

INDIANA

HUNTING & TRAPPING GUIDE

2020-2021 REGULATIONS



INSIDE

- 4 ways to buy hunting & trapping licenses
- Waterfowl season dates
- Grazing as a habitat management tool
- Hunters help control CWD



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The Hunting & Trapping Guide is a publication of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. This is a summary of Indiana hunting and trapping regulations. It is designed as a service to sportsmen and women and is not intended to be a complete digest of all hunting and trapping regulations. Most regulations are subject to change by administrative rule. Contact the Division of Fish & Wildlife before reproducing any part of this booklet. Paid advertisements that appear in this guide do not imply endorsement by the DNR or by the State of Indiana for the businesses or products advertised. The Department is not responsible for any advertising claims contained herein.



Photographed by – John Maxwell, Indiana DNR



Dear Hunters and Trappers,

Welcoming more people to your love and enjoyment of the outdoors—and being intentional about it—is a subject I spoke about to a meeting of some of the DNR’s most engaged conservation partners in March 2019.

The setting was DNR’s first Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation (R3) Summit, at Fort Harrison State Park, when I was assistant director of the Division of Fish & Wildlife. I pointed out the need to invite new faces into the world of the outdoors, and share our passion for the activities we love with others. Much of the rationale was simply to get more people to care about and help with conservation efforts.

Almost exactly a year since that talk, the pandemic hit our country, changing how we work and recreate. Other events highlighted the need for many other changes. As we head into the latter half of 2020, more change is no doubt coming, but the importance of the message of inclusivity in terms of extending invitations to the outdoors has broadened and grown.

During spring and early summer, people flocked to DNR properties and bought fishing and hunting licenses at rates we haven’t seen in years, many for the first time. In addition, people engaged with the DNR on social media in numbers we’ve never seen before.

These trends present both an opportunity and responsibility to demonstrate what an important place the outdoors has been for us, many for a lifetime, and can be for anyone else just discovering the peace, solitude, and space to clear our minds nature provides. It’s a place that can bring together families, communities, and people of all different types, from all walks of life, to find commonality.

As we enjoy the outdoors, it can be easy to stay in our comfort zone and invite only those in our inner circles to take up activities like hunting and trapping. Instead, we need to move outside comfortable, and share, especially with people who may be different from us.

Each time you go afield, make a point to make everyone feel welcome in the outdoors and encourage them to dive deeper into the outdoors, not only because it will get more people caring about conservation, but also because of the overall sense of community it has the potential to create.

Amanda Wuestefeld
Director, DNR Fish & Wildlife



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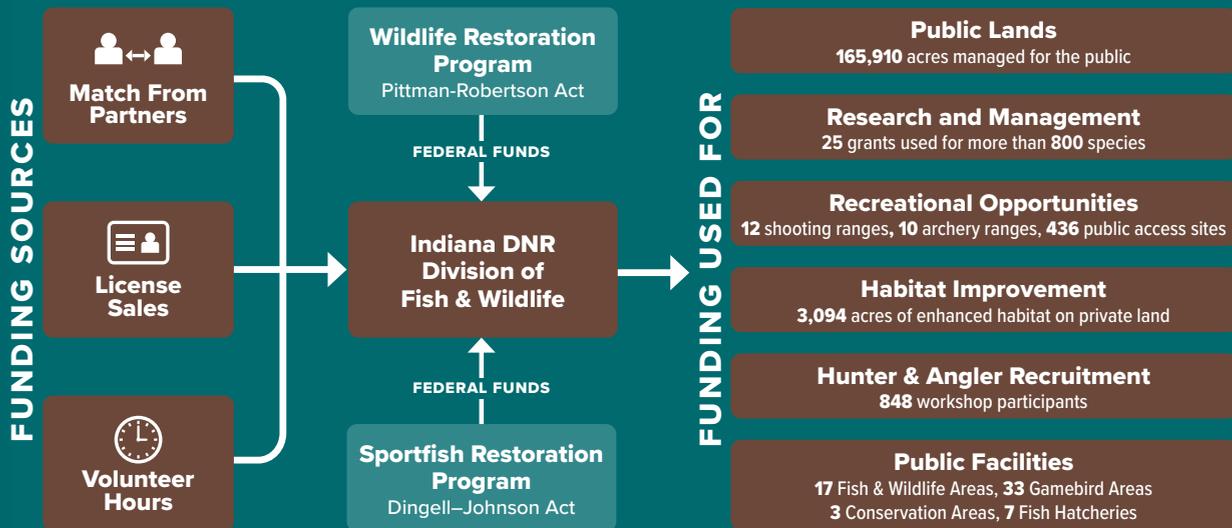
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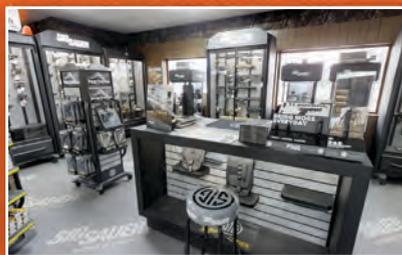
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To Hunters & Trappers in the Hoosier State

Welcome to the 2020-2021 Indiana DNR Hunting & Trapping Guide. We hope you find it helpful as you prepare for the upcoming hunting and trapping seasons.

Any corrections or updates to information published in this guide will be made to the online version at hunting.IN.gov

This guide provides a summary of Indiana hunting and trapping regulations. If you need complete versions of Indiana rules and regulations for hunting and trapping, they can be found in Indiana Code, Title 14, Article 22 (iga.IN.gov) or in Indiana Administrative Code, Title 312, Article 9, (IN.gov/legislative/iac).

Information in the guide includes season dates, bag limits, license requirements and costs, legal hunting hours, approved hunting equipment, and more. Articles found within this guide are written by Indiana DNR staff who are experts in their work.

All funds made from selling Indiana hunting and fishing licenses go directly back to conservation. Your license funds are used for wildlife management and research, habitat management and restoration, land acquisition, public access, shooting ranges, fish stocking, DNR law enforcement, and more. We thank all hunters, anglers, trappers, and recreational shooters in Indiana for their continued support of the Division of Fish & Wildlife. The funding stream you provide helps make conservation of Indiana's natural resources a success.

Finally, good luck this hunting and trapping season. We hope it's your best one yet.



2020-2021 INDIANA HUNTING SEASONS

Furbearers	Hunting Dates	Limit
Red & Gray Fox	Oct. 15, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	No limit
Coyote & Striped Skunk	Oct. 15, 2020 - March 15, 2021	No limit
Raccoon & Opossum	Nov. 8, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021	No limit
Dog Running (Raccoon, Opossum)	Feb. 1, 2020 - Oct. 25, 2020	Not applicable
	Feb. 1, 2021 - Oct. 25, 2021	

Woodland Game	Hunting Dates	Limit
Wild Turkey		
Youth Spring	April 17-18, 2021	1 bearded or male turkey per hunter in spring
Spring	April 21 - May 9, 2021	
Fall Archery (statewide)	Oct. 1, 2020 - Nov. 1, 2020	1 turkey of either sex for the fall archery and firearm seasons combined
	Dec. 5, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021	
Fall Firearms	Oct. 21, 2020 - Nov. 1, 2020 (see page 37 for counties)	

Deer		
Reduction Zone *	Sept. 15, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021 (see page 21 for Reduction Zones)	See page 24 for deer season bag limits
Youth	Sept. 26 & 27, 2020	
Archery	Oct. 1, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021	
Firearms	Nov. 14, 2020 - Nov. 29, 2020	
Muzzleloader	Dec. 5, 2020 - Dec. 20, 2020	
Special Antlerless Firearms **	Dec. 26, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021	
Squirrel (Gray & Fox)	Aug. 15, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021	5 per day

The possession limit for woodland game (except deer and turkey) is two times the daily bag limit.

* Designated counties or portions of counties (formerly Urban Deer Zones)

** The special antlerless firearms season is in all counties except those with a County Bonus Antlerless Quota of "A" (page 25).

Upland Game	Hunting Dates	Limit
Pheasant (cock only)	Nov. 1 - Dec. 15, 2020	2 per day
Quail		
North of Interstate 74*	Nov. 1 - Dec. 15, 2020	4 per day*
South of Interstate 74**	Nov. 1, 2020 - Jan. 10, 2021	8 per day**
Rabbit	Nov. 1, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021	5 per day

The possession limit on upland game is two times the daily bag limit.

