge.
- Professional training for all sporting breeds.
- Grooming shop and all breed boarding.



Contact Steve Hopko for details 860.684.2252

# SAVE ON YOUR TAXES!

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

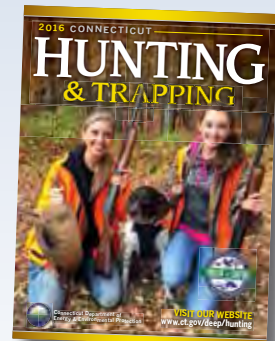


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**J.E. GRIFFIN**  
PUBLISHING LLC

# Public Hunting Areas

The following areas are open to public hunting. The key to the left specifies what type of hunting is permitted. Special tags, stamps, and permits are needed when hunting some species. Consult season descriptions for the species you are hunting. Consult pages 12–13 for firearms restrictions. Some portions of these properties may be closed to hunting. Obey all postings. Maps for many of these areas are available on the DEEP's website ([www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting)).

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

Small Game	Waterfowl	Pheasants	Fall Archery Deer/Turkey	Spring and Fall Firearms Turkey	Muzzleloader Deer	Deer Lottery Area #	No-Lottery Shotgun Deer	Western Connecticut - Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield & New Haven Counties			
<div>● Hunting Permitted</div> <div>➤ Archery ONLY</div> <div>AB No-Lottery A and B Seasons</div> <div>B No-Lottery B Season Only</div> <div>▲ Designated Fall Deer/Turkey Bowhunting Only Area</div> <div>▲/● or ➤/● Some Sections Open to Archery ONLY (see map)</div> <div>○ Daily/Season Permit Required (see page 36)</div> <div>* Special Conditions Apply</div> <div>(▲ and ➤ areas are open for archery hunting during the shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons)</div>											
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, STATE FORESTS AND STATE PARKS								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
●	●		▲	●		62		Aldo Leopold WMA	308	Southbury	553
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Algonquin State Forest	201	Colebrook	668
●	●		●	●	●		AB	American Legion State Forest	202	Barkhamsted	1,037
			▲					Barber Pond WMA	203	Bloomfield,Windsor	72
	●		▲					Bennett's Pond State Park	309	Ridgefield	460
●	●		▲/●	●	●	27A	B	Camp Columbia State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	207	Morris	600
●	●		▲	●				Cedar Swamp WMA	208	New Hartford, Torrington	278
						56		Centennial Watershed State Forest	310	Easton, Weston,	7,233
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Centennial Watershed State Forest (Canaan Block)	209	Canaan	146
●	●							Centennial Watershed State Forest – Monroe Parcel (Gardner Rd.)	311	Monroe	93
			▲					Centennial Watershed State Forest - Monroe Parcel (Hattertown Rd.)	310	Monroe	34
●	●							Centennial Watershed State Forest (formerly Bpt. Hydr.) - Shelton Parcel	311	Shelton	178
	●							Charles E. Wheeler WMA	312	Stratford, Milford, Orange	812