* 2 per day on North Zone Fish & Wildlife Areas, Mississinewa Lake, and Salamonie Lake

** 4 per day on South Zone Fish & Wildlife Areas and Patoka Lake

Miscellaneous	Hunting Dates	Limit
Crow	July 1 - Aug. 15, 2020	No limit
	Dec. 13, 2020 - March 1, 2021	
Green Frog & Bullfrog	June 15, 2020 - April 30, 2021	25 per day
Game Turtles *	July 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021	4 per day**

* Eastern snapping turtle, smooth softshell turtle, spiny softshell turtle

** Limit is singly or in aggregate. These species of turtles must have a carapace length of at least 12 inches.



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Rifles for Deer Hunting on Private Land

The state law allowing high-powered rifles on private land has been extended indefinitely under House Bill 1385. Rifles that have been allowed on private land for deer hunting since 2017 can continue to be used. Rifle cartridges legal on public land remain the same as in years past. See page 22 for rifle requirements on public and private land or visit deer.dnr.IN.gov and click on “deer hunting questions and answers” for additional information.

License Revocation

State law has given courts the ability to revoke a license or permit for a minimum of one year for a violation of a fish and wildlife law. In the past, courts had the option of revoking licenses for lesser amounts of time. See page 13 for more information about penalties for violations.

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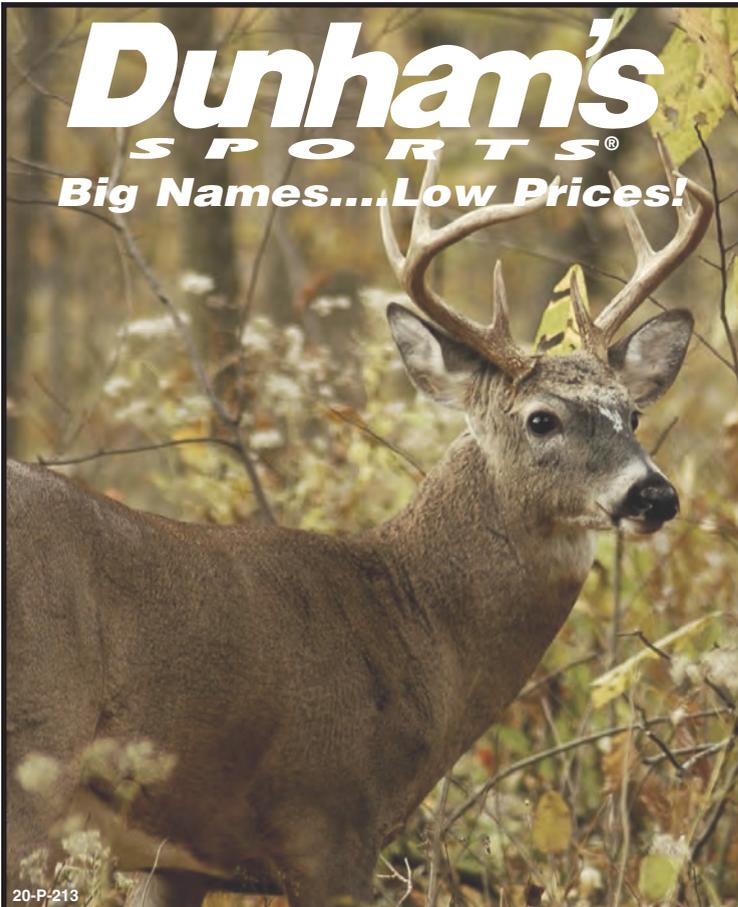


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General License Regulations

- Hunting licenses:** A valid hunting license issued by the Indiana DNR is required to hunt any species of wild animal on both private and public land in Indiana. License exemptions can be found below. Some species also require state and/or federal stamps.
- Resident licenses:** To qualify for resident hunting licenses, a person must have established a true fixed and permanent home and primary residence in Indiana for 60 consecutive days prior to purchasing a license or permit and not claim residency for hunting, trapping, or fishing in another state or country. All other individuals are nonresidents.
- Licenses and stamps:** A hunting license (and applicable stamp privileges, federal stamps or permits, and HIP number) must have an original signature in ink and be carried with the licensee while hunting or the licensee must produce an electronic copy of the license while hunting. The license or electronic copy of the license must be produced upon the request of an Indiana Conservation Officer or other authorized law enforcement officer.
- Hunter education:** Anyone born after Dec. 31, 1986 must successfully complete a DNR-offered hunter education class to purchase an Indiana hunting license.
- License reprints:** Lost or damaged licenses can be reprinted online at no cost to the customer. Reprints at retail locations may come with a \$3 service charge.
- License revoked:** DNR-issued licenses may be revoked at the discretion of a court upon conviction of fish and wildlife law violations, or at the discretion of the Department, for non-compliance with conditions under which licenses are issued.
- License refunds:** Licenses are non-transferable and non-refundable.

How to Purchase a License

Online

Go to on.IN.gov/INhuntfish. Online license purchases have a \$1 per license fee for system support maintenance, and an additional \$1 plus 1.99% credit card company fee on each transaction.

In Person

Visit one of more than 500 retailers statewide listed at on.IN.gov/INhuntfish or visit the DNR Customer Service Center. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.

By Mail

Send a check or money order (payable to DNR) or credit card information (include number, and expiration date) to:

LICENSE FEES				
License Category	License Type	Resident ¹	Nonresident	Apprentice Option?
Youth	Res. Youth Consolidated Hunt/Trap (See page 11 for details)	\$7	na	Y
	Nonres. Annual Youth Hunting ²	na	\$17	Y
	Nonres. Youth Deer Hunting	na	\$24	Y
	Nonres. Deer License Bundle	na	\$65	Y
	Nonres. Youth Spring Turkey Hunting ⁶	na	\$25	Y
	Nonres. Youth Fall Turkey Hunting ⁶	na	\$25	Y
Combo Hunt/Fish	Annual Hunting & Fishing ²	\$25	na	Y
	Disabled American Veterans Annual Hunt/Fish ²	\$2.75	na	N
	Disabled American Veterans 10-Year Hunt/Fish ²	\$27.50	na	N
Hunt (small game)	Annual Hunting ²	\$17	\$80	Y
	Five-Day Hunting ²	na	\$31	Y
Deer	Deer Hunting ³	\$24 ⁴	\$150 ⁵	Y
	Deer License Bundle	\$65	\$295	Y
Turkey	Spring Turkey Hunting ⁶	\$25	\$120	Y
	Fall Turkey Hunting ⁶	\$25	\$120	Y
Stamps	Game Bird Habitat Stamp ⁶	\$6.75	\$6.75	N
	Waterfowl Stamp ⁷	\$6.75	\$6.75	N
Trapping	Annual Trapping	\$17	\$140	N
Fishing	Annual Fishing	\$17	\$35	N
	Trout/Salmon Stamp	\$11	\$11	N
	One-Day Fishing (includes trout/salmon)	\$9	\$9	N
	Seven-Day Fishing	na	\$20	N
	Senior Annual Fishing	\$3	na	N
	Senior Fish for Life	\$17	na	N

1 - See resident description located at the left of this chart.

2 - Does not include deer or turkey.

3 - Deer Hunting refers to either Reduction Zone, firearms, archery, crossbow, muzzleloader, or bonus antlerless licenses.

4 - The second and any additional resident bonus antlerless deer hunting licenses: \$15 each. The first bonus antlerless license must be purchased at a cost of \$24 prior to purchasing the second and any additional bonus antlerless licenses at the discounted rate.

5 - The second and any additional nonresident bonus antlerless deer hunting licenses: \$24 each. The first bonus antlerless license must be purchased at a cost of \$150 prior to purchasing the second and any additional bonus antlerless licenses at the discounted rate.

6 - Game Bird Habitat Stamp is required to hunt turkey, dove, quail and pheasant.

7 - Waterfowl Stamp Privilege is required when hunting migratory waterfowl (page 30).