			▲					Collis P. Huntington State Park	313	Bethel, Newtown, Redding	1,040
●	●			F				East River Marsh WMA (Fall firearms turkey hunting only)	314	Guilford	147
●	●		▲	●				East Swamp WMA	315	Bethel	85
●	●		▲	F				East Twin Lakes Water Access Area (Fall firearms turkey hunting only)	211	Salisbury	98
●	●		▲	●				Enders State Forest (Worthen Parcel ONLY)	332	Granby	377
●	●	●						Flaherty Field Trial Area Closed during field trials -Dog Training Area	212	East Windsor	512
			▲					George C. Waldo State Park	316	Southbury	150
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Goshen WMA	213	Goshen	967
	●							Great Harbor WMA	317	Guilford	176
●	●	●	▲	●				Housatonic River WMA	215	Kent	556
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Housatonic State Forest	216	Sharon, etc.	11,284
●	●		▲	●				John Minetto State Park	217	Torrington	760
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Mattatuck State Forest	219	Watertown	4,673
➤	➤		▲					Mohawk State Forest - Clark Pond Tract - ARCHERY ONLY	341	Cornwall	75
●	●		●	●	●	63		Mohawk State Forest - Ziegler/Johnson Tract	342	Goshen	329
			▲					Mount Riga State Park	222	Salisbury	315
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Nassahegon State Forest	223	Burlington	1,227
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Naugatuck State Forest	319	Oxford, Beacon Falls, etc.	4,154
●	●		▲	●				Naugatuck State Forest (Great Hill Block)	320	Seymour	322
●			▲/●	●	●	28		Naugatuck State Forest*(Quillinan Reservoir Block) (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas)	321	Ansonia, Seymour	597
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Nepaug State Forest	224	New Hartford	1,367
●	●		▲	●				Newgate WMA	225	East Granby	451
●	●							Nod Brook Management Area Closed during field trials -Dog Training Area	226	Avon, Simsbury	137
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Paugnut State Forest	229	Torrington	1,831
●	●		▲/●	●	●		AB	Paugussett State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	322	Newtown	1,947
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Peoples State Forest	230	Barkhamsted	2,942
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Pootatuck State Forest	324	New Fairfield	1,103
	●							Quinnipiac River Marsh	325	North Haven	572
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Robbins Swamp WMA	231	Canaan	1,569
●	●	●	●	●	●	61		Roraback WMA	232	Harwinton	1,975
●	●	●	▲	●				Simsbury WMA	234	Simsbury	365
●	●	●	▲	●				Suffield WMA	236	Suffield	195
●	●		▲	●				Sunnybrook State Park (west of Newfield Rd.)	237	Torrington	444
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Topsmead State Forest (north and west of Rte. 118)	239	Litchfield	179
			●	●	●		AB	Tunxis State Forest	240	Hartland, etc.	9,518
●	●		▲	●				Wooster Mountain State Park (Fall firearms turkey hunting only)	328	Danbury	359
●	●		●	●	●		AB	Wyantenock State Forest	243	Cornwall, etc.	4,083





Small Game	Waterfowl	Pheasants	Fall Archery Deer/Turkey	Spring and Fall Firearms Turkey	Muzzleloader Deer	Deer Lottery Area #	No-Lottery Shotgun Deer	Western Connecticut - Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield & New Haven Counties			
<div>● Hunting Permitted</div> <div>➤ Archery ONLY</div> <div>AB No-Lottery A and B Seasons</div> <div>B No-Lottery B Season Only</div> <div>▲ Designated Fall Deer/Turkey Bowhunting Only Area</div> <div>▲/● or ➤/● Some Sections Open to Archery ONLY (see map)</div> <div>○ Daily/Season Permit Required (see page 36)</div> <div>* Special Conditions Apply</div> <div>(▲ and ➤ areas are open for archery hunting during the shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons)</div>											
STATE-LEASED, FLOOD CONTROL AND OTHER PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
*	*		▲	*				Black Rock Lake (state and federally owned)* <i>Closed March 30–3rd Sat. Oct.</i>	204	Thomaston, Watertown	400
●	●		▲	●				Bloomfield Flood Control Area (Site 1)	205	Bloomfield	325
						52		Bristol Water Company	329	Bristol	4,500
●	●		▲	F				CT Light & Power (borders Newgate WMA) <i>(Fall firearms turkey hunting only)</i>	210	East Granby	180
➤/●	➤/●		▲	➤/●				Great Swamp Flood Control Area <i>(Incl. Bowhunting Only areas - see map)</i>	318	Ridgefield	341
*	*		●	●			AB	Hancock Brook Lake (federally owned)*	214	Plymouth	707
●	●	●	▲	●				Mad River Dam Flood Control Area	218	Winchester	517
			▲			64		MDC Barkhamsted Res. - Barkhamsted East Block	343	Barkhamsted	2,856
			▲			65		MDC Barkhamsted Res. - Hartland East Block	344	Hartland	1,426
●	●		●	●	●		AB	MDC – Colebrook Reservoir/Hogback Dam	220	Colebrook, Hartland, etc.	4,159
●	●	●	▲					MDC – Greenwoods Pond	221	New Hartford	400
						59		MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Pine Hill Block	331	New Hartford	325
						58		MDC Nepaug Reservoir - Valentine Block	330	New Hartford	1,075
			▲			66		MDC Nepaug Res. - Sweetheart Mt. Block - Archery Only	345	Barkhamsted	345
			▲					Northfield Brook Lake (federally owned)	227	Thomaston	201
●	●		▲	●				Sucker Brook Flood Control Area	235	Winchester	64
*	*	●	▲	F				Thomaston Dam (federally owned)* <i>(Fall firearms turkey hunting only)</i>	238	Thomaston, Harwinton, etc.	850
●	●		▲	●				Whiting River Flood Control Area	241	North Canaan	49
●	●		▲	●				Wood Creek Flood Control Area	242	Norfolk	111
PERMIT-REQUIRED AREAS (DAILY PERMIT REQUIRED TO HUNT ○ SEASONS)								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
○	○							Bloomfield FC (Site 2)* <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb. - Town Permit</i>	206	Bloomfield	300
○	○	○						Bristol Fish and Game <i>3rd Sat in Oct–Sat After Thanksgiving</i>	4	Harwinton, Plymouth	1,663
			○					Centennial Watershed State Forest* <i>Permit required from Aquarion</i>	310	Easton, Weston, etc.	7,184
○	○	○						East Windsor – Enfield Area <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	6	East Windsor, Enfield	1,176
○	○							Meriden Rod & Gun Club <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	14	Meriden, Cheshire	1,364
	○							NU – Kings Island Coop WMA*	262	Enfield, Suffield	158
○	○	○	●	●	●	54A	B	NU-Skiff Mtn. Coop WMA <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	228	Sharon	710
○	○							Pequonnock Valley - <i>Only open M/W/F/Sat from 3rd Sat. in Oct.–Sat before Christmas</i>	323	Trumbull	176
○	○		▲	●				Quinnipiac River State Park	326	North Haven	342
○	○		▲	➤				Scantic River State Park* <i>3rd Sat in Oct. – 1st Sat. in Dec. (E. Windsor/Enfield)</i>	268	East Windsor, etc.	589
			○	○				Sessions Woods WMA <i>▲ - Permits avail. on site M–F 8:30–4:00</i>	233	Burlington	771
○	○							Seymour Fish & Game Club <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	19	Oxford	100
○	○							Stanley Works Coop WMA <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	27	Kent, Cornwall	1,100
	○							Stewart B. McKinney NWR - Great Meadows Marsh* <i>Federal permit required</i>		Stratford	165
○	○	○						Suffield Sportsmen's Assoc. <i>3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	22	Suffield, East Granby	687
			○	○	○	26		Trout Brook Valley State Park - <i>Parking pass required</i>	327	Easton	330
○	○							Wallingford Town Owned Area <i>Only open M/W/Sat - 3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.</i>	24	Wallingford	725