Licenses

DNR Customer Service Center
402 W. Washington St., W160
Indianapolis, IN, 46204

Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. Include:

- The license(s) and season (e.g., deer muzzleloader) you are purchasing
- Name, date of birth, Indiana Driver's License number, and Social Security number (required by IC 14-22-11-3)
- Hunter education certificate number if born after Dec. 31, 1986
- Complete address, city, state, ZIP code, and phone number
- Height, weight, color of hair, and color of eyes

By Phone

Call 317-232-4200

License Exemptions

The following are exempt from license requirements:

- Residents or nonresidents participating in a DNR-licensed field trial.
- Resident owners of Indiana farmland, resident lessees of Indiana farmland who farm that land, and the spouses and children living with them while hunting, fishing, or trapping on the farmland they own or lease. There is no acreage requirement to qualify for this exemption. This exemption does not apply to land owned by a business, corporation, or partnership unless the shareholders, partners, members, or owners are comprised solely of the members of an immediate family and farm that land and does not extend to immediate family members of those shareholders, partners, or members of the business entity.

Farmland means agricultural land that is devoted or best adaptable to the production of crops, fruits, timber or the raising of livestock, or is assessed as agricultural land for property tax purposes. There is no acreage requirement to qualify for this exemption.

- Trustees and named trust beneficiaries comprised solely of the members of an immediate family that are residents of Indiana when hunting on the trust property (as defined in Indiana Code 30-4-1-2).
- Residents of Indiana engaged in full-time military service and who are carrying their leave orders and a valid Indiana driver's license or Indiana voter registration card.
- Youth participating in free youth hunting weekends.

The following nonresidents can hunt with a resident license:

- A nonresident younger than 18 years old may hunt, trap, or fish with a resident license if a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian is an Indiana resident.
- Nonresident military personnel on active duty and stationed in Indiana may hunt or fish with a resident license.

Indiana allows nonresident landowners, including their spouse and children living with them, to hunt, fish, or trap on their own farmland in Indiana without a hunting license only if the following conditions are met:

- The nonresident's state allows the same exemption for the same species for Indiana residents who own farmland in that state.*
- While hunting, fishing, or trapping on the farmland, the nonresident must keep proof of ownership (for example, a tax receipt identifying the nonresident as owner) in a place where the proof is readily accessible.

This exemption does not apply to land owned by a business, corporation, or partnership unless the shareholders, partners, members, or owners are comprised solely of the members of an immediate family and farm that land.

Nonresidents who lease land in Indiana are not exempt and must purchase nonresident licenses.

* For example, if a nonresident is from state X that only allows Indiana residents who own land in that state an exemption to hunt small game on land they own without a license, then the same exemption would apply in Indiana for a nonresident who owns Indiana farmland and is hunting small game on that farmland. If state X does not include other species in the exemption, then the nonresident must have a valid nonresident license and any applicable stamps to hunt those species in Indiana.



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Nonresident Private Shooting Preserve

Nonresidents must purchase a nonresident shooting preserve license (\$17, \$7 for youth) and any applicable stamp requirements for species they are hunting at a private shooting preserve. The nonresident private shooting preserve license expires April 30 immediately following the date the license is effective.

Persons with Disabilities

Individuals with a disability that prevents them from being able to hunt wild animals under regular hunting regulations may request a special permit from the DNR.

Special permits may allow those who cannot walk or have serious walking limitations to hunt from a vehicle or gain special vehicle access on public property.

For rules or application forms, contact the Division of Fish & Wildlife by writing to 402 W. Washington St., W273, Indianapolis, IN 46204, by calling 317-232-4102, or by visiting hunting.IN.gov

Individuals with certain permanent developmental disabilities as defined in state law may apply for a conditional hunter education card. The individual must first take the hunter education class. Call 317-232-4200 for more information.

A disability is defined as a physical impairment resulting from injury or disease, excluding impairment due to the normal aging process.

To find out where to hunt on a DNR property with a disability permit, contact the property manager (page 42).

A special disability permit is not required to hunt deer with a crossbow; however, a valid license is required.

Hunting Guide License

Law now requires hunting guide or outfitter services that are offered or provided for money or other consideration to possess a valid annual Hunting Guide License issued under IC 14-22-15.5. The annual license expires on March 31 of the following year in which the license was issued. Applications for these licenses can be found online at wildlife.IN.gov

Apprentice Licenses

A resident or nonresident can buy an apprentice hunting license without having to take a hunter education class. An individual can purchase up to three apprentice licenses of any combination in his/her lifetime before having to take a DNR-offered hunter education class.

The apprentice hunter must be in close proximity to and able to communicate with a hunter who is at least 18 years old and has a valid hunting license (unless exempt from needing a hunting license) at all times. The individual who accompanies the apprentice hunter cannot accompany more than two apprentice hunters at one time while afield.

The apprentice resident youth hunt/trap license includes the same licenses and stamps as the regular resident youth hunt/trap license; it only exempts the license holder from needing to take a hunter education class.

Landowners or lessees of farmland and their children living with them who meet the requirements for license exemptions (pages 8-9) are also exempt from needing an apprentice hunting license.

Hunter Education

Anyone born after Dec. 31, 1986 must successfully complete a DNR-offered hunter education class to purchase a hunting license. See apprentice license exception. Hunters certified in another state or Canada can also present a card or certificate and purchase an Indiana hunting license.

The DNR offers hunter education courses in counties throughout the state. To find classes in your area, see hunter-ed.com/Indiana or contact:

- Hunter Education North, 317-605-1028; email chclark@dnr.IN.gov
- Hunter Education South, 317-694-7531; email tbeck@dnr.IN.gov

Indiana offers an online hunter safety course for hunters to obtain their hunter education card. For more information please visit hunter-ed.com/Indiana

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- ▶ Ensure licenses and check-in records are accurate.
- ▶ Make purchasing a license at a retailer easier.

Benefits for Youth Hunters

In Indiana, youth hunters have a number of special opportunities to help them get outdoors.

The list starts with a low-cost hunting license and special hunting dates set aside for them.

The resident youth hunt/trap license is \$7 for any Indiana resident age 17 or younger. It includes all hunting and trapping licenses and stamp privileges, including small game, deer, wild turkey, and waterfowl. No additional licenses are needed, unless a federal duck stamp is required (age 16 and older).

The license also is available to nonresident youth (age 17 or younger) who have a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian who is an Indiana resident.

Nonresident youth who don't qualify for the \$7 license can buy the appropriate nonresident youth license — annual hunting, deer, turkey, or trapping — at the same rate as a resident adult license, which is less than nonresident adult licenses.

There also are special hunt dates for youth age 17 and younger, and many DNR-managed properties offer youth hunting events. For more details, check hunting.IN.gov

Free Hunting Days

Youth free hunting days in 2020 are Sept. 5-6 and Nov. 28-29.

Any resident age 17 or younger on the date of the hunt can take any legal game in season during these youth free hunting days. To participate, the youth must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years of age.

The youth hunter does not have to possess a hunting license, Harvest Information Program (HIP) number, or any state stamp, but must comply with all other hunting regulations.

To hunt waterfowl, a federal duck stamp is required for all persons 16 years or older.

The youth's adult partner must be in close enough proximity to monitor and be able to communicate with the youth hunter at all times. The adult may help the youth hunter with calling game but may not carry a firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow, except for a handgun carried lawfully. The adult must possess a valid hunting license, unless exempted from needing a license.

Youth Deer Season

Youth deer season for properly licensed youth hunters is Sept. 26-27, 2020. Youth age 17 or younger on the date of the hunt can participate but must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years of age.

The youth hunter may harvest both antlered and antlerless deer. The antlered deer counts toward the statewide bag limit of one antlered deer. The number of antlerless deer harvested is determined by the bonus antlerless quota for the county hunted. A youth hunter can take only one antlerless deer in a county with a bonus antlerless quota of "A" during the special youth deer season.

The youth hunter must possess a valid license for hunting deer (youth hunt/trap or other) while in the field unless exempt from needing a license. The youth's adult partner must possess a valid hunting license of any type that is not an apprentice license.

The youth hunter and adult partner must wear hunter orange.

The youth hunter may use a legal firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow to take a deer.

The adult partner cannot take a deer and may not possess a firearm, muzzleloader, bow and arrow, or crossbow while in the field with the youth hunter, except for a handgun carried lawfully.