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

**Bloomfield Flood Control Area Site 2:** Site 2 is leased to the town of Bloomfield and a special permit from the town clerk is required to hunt small game under special restrictions. Open during the pheasant season only. Site 3 is no longer open to hunting.

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

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

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

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

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




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

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

# Public Hunting Areas

The following areas are open to public hunting. The key to the left specifies what type of hunting is permitted. Special tags, stamps, and permits are needed when hunting some species. Consult season descriptions for the species you are hunting. Consult pages 12–13 for firearms restrictions. Some portions of these properties may be closed to hunting. Obey all postings. Maps for many of these areas are available on the DEEP's website ([www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting)).

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

Small Game	Waterfowl	Pheasants	Fall Archery Deer/Turkey	Spring and Fall Firearms Turkey	Muzzleloader Deer	Deer Lottery Area #	No-Lottery Shotgun Deer	Eastern Connecticut - Middlesex, New London, Tolland & Windham Counties			
<div>● Hunting Permitted</div> <div>➤ Archery ONLY</div> <div>AB No-Lottery A and B Seasons</div> <div>B No-Lottery B Season Only</div> <div>▲ Designated Fall Deer/Turkey Bowhunting Only Area</div> <div>▲/● or ➤/● Some Sections Open to Archery ONLY (see map)</div> <div>○ Daily/Season Permit Required (see page 36)</div> <div>* Special Conditions Apply</div> <div>(▲ and ➤ areas are open for archery hunting during the shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons)</div>											
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, STATE FORESTS AND STATE PARKS								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
●			●	●	●		AB	Assekong Swamp WMA	272	North Stonington	693
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Babcock Pond WMA - Waterfowl Hunting Blind 	244	East Haddam, Colchester	1,500
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Barn Island WMA	273	Stonington	1,017
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB	Bartlett Brook WMA	274	Lebanon	684
●	●	●	▲	●				Bear Hill WMA 	275	Bozrah	357
			▲	S				Beaver Brook State Park (Spring turkey hunting only)	276	Windham	402
			▲					Bigelow Hollow State Park	277	Union, etc.	515
●	●		▲	●				Bishops Swamp WMA	245	Andover	719
	●		▲					Black Pond WMA	337	Middlefield	94
➤	➤			➤				Chapman's Pond WMA Archery Only	338	Clinton, Westbrook	133
●	●	●	▲/●	●	●	AB		Cockaponset State Forest (Incl. Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	246	Haddam, etc.	17,186
●	●	●	▲	●				Cromwell Meadows WMA	247	Cromwell, Middletown	455
●	●	●	▲	●				Durham Meadows WMA	248	Durham	572
●	●		●	●	●	AB		Eightmile River WMA	249	East Haddam, Lyme	309
●	●	●	●	●	●	AB		Franklin Swamp WMA	278	North Franklin	684
	●							Great Island WMA	279	Old Lyme	504
●	●	●	▲	●				Higganum Meadows WMA (off Clarkhurst Road)	251	Haddam	256
			▲					Higganum Reservoir	252	Haddam	147
●	●		▲	●				Killingly Pond State Park	281	Killingly	174
●	●		●	●	●	AB		Kollar WMA 	253	Tolland	911
●	●	●	●	●	●	AB		Larson Lot WMA	254	Colchester	240
●	●		▲	●				Little River Fish and Wildlife Area	283	Hampton	58
	●							Lord's Cove WMA	284	Lyme	265
●	●	●	●	●	●	AB		Meadow Brook WMA	339	Colchester	161
●	●		●	●	●	AB		Meshomasic State Forest	257	Portland, etc.	9,099
●	●		▲	●				Messerschmidt WMA	258	Deep River, Westbrook	460
●	●		●	●	●	AB		Millers Pond	259	Durham, Haddam	280
●	●		●	●	●	AB		Mohegan State Forest	285	Scotland, etc.	962
			▲					Mono Pond	260	Columbia	284
●	●		▲/●	●	●	AB		Natchaug State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	286	Eastford, etc.	13,677
●	●	●	●	●	●	AB		Nathan Hale State Forest Mgmt. Area	261	Andover, Coventry	1,455
●	●		▲/●	●	●	AB		Nehantic State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	287	East Lyme, etc.	5,251
●	●		●	●	●	AB		Nipmuck State Forest	288	Union, etc.	9,289
	●		▲	●				Nott Island	289	Lyme	82
●	●		▲/●	●	●	AB		Nye Holman State Forest* (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only Area)	264	Tolland, etc.	786
●	●	●	▲/●	●	●	AB		Pachaug State Forest (Includes Deer Bowhunting Only areas - see map)	290	Voluntown, etc.	26,135
●	●	●	●	●	●	AB		Pease Brook WMA - Dog Training Area	291	Lebanon	206
	●							Plum Bank WMA		Old Saybrook	219
			▲					Pomeroy State Park	292	Lebanon	286
●	●		●	●	●	AB		Quaddick State Forest	293	Thompson	1,109
●	●	●	●	●	●	AB		Quinebaug River WMA	294	Canterbury, Plainfield	1,646
			▲					Quinebaug River WMA (Aspinook Pond)	295	Canterbury	27
	●							Ragged Rock Creek WMA	265	Old Saybrook	202
	●							Raymond Brook Marsh	266	Hebron	199
●	●		●	●	●	AB		Red Cedar Lake (Camp Mooween)	296	Lebanon	577
●	●	●	●	●	●	AB		Rose Hill WMA	297	Preston, Ledyard	613
●	●		▲	●				Ross Marsh WMA	298	Killingly, Sterling	277
			▲					Ross Pond State Park	299	Killingly	314
●	●		▲	●				Salmon River Cove and Haddam Neck	267	East Haddam, Haddam	94