Only one antlerless deer may be taken on DNR-managed Fish & Wildlife Areas and some other DNR properties.

The youth hunter must comply with all other deer hunting regulations.

Youth Turkey Season

The youth wild turkey season for properly licensed youth hunters is April 17-18, 2021.

Youth age 17 or younger on the date of the hunt can participate but must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years of age.

The youth hunter must possess a valid license for hunting wild turkey (youth hunt/trap or other). The adult partner must possess a turkey hunting license and Game Bird Habitat Stamp if participating in the hunt (e.g., calling turkeys) unless exempt from license requirements (see pages 8-9).

The youth hunter may take only one bearded or male wild turkey during spring, which includes both the youth and regular spring turkey seasons. The youth must comply with all other turkey hunting regulations.

The youth hunter may use any legal shotgun, bow and arrow, or crossbow. The youth's adult partner may not take a turkey and must not possess a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow while in the field, except for a handgun carried lawfully.

Youth Waterfowl Season

The 2020 youth waterfowl season dates for properly licensed youth hunters are Oct. 17-18 (North Zone), Oct. 24-25 (Central Zone), and Oct. 31-Nov. 1 (South Zone). Youth 17 or younger on the date of the hunt can participate, but must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years of age. A federal duck stamp is required for all persons 16 years of age or older. A Harvest Information Program number (HIP) is required during the youth waterfowl season. A state Waterfowl Stamp is not required to hunt waterfowl or other migratory birds for resident youth hunting or nonresident youth hunting license holders.

National Refuge Hunts

Big Oaks and Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuges will have special deer hunts in 2020 and special turkey hunts in 2021 for youth hunters.

The youth deer hunt dates are Sept. 26-27 at Muscatatuck and Oct. 31 at Big Oaks.

The youth turkey hunt dates are April 17-18, 2021 at Muscatatuck and April 18, 2021 at Big Oaks.

To apply for Big Oaks youth hunts, send a postcard that includes the youth's name, address, and phone number to Big Oaks NWR, 1661 W. JPG Niblo Road, Madison, IN 47250. The application deadline is Oct. 1, 2020 for the deer hunt and April 2, 2021 for the turkey hunt.

To apply for the Muscatatuck hunts, visit hunting.IN.gov



Bag and Possession Limits

It is illegal to take more than the daily bag limit of a wild animal in a calendar day.

The possession limit is two times the daily bag limit for species other than migratory birds (including waterfowl), deer, and wild turkey, beginning the second day of the season.

The possession limit does not apply to a wild animal that is processed and stored at an individual's primary residence, except for waterfowl and migratory birds.

It is illegal to carry, transport, or ship outside Indiana, in open season, in one day, a wild animal that the individual has taken in open season in excess of the possession limit.

A harvested wild animal that is left unattended while in the field, not in the immediate vicinity of the individual who took the animal or gifted it to another person, must have a tag attached or be in a container/bag that has the following information: the name and address of the person who took the animal, total number and species of wild animals taken, the date the wild animals were taken, and the signature of the person who killed the animal(s).

You cannot transport a harvested wild animal for another person that is in excess of your bag limit unless the animal is tagged as described above.

You may carry the carcass of a wild animal for another person while in the field or transporting from the field as long as the person who killed the animal is present with you.

When transporting pheasant, the head and head plumage of the bird must remain attached until processing.

Legal Hunting Hours

Turkey: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset (the hunting hours may differ on state-owned property — page 37).

Deer: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Furbearer: Trapping/Hunting/Running: No restrictions.

Small Game: No hunting hours, except for rabbits on designated DNR properties in February (page 28).

Waterfowl (ducks and geese): One-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Shooting hours may differ on state-owned property (page 42).

Wild Animals Found Dead

If a deer, wild turkey, river otter, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, Eastern cottontail rabbit, Northern bobwhite, pheasant, or furbearer (e.g., beaver, coyote, fox, mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon, skunk, long-tailed weasel) dies after a collision with a motor vehicle, an Indiana Conservation Officer (page 43) or other law enforcement officer, DNR property manager or assistant property manager (page 42), or wildlife biologist (page 41) may issue a permit to an individual to possess the dead animal.

An Indiana Conservation Officer or a person designated by the Conservation Officer may also issue a permit to possess one of these animals if it is found dead from another cause.

Wildlife found deceased from unknown causes can be reported at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife

Disturbing Nests or Dens

It is illegal to disturb the den or house of a wild animal by shooting, digging, cutting, or chipping into the nest, hole, burrow, den, or other home of a wild animal with the aid of smoke, fire, fumes, chemicals, a ferret or other small animal, or with any mechanical device (other than a lawfully set trap) introduced into the hole, burrow, tree or den where the animal is hidden or sheltered.

A person must not wear or use a device to climb poles or trees, or possess an ax or saw while in the field at night for the purpose of dislodging a wild animal from a location where the animal has hidden itself for security or protection, or in which the animal maintains a nest or den.

Trespassing

It is illegal to hunt, trap, chase, or retrieve game on private land without the consent of the landowner or tenant.

Always ask permission before entering private property. A form requesting permission to access private land can be found at hunting.IN.gov

Use of Drones

State law prohibits the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) to search for, scout, locate, or detect a wild animal as an aid to take that animal during the hunting season and for 14 days prior to the hunting season for that animal. There are a few exceptions for purposes such as agricultural production, nuisance wild animal control, and scientific research.

An "unmanned aerial vehicle" means an aircraft that (a) does not carry a human operator, and (b) is capable of flight under remote control or autonomous programming.

Party Hunting

Party hunting is illegal. In a party hunting arrangement, a hunter not only shoots to fill his/her license but also shoots additional game to fill the licenses of other hunting party members.

Spotlighting

It is illegal for a person to deliberately cast a spotlight or other artificial light from a motor vehicle if in possession of any firearm (including a handgun), bow, or crossbow.

It is also illegal to shine a spotlight, searchlight, or other artificial light for the purpose of taking, attempting to take, or assisting

another person to take any wild animal, excluding furbearing mammals, crayfish, and frogs or while fishing.

Red Dot Sights

Red dot sights are legal for all hunting.

Hunting from a Vehicle or Boat

Mammals and birds may not be taken or chased from, by the use of, or with the aid of any motor-driven conveyance (including boats), except:

- By an individual authorized to hunt from a stationary vehicle with a Persons with Disabilities Hunting Permit.
- To check traps that are lawfully set and maintained.
- To hunt waterfowl or squirrels from a motorboat if the boat is beached, resting at anchor, tied to a stationary object, or otherwise without motion, except as provided by wind, water current, or hand-operated oars or paddles.

It is illegal to ride an off-road vehicle with a loaded firearm unless it's a legally possessed handgun or if the person carrying the firearm is operating the vehicle on property the person owns, has a contractual interest in, or has permission from the landowner to possess the firearm on the property in accordance with Indiana Code 14-16-1-23.

Wanton Waste

It is illegal to kill or cripple any wild animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the animal to include in your daily bag limit. It is illegal to enter private property without permission to retrieve downed game. Before hunting, individuals should make sure they have permission to track game on land adjoining their hunting area.

Handguns

While hunting, an individual may carry a handgun without a handgun license in accordance with Indiana Code 35-47-2-1 at iga.IN.gov. It is not legal to take a deer with a handgun except during the firearms and special antlerless firearms seasons, during the muzzleloader season with a muzzle-loading handgun, and in compliance with DNR regulations.

Shooting Across Roads or Waters

It is illegal to hunt, shoot at, or kill any animal or to shoot at any object from within, into, upon, or across any public road. It is illegal to shoot into or across the waters of the state or boundary waters of the state, except in the lawful pursuit of wildlife.

Harassment of Hunters, Trappers

It is illegal to intentionally interfere with the legal taking of a game animal by another person on public land or on private land without permission of the landowner.

Selling of Wild Game

Protected or regulated wild animals, live, dead, or the meat therefrom, cannot be sold, traded or bartered. (Exceptions: furbearers, squirrel tails, deer hides, antlers, hooves, and cured game bird feathers may be sold. All must be lawfully taken.)

DNR, Federal Property Rules

Hunting and trapping regulations may vary on some state or federal properties. Please check with the property manager for current regulations before hunting or trapping on state or federal areas (page 42).