Small Game	Waterfowl	Pheasants	Fall Archery Deer/Turkey	Spring and Fall Firearms Turkey	Muzzleloader Deer	Deer Lottery Area #	No-Lottery Shotgun Deer	Eastern Connecticut - Middlesex, New London, Tolland & Windham Counties			
<div>● Hunting Permitted</div> <div>➤ Archery ONLY</div> <div>AB No-Lottery A and B Seasons</div> <div>B No-Lottery B Season Only</div> <div>▲ Designated Fall Deer/Turkey Bowhunting Only Area</div> <div>▲/● or ➤/● Some Sections Open to Archery ONLY (see map)</div> <div>○ Daily/Season Permit Required (see page 36)</div> <div>* Special Conditions Apply</div> <div>(▲ and ➤ areas are open for archery hunting during the shotgun and muzzleloader deer seasons)</div>											
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, STATE FORESTS AND STATE PARKS								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
●	●		●	●	●		AB Salmon River State Forest (including Holbrook Pond)	300	Colchester, etc.	6,980	
	●		●		●		Selden Neck State Park (Selden Island)	301	Lyme	531	
●	●		●	●	●		AB Shenipsit State Forest	269	Stafford, etc.	7,583	
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB Spignesi WMA	302	Scotland	524	
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB Sugarbrook Field Trial Area Closed During Field Trials	303	Plainfield	200	
●	●		●	●	●		AB Talbot WMA	304	Scotland	475	
●			●	●	●	60	Tankerhoosen WMA	334	Vernon	449	
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB Wangunk Meadows (off Rte. 17a)	270	Portland	637	
●	●		●	●	●		AB Wopowog WMA	271	East Hampton, Haddam	465	
●	●		●	●	●		AB Zemko Pond WMA	307	Salem	457	
STATE-LEASED, FLOOD CONTROL AND OTHER PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
●	●		●	●	●		AB Ellithorpe Flood Control Area	250	Stafford	411	
●	●		▲	●			Mansfield Hollow Lake (excluding State Park)	255	Mansfield, Chaplin, etc.	2,012	
●	●	●	▲	●			Mansfield State-Leased Field Trial Area Closed During Field Trials	256	Mansfield	300	
●	●		●	●	●		AB Silvio O. Conte NWR - Salmon River Division (federal land)	333	Haddam	285	
●	●	●	●	●	●		AB West Thompson Dam (federal land) ♿	305	Thompson	1,950	
PERMIT-REQUIRED AREAS (DAILY PERMIT REQUIRED TO HUNT ○ SEASONS)								CODE	TOWN(S)	ACRES	
○	○						Bolton Area 3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.	2	Bolton	238	
			○				Harkness Memorial State Park* ▲ (Verkade Property) - Park permit required	280	Waterford	157	
○	○						Hebron Area 3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.	11	Hebron	454	
○	○						Higganum – Haddam Rod & Gun Club 3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.	9	Haddam	66	
○	○		▲	●			Lebanon Coop Mgmt. Area*	282	Lebanon, Colchester	214	
○	○	○					Norwich Fish & Game Assoc. (South) 3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.	17	Norwich	700	
○	○		●	●	●	53A	B NU – Maromas Coop WMA 3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.	263	Middletown	1,400	
			○		○		○ Stone's Ranch Military Reservation*	336	East Lyme	1,600	
○	○	○					Woodstock 3rd Sat in Oct–End of Feb.	25	Woodstock	363	
○	○			○		51A	Yale Forest (owned by Yale University)* Parking pass required	306	Eastford, Union, Ashford	7,700	