Violation Penalties

A violation of a fish and wildlife law or regulation is a Class C infraction. If it is done with knowledge or intent, it is a Class C misdemeanor.

Any person who takes a deer or wild turkey in violation of any regulation will be penalized

\$500 in addition to any other penalty under the law and can be charged with a Class B misdemeanor or Class A misdemeanor (with a prior conviction). Equipment such as guns and vehicles used in intentional violation of fish and wildlife laws may be seized for evidence and, upon conviction, confiscated at the discretion of the court.

Where to Hunt

Indiana's Division of Fish & Wildlife manages 165,910 acres of land. Some of this land includes Fish & Wildlife Areas, Wetland Conservation Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas. Reservoir properties and State Forests add another 200,000-plus acres. This combination provides various hunting opportunities for the public. To find a hunting spot near you, visit hunting.IN.gov

Trapper Education

The DNR offers trapper education courses that describe basic methods for trapping furbearers, handling the catch, and the responsibilities of the trapper.

To find information on classes in your area, go to register-ed.com/programs/Indiana

Hunter Orange Requirements

To meet fluorescent orange (or "hunter orange") clothing requirements, hunters must wear one or more of the following items that is solid fluorescent orange in color and exposed at all times as an outer garment: vest, coat, jacket, coveralls, hat, or cap. Minimal logos or patches are allowed.

Camouflage-patterned fluorescent orange garments do not satisfy the requirement.

Fluorescent orange must be worn when hunting:

- **Deer** (page 20)
- **Rabbit**
- **Pheasant**
- **Quail**
- **Turkey** (when fall turkey season overlaps a deer firearms season. See page 37 for additional details.)
- **Woodcock**
- **Squirrel** (Nov. 1 through Jan. 31, 2021)

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AND EVERYWHERE IN BETWEEN.

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Prescribed Grazing for Habitat

Many of Indiana's Fish & Wildlife Areas (FWAs) have grassland habitats that depend on heavy disturbance to maintain their diversity and productivity. Disturbance is any event that delays the natural development of an area. Property managers use a variety of disturbance methods to achieve habitat goals. These methods include prescribed burning, mowing, disking, and herbicide application.

Prescribed grazing, also called conservation grazing, is another tool property managers are looking to use to create beneficial disturbance on FWAs. Historically, grasslands were maintained by large, hoofed animals like bison. Bison hooves turned the soil while these animals grazed. This exposed bare dirt for annual wildflowers and grasses to grow in and, in turn, created habitat for disturbance-dependent animals to feed and rest in. Livestock, such as cattle, have the ability to mimic the effect bison had on the landscape when such grazing is planned correctly.

Prescribed grazing is used to accomplish specific vegetation management goals through the use of domestic livestock. Livestock used in prescribed grazing browse or graze an area of land for a preplanned amount of time, with property managers ensuring overgrazing does not occur and that habitat disturbance goals are met. As with any other habitat

management tool, managers can decide how and when to use grazing to best fit their site-specific goals.

Prescribed grazing is used on public lands in many other states and has a demonstrated ability to improve soil health, plant diversity, and structural diversity. Grazing creates patchy grasslands that leave some areas ungrazed, some areas grazed short, and other areas flourishing after past grazing. Some wildlife prefer different heights of grass to raise young or hide from predators in. Creating uneven areas with differing heights gives wildlife a variety of areas to choose from depending on their needs.

Ultimately, prescribed grazing will improve grassland habitat and, in turn, enhance hunting and recreational opportunities for Hoosiers to enjoy. By applying prescribed grazing on properties, managers can combat invasive species, increase native plant diversity, and provide ideal habitat for game species like Northern bobwhite, turkey, deer, and Eastern cottontail rabbit. Livestock can also beat down vegetation to create natural trails, making grasslands more accessible for hunting and walking in. Prescribed grazing is a cost-effective practice for property managers and benefits the livestock producers whose animals participate.

Visit a Fish & Wildlife Area

The Division of Fish & Wildlife manages public lands so Indiana's fish, wildlife, and habitats can thrive and benefit present and future generations of Hoosiers.

At a Fish & Wildlife Area you can:

- Hunt and trap
- Fish
- Enjoy shooting sports
- View wildlife and practice wildlife photography
- Walk in nature
- Enjoy scenic views

Camping is also available at Glendale, J.E. Roush Lake, and Willow Slough Fish & Wildlife Areas. To plan a visit and learn more about Fish & Wildlife Areas, go to on.IN.gov/dfwproperties



Indiana Private Lands Access Program

With nearly 96% of Indiana's land privately owned, public hunting access is limited. Habitat on private land is also critical to wildlife.

The Indiana Private Lands Access program aims to increase habitat for wildlife and provide hunting access on private land. Acreage enrolled in the Indiana Private Lands Access program has more than doubled each year since the program began in 2017, with a total of 2,358 acres enrolled in the program as of 2019.

Landowners enrolled in the Indiana Private Lands Access program receive financial incentives to establish and improve habitat and allow hunting on their properties. Technical assistance and financial incentives for enrolled properties are provided by Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife's private lands habitat team. Hunting opportunities from the Indiana Private Lands Access program include wild pheasant, Northern bobwhite, American woodcock, and spring wild turkey. Hunts are limited and are allocated through Division Fish & Wildlife's online reserved draw system.

The Division of Fish & Wildlife is working to continue to grow the Indiana Private Lands Access program in 2020. Learn more at wildlife.IN.gov

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Thank you to our partners:

Lifetime License Holders, The Nature Conservancy, Environmental License Plate Holders (BHCT), Bicentennial Nature Trust, Game Bird Habitat Stamp Holders, Pheasants Forever, Quail Forever, National Wild Turkey Federation, Hunters & Shooters (Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Fund), and the Conservation Fund

Stewardship Program

The stewardship program is relatively new in the Division of Fish & Wildlife. The program's goal is to provide opportunities for all Hoosiers to participate in the conservation of Indiana's fish, wildlife, and their habitats. Participating in meaningful conservation can look different to different people.

- **Conservation of Indiana's fish, wildlife, and their habitats is a big task.** There is room for every person to make a difference. We know that hunters and trappers value Indiana's natural resources. Even small acts of conservation such as leaving no trace while hunting or trapping or sharing observations of wildlife you make while in your tree stand can help the Division of Fish & Wildlife better conserve and manage Indiana's natural resources.
- **All Hoosiers should have an opportunity to express their passion for the outdoors by participating in conservation activities.** The stewardship program strives to provide opportunities at local Fish & Wildlife Areas (FWAs) as well as elsewhere across the state through partner activities. Having a variety of activities statewide ensures that any Hoosier can find ways to make a difference.
- **Participation in conservation can take many forms.** Hunters and trappers can take advantage of opportunities at their favorite FWA, including: assisting with habitat projects, cleaning up properties, or sharing knowledge and skills during one of our many Learn to Hunt, Trap, & Shoot programs. Hunters and trappers can also share their valuable wildlife observations in several ways. Archery hunters can participate in the fall Archer's Index, anyone can share observations of turkey broods in the summer, and those with access to private land can participate in Snapshot Indiana.

Welcome to your stewardship program. We are here to provide opportunities that connect you to the places and activities you love. Visit [on.IN.gov/dfwvolunteer](https://on.in.gov/dfwvolunteer) for more information.

CWD Can Be Controlled, With Hunters' Help

Deer are Indiana's largest game animal by almost any measure – literal physical size is just the most obvious.

Figuratively, deer are also Indiana's biggest game species in terms of importance to the state. Deer are important to all hunters, even those who choose not to hunt deer, because of the direct and indirect funding the sport provides.

A total of 155,972 deer hunting licenses (excluding youth) were sold last season. As usual, that was the most licenses sold in Indiana to hunt any animal. Revenue from those sales helps pay for much of the conservation work that the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) does. These programs include research projects, education and outreach, and disease monitoring.

In terms of disease monitoring, chronic wasting disease (CWD) is top of mind for many with an interest in wildlife these days. CWD is a serious brain and spinal cord disease caused by a prion, which is a misfolded protein. CWD spreads directly among deer through bodily secretions and indirectly from contaminated soil and water that have been in contact with those secretions.

Although other deer diseases do and have already affected some deer in Indiana for years, as detailed in this guidebook's Deer Disease section, CWD poses the largest single threat. That's because always-fatal CWD, although not yet detected in Indiana at this writing, threatens nearly everything deer and deer related.

But there is hope of controlling CWD's impact with the cooperation and support of a

lot of people, especially deer hunters.

Understanding and effectively dealing with CWD requires realizing how close to Hoosier borders CWD's been detected, what it is, and what it does to deer—which, it should be noted, show no physical signs of sickness in the disease's early stages.

Michigan and Illinois have detected CWD in wild deer within 25 to 35 miles of Indiana's border. Deer, of course, don't recognize state lines. That means CWD could already be here, undetected.

Although the situation seems dire, Joe Caudell, DFW Assistant Director of Science and Research says that early management is vital in minimizing CWD's impact, and getting help from hunters is key.

"Hunters and other folks hear that CWD is a serious disease, and there is not much anyone can do about it," Caudell said. "But they also need to hear that early detection and management can be effective, and that DNR needs their help."

"The first step is to do what we can to keep it from coming to Indiana. We are never going to get rid of CWD, but we can reduce its impact."

As Mitch Marcus, DFW Fish & Wildlife Health Supervisor says, "We want to detect it early and slow its spread." Studies show CWD prions, once present, stay present, and remain contagious to deer for years and possibly decades.

Indiana's experts continue to work with peers in CWD-positive states to determine what's most effective in battling this deer disease.

This season, the primary geographical focus of Indiana's CWD surveillance will be on seven counties in the northwest and four counties in the northeast closest to where CWD has been detected in border states. That is where most of the DNR's monitoring efforts will be targeted, but hunters all over the state can and should participate in monitoring.

More formal surveillance that involved person-to-person information gathering was planned, but was put on indefinite hold because of the effects of COVID-19.

Instead, locations at which hunters can drop off their harvest's head for testing will be available statewide for hunters who want their deer tested. Head-drop sites will be strategically located at Fish & Wildlife Areas (FWAs) and State Fish Hatcheries. Participating hunters will receive a commemorative metal band similar to those used to tag deer in past years.

To participate, a hunter will cut off the deer's head, complete a data sheet, attach the

data sheet to the deer head with a zip tie run through the deer's ear or tongue or around an antler, put the head with the attached data sheet in a provided bag, and deposit it in a well-marked cooler at a respective DNR site.

DNR will send the sample to a lab and await results. Testing time varies and is done at no charge to the hunter.

"We typically get results back in two to 10 weeks," Marcus said.

Results will be posted at on.IN.gov/sick-wildlife, and the hunter can look them up on their own, using their confirmation number.

Complete instructions, including a listing of head-drop locations and an interactive map, will be posted at on.IN.gov/cwd.

"If we get a positive, we would contact that hunter individually," Marcus said.

What to do with the meat while waiting for results is up to the hunter. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has never found CWD transmitted to a person, but still recommends not eating CWD-positive meat.

It's important that hunters remember that the testing the DNR is doing is for surveillance only. It's not a food safety test.

On a broader scale, a positive result would launch an ever-evolving plan DNR has been working on for years. The response will be informed by the success of other CWD-positive states' approach and an Indiana case's particular situation.

Caudell says that there is a misperception that CWD is managed by trying to eradicate deer from a CWD-positive area.

"That is not the goal of Indiana DNR for CWD management, and in fact, eradicating the deer population has never been the goal of any other state," he said. "The quicker we can detect CWD, the more likely it becomes that we can lessen its impact."

As a hunter, the most effective ways you can help protect the health of Indiana deer are to do a few simple things:

- Get your harvested deer tested.
- Properly dispose of the deer's remains.
- Follow rules for moving carcasses between states.
- Report sick deer at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife
- Encourage other hunters to do all of the above.

Lessening the impact of CWD is in the best interest of deer and all who care about deer. To control CWD, the DNR needs your help.



Stay Connected

Sometime this hunting season, a hunter will fall out of a tree stand. Perhaps that hunter will survive, perhaps not. Most assuredly, he or she will suffer injuries. These accidents are avoidable with the proper safety precautions.

“When you leave the ground you need to be wearing a full body harness which is connected to a tree belt or tree stand safety line,” said Lt. Andy Hagerty of the DNR Division of Law Enforcement. “It is important to stay connected from the time you leave the ground until you return to the ground.”

Of the 159 hunting accident reports filed by the DNR Law Enforcement over the past five years, 96 involved falls from tree stands. Over 70% of the victims were not wearing any form of fall arrest device or full-body harness, which could have prevented serious injuries.

In 2019, there were 11 reported tree stand related incidents. While 11 may seem like a



small number, this is still 11 too many. Over 25% of the 11 incidents involved a hunter wearing a safety harness; however, they failed to properly connect to a tree belt or tree stand safety line. It is recommended to only use tree stands that meet or exceed industry standards recognized by the Treestand Manufacturer’s Association (TMA).

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service offers the following tree stand safety tips to hunters:

Before the hunt

- Know your equipment.
 - Read and understand manufacturer’s instructions and warnings before using your tree stand and full-body harness (FBH).
 - Check stands and climbing aids (including straps and chains) every season and before each use for signs of wear, fatigue, cracks, and loose or missing nuts and bolts. Replace as necessary. It is recommended to remove stands after the season ends. (See page 21 for laws for tree stands on public lands.)
 - Practice at ground level with your tree stand and FBH with another person present.
 - Learn how to properly use your FBH with a suspension release device.
- Select the right tree for your stand.
 - Find a healthy, straight tree that is the right size for your tree stand.
 - Check the tree for insect nests and animal dens.
 - Avoid using climbing stands on smooth barked trees, especially during icy or wet conditions.
 - Clear debris from the base of the tree to minimize injury from a fall and to ensure a safe base if using a ladder stand.

During the hunt

- Wear a FBH. Simply owning a FBH does not make you safe. You must wear it.
- Make sure your FBH is attached to the tree as soon as you begin to climb.
- For an additional level of safety, use a tree stand safety rope.
- In the case of ladder stands, attach the FBH before securing the platform to the tree or stepping onto it.



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- When climbing a ladder, keep three points of contact with the ladder at all times. Both hands and a foot or both of your feet and one hand should be used to support your body weight when using a ladder.
- Always be sure to use a supplied tether between the base and seat portion of the stand to connect the two sections.
- When using a platform stand, climb higher than the stand and then step down onto the platform. Slowly put your weight onto your stand to be sure of your balance.
- Use boots with non-slip soles to avoid slipping, especially in wet weather.

In the stand

- Properly adjust your FBH. Whether standing or sitting, keep the tether-line distance between you and the tree as short as possible with no slack in the tether while in a seated position. This will minimize the distance in the case of a fall.
- Use a haul line. Always raise and lower your firearm, bow, or other equipment with a haul line.
- Make sure firearms have the muzzle pointed down, are unloaded, with the action open, and with the safety on, before attaching haul line near trigger or trigger guard.

- Make sure broadheads are covered before raising or lowering a bow with a haul line.
- If you fall, stay calm. By planning ahead, you can avoid additional problems.
- Have emergency equipment, such as a knife, cell phone, flashlight, and/or whistle on your person.
- Practice the three Rs: recover, relief, and rescue. Attempt to recover and return to your stand. If this is not possible, exercise your legs by pushing against the tree, using another form of motion or your suspension relief device until help arrives.
- Use a hunt plan. Let someone know where you are hunting and when you will return.

The best tip of all?

Don't take chances and stay connected!

TREE STAND ACCIDENTS IN INDIANA 2015-2019			
Year	Total Hunting Incidents	Tree Stand Falls	% of Total Due to Falls
2019	19	11	57.9
2018	19	12	63.2
2017	37	28	76.0
2016	47	25	53.2
2015	37	20	54.1
Total	159	96	60.4

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Deer Regulations

License Requirements

Unless exempt (see pages 8-9), an individual must have a signed or digital deer hunting, resident youth hunt/trap, lifetime comprehensive hunting, or lifetime comprehensive hunting/fishing license when hunting deer on public or private land. Except with the deer license bundle, comprehensive lifetime hunting license, and resident youth hunt/trap license, only one deer can be taken per deer hunting license. See the table on page 24 for a summary of deer seasons, licenses, bag limits, and equipment requirements.