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

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

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

**Stone's Ranch Military Reservation:** 1,600 acres only open to deer and turkey hunting via a special daily access permit available online (information at [www.ct.gov/deep/Hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/Hunting)). Closed to hunting during specific days as determined by the State Military Department. Single access point only off of Stone's Ranch Road.

**Yale Forest Permit-Required Area:** Area open from September 1 through February 28 for small game, waterfowl, and turkey hunting by seasonal access permit. Parking passes are also required. See vendor for details.

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# Furbearer Trapping Seasons & Regulations

SPECIES	2016 DATES	SEASON LIMITS
River Otter*	Jan. 1 – March 15 & Nov. 6 – Dec. 31	8
Beaver*	Jan. 1 – March 31 & Dec. 1 – Dec. 31	No Limit
Mink*, Muskrat, Weasel, Coyote*, Gray Fox*, Red Fox*, Raccoon, Opossum, and Skunk	Jan. 1 – March 15 & Nov. 6 – Dec. 31	No Limits
Fisher*	Nov. 20 – Dec. 31	4

\* All beaver, fisher, river otter, red fox, gray fox, wild mink, and coyote pelts must be properly tagged before they are sold, exchanged, given away, otherwise disposed of, or retained for personal use. These pelts must be tagged by the last scheduled tagging date of the season. Fur dealers are prohibited from buying or selling untagged pelts of these species.

**Foxes and coyotes taken by hunters, instead of being pelt tagged, may be reported by telephone (1-877-377-4868) or online at [www.ct.gov/deep/Hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/Hunting).**

## PELTS OF PROTECTED SPECIES

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

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

## CARCASS COLLECTIONS

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

## STATE LAND TRAPPING

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

## 2016 PELT TAGGING SCHEDULE

Location	2016 Dates
• Natchaug Forest Hdqtrs. ....	Mar. 12 Kingsbury Road, Eastford
• Franklin WMA .....	Apr. 9 Rte. 32, Franklin
• Southford Falls State Park .....	Apr. 9 Rte. 188, Oxford
• Sessions Woods WMA.....	Apr. 10 Rte. 69, Burlington

Pelts will be tagged (at no cost) by DEEP representatives between the hours of **9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** at the locations and dates listed above. Pelts can be tagged at some DEEP field offices during weekdays by appointment. Call the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011 for weekday and other tagging options.

## COYOTE LAND TRAPPING

From December 1 through January 31 there are special provisions for trapping coyotes on private land. Refer to PADDED METAL TRAP RESTRICTIONS section on page 45 for the requirements that must be met to trap coyotes on private land during this time period.

## TAXIDERMISTS

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

## RABIES: WHAT HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS SHOULD KNOW

- Rabies is a disease caused by a virus affecting the central nervous system. Left untreated, rabies is almost always fatal.
- Rabies is primarily transmitted through the bite of an infected animal, however, people may also be exposed by being scratched by a rabid animal or getting an animal's saliva into an open wound or mucous membrane (eyes, nose, or mouth).
- Only mammals get rabies; birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians do not. Raccoons, skunks, bats, foxes, dogs, cats and some farm animals are most likely to get rabies. Rabbits, opossums, squirrels, rats, and mice are seldom affected.
- An epidemic of raccoon rabies reached Connecticut in March 1991. Since then, rabies has infected thousands of raccoons. Cases in non-raccoon species, including dogs, cats, skunks, foxes and woodchucks have also been reported.
- Hunters and trappers can minimize their risk of exposure to rabies by following several common sense rules and by knowing what to do if they or their pets are exposed:
  - Avoid contact with animals appearing sick or acting abnormal, i.e. aggressive, paralyzed, disoriented or unusually tame.
  - Wear disposable rubber gloves when dressing and skinning game, and clean up with soap and water promptly.
- Make sure your dogs have current rabies vaccinations. If you have a cat as a household pet, be certain it is vaccinated as well.
- If you frequently handle high risk species such as raccoons, skunks, foxes, or woodchucks, consider getting the human pre-exposure vaccine.
- If you are bitten or scratched or think that you have been exposed to rabies from a wild animal, wash the exposed area thoroughly with soap and water, and contact your doctor or emergency clinic, immediately.
- If possible, without further injury or risk of exposure, capture, kill or confine the wild animal without damaging the head, and contact your local health department for additional information.
- If your pet fights with a wild animal, attempt to secure the animal for rabies testing. Always wear gloves when handling your pet or treating its wounds under such circumstances. Notify your local Animal Control Officer and contact the pet's veterinarian for advice and/or treatment.
- Rabies virus is concentrated primarily in the saliva, brain, and spinal cord. Heat from thorough cooking will kill rabies virus, making properly cooked meat from game animals safe. When preparing meat for cooking, wearing rubber gloves and cleaning up with soap and water is recommended.



#### LEGAL TRAPS AND METHODS

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

#### UNPADDED METAL TRAP RESTRICTIONS

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

#### PADDED METAL TRAP RESTRICTIONS

1. May only be used in the burrow of a wild animal or below the surface of the water in a pond, lake, stream, spring hole, or tidal water. Except that, any person who has completed a DEEP approved special land trapping course may use padded metal traps on or below ground from December 1 through January 31 for the taking of coyotes on private land parcels of at least 10 contiguous acres where the landowner has given written permission explicitly for the use of such traps. When trapping coyotes in this manner, no visible bait may be used, pan tension must be two pounds or greater, and traps must be securely anchored to the ground.

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

#### SMOOTH WIRE TRAP RESTRICTIONS

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

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED:

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

#### TRAPPERS ARE REQUIRED TO:

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

#### TRAP DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

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



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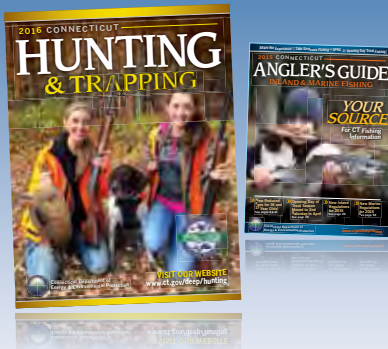
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<div><div></div><div>Sunrise – Sunset</div><div></div></div>																								
	JAN		FEB		MAR		APR		MAY		JUN		JUL		AUG		SEP		OCT		NOV		DEC	
Date	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
1	7:18	4:31	7:03	5:06	6:26	5:41	6:34	7:16	5:48	7:49	5:19	8:19	5:20	8:29	5:45	8:09	6:16	7:25	6:47	6:33	7:23	5:46	6:58	4:21
2	7:18	4:32	7:02	5:07	6:24	5:42	6:32	7:17	5:46	7:50	5:18	8:20	5:20	8:29	5:46	8:08	6:17	7:23	6:48	6:31	7:24	5:44	6:59	4:21
3	7:18	4:32	7:01	5:08	6:23	5:43	6:31	7:18	5:45	7:51	5:18	8:20	5:21	8:29	5:47	8:07	6:18	7:21	6:49	6:30	7:25	5:43	7:00	4:21
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31	7:04	5:05			6:36	7:15			5:19	8:18			5:44	8:10	6:15	7:26			7:21	5:47			7:18	4:30

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

## New Firewood Regulations in Effect!

### Stop the Spread of Invasive Pests

For more information about the new regulations, go to

[www.ct.gov/deep/forestry](http://www.ct.gov/deep/forestry)





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