- **Archery Season:** An archery, deer license bundle, bonus antlerless, resident youth hunt/trap, lifetime comprehensive hunting, or lifetime comprehensive hunting/fishing license is required. To use a crossbow during the archery season, an individual must have a crossbow license, deer license bundle, bonus antlerless, resident youth hunt/trap, lifetime comprehensive hunting, or lifetime comprehensive hunting/fishing license.
- **Firearms Season:** A deer firearms, deer license bundle, bonus antlerless, resident youth hunt/trap, lifetime comprehensive hunting, or lifetime comprehensive hunting/fishing license is required. (Note: a muzzleloader license is not valid during the deer firearms season). A deer firearms

license is only valid for the harvest of one antlered deer during the firearms season.

- **Muzzleloader Season:** A muzzleloader, deer license bundle, bonus antlerless, resident youth hunt/trap, lifetime comprehensive hunting, or lifetime comprehensive hunting/fishing license is required. (Note: a firearms license is not valid during the deer muzzleloader season).

Deer License Bundle

The deer license bundle is valid for all deer seasons except for the Reduction Zone Season.

The deer license bundle allows an individual to harvest up to three deer (two antlerless and one of either sex) with only one license.

An antlered deer harvested with the deer license bundle counts toward an individual's one antlered deer limit for statewide seasons.

The bundle can be used to take a deer with equipment legal during the archery (this includes crossbows), firearm, and muzzleloader seasons, and in counties open to the special antlerless only season.

Antlerless deer harvested with the deer license bundle must be used toward the bag limit for bonus antlerless deer, archery, muzzleloader, and special antlerless firearms bag limits. When used toward the bonus antlerless deer county quota, the county quota applies. See page 25 for bonus county quotas.

The bundle may not be used toward the bag limit for bonus antlerless deer on DNR

properties where the bonus antlerless license cannot be used. Contact the property (page 42) or go to hunting.IN.gov for details.

Legal Hunting Hours

Legal hunting hours for all deer seasons are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Hunter Orange Requirements

Hunters, including those using archery equipment, must meet hunter orange requirements while hunting for deer during the following seasons: firearms (Nov. 14-Nov. 29, 2020), muzzleloader (Dec. 5-20, 2020), deer reduction (Nov. 14, 2020-Jan. 31, 2021 in deer reduction zones), and special antlerless firearms (Dec. 26, 2020-Jan. 3, 2021 in open counties).

Hunter orange must be worn during the special youth deer season (Sept. 26-27, 2020). See page 13 for more information.

An occupied ground blind must have at least 144 square inches of hunter orange that is visible on each side of the blind while deer hunting during any deer season in which a hunter is already required to wear hunter orange. Hunter orange is required on ground blinds constructed of man-made or synthetic materials and placed on or within four feet of the ground. The hunter orange is required on public and private land. A flag placed on top of a blind does not satisfy this hunter orange requirement.

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Infrared Sensors/Electronic Calls

The use of infrared sensors or electronic deer calls to locate or take deer is illegal. It is also illegal to hunt or to retrieve deer with the aid of an infrared sensor or to hunt deer while possessing an electronic deer call.

Antlered Deer

An antlered deer must have at least one antler that is at least three inches long.

Tree Stands

Tree stands may be used for hunting deer during all deer hunting seasons. It is illegal to erect or hunt from a permanent tree blind on state-owned or state-leased lands. Portable tree stands may be used on state-owned or state-leased lands, U.S. Forest Service lands, and lands of Muscatatuck, Patoka River, and Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuges. Tree stands may be left overnight only from noon Sept. 15 through Jan. 10.

Fasteners that penetrate a tree more than 1/2 inch are prohibited on these lands.

A tree stand placed on public land must be legibly marked in English with the owner's name, address, and telephone number, or DNR Customer Identification Number.

Fair Chase

It is illegal to use bait, salt, snares, dogs, or other domesticated animals to take deer. Bait is considered any product that is transported into a hunting area and placed there for animal consumption. Baits can be in the form of

salt, mineral blocks, prepared solid or liquid, or piles of apples or other food that is intended for the animal to eat. An area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait and any affected soil.

Dogs may be used while on a leash only to track or trail wounded deer.

Artificial deer decoys are legal for deer hunting.

Deer Reduction Zones

In addition to statewide bag limits, deer reduction zones, previously called urban deer zones, give hunters opportunities to harvest deer in defined urban areas with high deer densities.

The Deer Reduction Zone season is Sept. 15, 2020 through Jan. 31, 2021. The bag limit for the reduction zones is 10 deer, of which only one can be antlered. Individuals hunting in a designated reduction zone who are attempting to satisfy the reduction zone bag limit must harvest an antlerless deer before harvesting an antlered deer (aka earn-a-buck). The earn-a-buck requirement only applies to the reduction zone bag limit. The reduction zone bag limit is in addition to all other bag limits (page 24).

A Deer Reduction Zone license has been established to replace previous requirements to possess a regular archery, extra archery, or bonus antlerless license. The Deer Reduction Zone license allows an individual to harvest one deer per license in a defined reduction zone.

Hunters attempting to satisfy the reduction zone bag limits must have a Deer Reduction Zone, resident youth hunt/trap, lifetime comprehensive hunting, or lifetime comprehensive hunting/fishing license, or meet a license exemption. The bundle license is not valid when working toward the reduction zone bag limit. A valid license is required for each deer taken.

The season does not override any local ordinances restricting shooting of firearms and bows.

Where allowed by local ordinances, firearms legal for deer hunting can be used in reduction zones from Nov. 14, 2020 to Jan. 31, 2021.

Hunters must follow hunter orange clothing requirements to hunt deer with a firearm in a reduction zone. Hunters must obtain permission from landowners to hunt on private property.

Certain restrictions apply regarding Deer Reduction Zone licenses on DNR-managed properties. Please contact the property you plan to hunt for more information.

Deer Reduction Zones may be altered annually at the DNR director's discretion based on deer population management needs. Please visit deer.dnr.IN.gov to see a current map and zone descriptions.

Deer Reduction Zone CheckIN

Hunters should ensure deer harvested within a Deer Reduction Zone are checked in correctly. DNR uses these responses and corresponding harvest numbers to determine the effectiveness

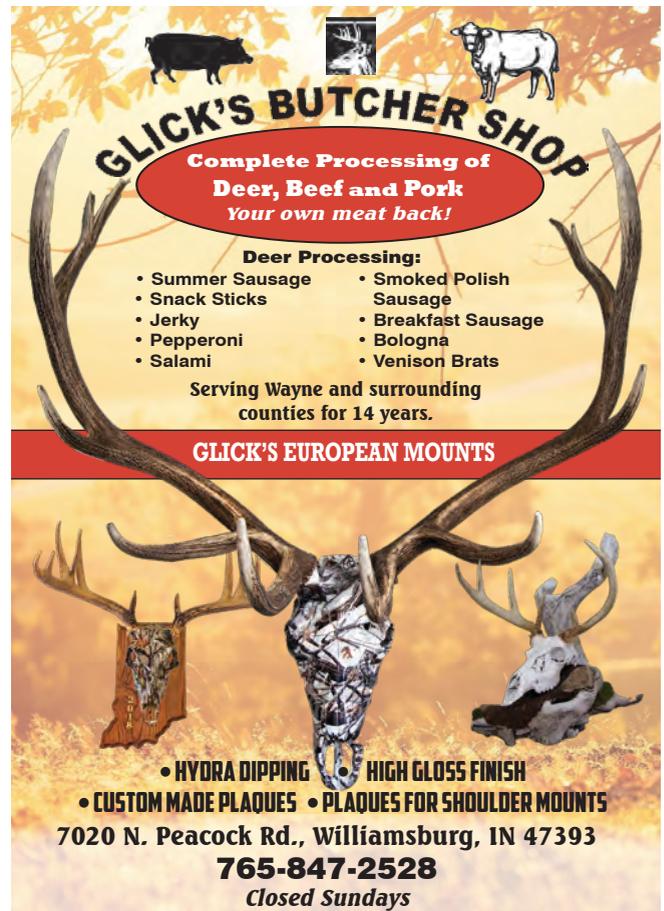


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DEER INFORMATION

of these zones. In counties with a Deer Reduction Zone, hunters are required to report in CheckIN Game whether the deer was harvested in a Deer Reduction Zone. If so, hunters are then required to report whether they want that deer to count toward the Deer Reduction Zone bag limit. Hunters using reduction zones to harvest a second buck or to fulfill the Deer Reduction Zone antlerless bag limit should ensure that their deer are counted toward the zone bag limit. Hunters who hunt in an area inside the Deer Reduction Zone but are not interested in counting deer toward the zone bag limit or who are not using a license valid in a Deer Reduction Zone should select that the deer will not count toward the reduction zone bag limit.

Tagging Requirements

Immediately upon killing a deer, the hunter must complete a temporary tag on paper that states the hunter's name, address, sex of the deer, license number (if applicable) of the individual who took the deer, and the day and month of the kill. A hunter is not required to place the tag on the deer while dragging it out of the field as long as the hunter has filled out and is carrying the required information. A hunter must maintain immediate custody of and visual contact with the deer carcass unless the completed temporary transportation tag is attached. The tag must be attached to the deer before the hunter leaves the deer.

Reporting Requirements

Hunters are required to register their harvested deer within 48 hours of the kill. This can be done one of three ways:

- Online through the DNR's CheckIN Game system (CheckINGame.dnr.IN.gov)
- Calling 800-419-1326 (a \$3 fee applies)
- Find a check station or license retailer who will enter the information for you through CheckIN Game

Once the deer is registered with the CheckIN Game system, a confirmation number will be generated. The number must be recorded on a temporary transportation tag and kept with the deer until processing begins.

The deer head must remain attached to the carcass until the deer is registered with CheckIN Game and a confirmation number is issued.

Hunting Equipment

Legal Firearms

Shotguns, handguns, rifles with legal cartridges, muzzleloading long guns, and muzzleloading handguns are legal during the firearms and special antlerless seasons. Only muzzleloading firearms are legal during the muzzleloader season.

Hunters may carry more than one type of legal firearm when hunting during the firearms, youth, reduction zone (in zones where local ordinances allow the use of a firearm), and special antlerless seasons only.

Shotguns

Shotguns must be 10-, 12-, 16-, 20- or 28-gauge or .410 bore loaded with slugs or sabot bullets. Rifled slug barrels are permitted. Combination rifle-shotguns are allowed.

Rifles

Rifles chambered for cartridges that fire a bullet of .357-inch diameter or larger, have a minimum case length of 1.16 inches, and have a maximum case length of 1.8 inches are legal to use only during the deer firearms, youth, reduction zones from Nov. 14-Jan. 31 (in zones where local ordinances allow the use of a firearm), and special antlerless seasons. These rifle cartridges can be used on public and private land.

Some cartridges legal for deer hunting include the .357 Magnum, .350 Legend, .358 Hoosier, .38-.40 Winchester, .41 Magnum, .41 Special, .44 Magnum, .44 Special, .44-.40 Winchester, .45 Colt, .454 Casull, .458 SOCOM, .475 Linebaugh, .480 Ruger, .50 Action Express, .500 S&W, .460 Smith & Wesson, .450 Bushmaster, and .50 Beowulf. Full metal jacketed bullets are illegal.

Additional rifles can be used for deer hunting on private land only. During the



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firearms, reduction zone from Nov. 14, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021 (in zones where local ordinances allow the use of firearms), youth season, and special antlerless season (where open), rifles that fire cartridges meeting the following requirements may be used to hunt deer on private land only.

The cartridge must have a minimum case length of 1.16 inches and a maximum case length of 3 inches.

The cartridge must fire a bullet with a minimum diameter of .243 inches (same as 6 mm).

A hunter must not possess more than 10 of these cartridges while hunting deer.

Full metal jacketed bullets are illegal.

Handguns

During the following seasons, legal handguns can be used to hunt deer: firearms, reduction zone from Nov. 14, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021 (in zones where local ordinances allow the use of a firearm), and special antlerless.

Handguns, other than muzzleloading handguns, must have a barrel at least 4 inches long and must fire a bullet of .243-inch diameter or larger. The handgun cartridge case, without the bullet, must be at least 1.16 inches long. There is no maximum cartridge length for those used in handguns. Full metal-jacketed bullets are not permitted. The handgun must not be a rifle that has a barrel less than 18 inches. A rifle with a barrel less than 18 inches is not considered a handgun.

Handguns are not permitted for hunting on any military areas.

Some handgun cartridges that are legal for deer hunting include .357 Magnum, .41 Magnum, .44 Magnum, .44 Special, .45 Colt, .45 Long Colt, .45 Winchester Magnum, .35 Remington, and .357 Herrett.

State law also legalizes a handgun that fires the 10mm Auto and .40 Smith & Wesson cartridge.

Some handgun cartridges that are illegal for deer hunting are .38 Special, .38 Smith and Wesson, .38 Colt New Police, .38/200, .38 Long Colt, .38 Super, .38 ACP, .38 Colt Auto, .45 ACP, .45 Automatic, and .45 Auto Rim. All .25/.20, .32/.20, and .30 carbine ammunition is prohibited.

Muzzleloaders

Legal muzzleloaders can be used to hunt deer during the firearms, youth, reduction zone (in zones where local ordinances allow the use of a firearm), muzzleloader, and special antlerless seasons. Only muzzleloading firearms (including muzzleloading handguns) are legal during the muzzleloader season.

Muzzleloading firearms must be .44 caliber or larger, loaded with a single bullet of at least .357 caliber. Saboted bullets are allowed, provided the bullet is .357 caliber or larger. A muzzleloading firearm must be capable of being loaded from only the muzzle. Multiple-barrel muzzleloading long guns are allowed.

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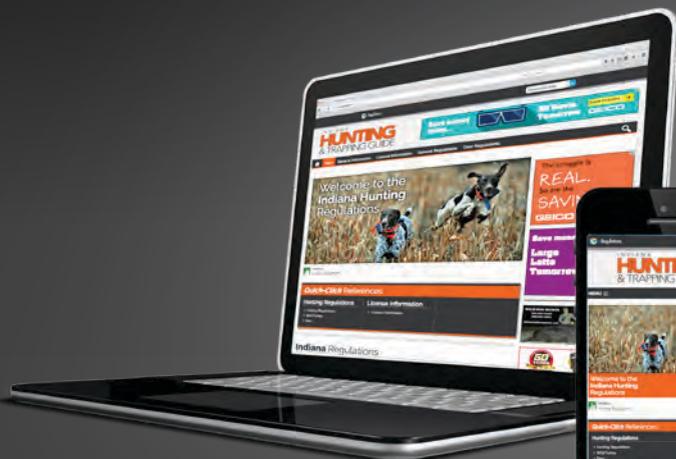
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Muzzleloading handguns are allowed. The muzzleloading handgun must be single shot, .50 caliber or larger, loaded with bullets at least .44 caliber, and have a barrel at least 12 inches long, measured from the base of the breech plug (excluding tangs and other projections to the end of the barrel, including the muzzle crown).

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Carrying Handguns

While hunting, an individual may carry a handgun without a handgun license in accordance with Indiana Code 35-47-2-1 found at iga.IN.gov

Deer can be taken with a handgun only when in compliance with DNR regulations and only during the firearms and special antlerless seasons, with muzzleloading handguns only in the muzzleloader seasons, and in deer reduction zones when and where local ordinances allow.

Legal Archery Equipment

Legal equipment includes long bows, compound bows, or recurve bows and arrows. Airbows do not meet the definition of legal archery equipment.

The bow must have a pull of at least 35 pounds.

Arrows must be tipped with broadheads that are metal, metal-edged, or napped flint, chert, or obsidian. Poisoned or exploding arrows are illegal.

Bows drawn, held, or released by means other than by hand or hand-held releases may be used.

Crossbows are legal hunting equipment during the archery deer season and in Deer Reduction Zones.

A crossbow is defined as a device for propelling an arrow by means of limbs mounted on a stock and a string, and having a working safety that may be drawn or held, and a pull of at least 125 pounds.

Disposing of Carcasses

Carcasses of deer and other wild animals that are lawfully taken cannot be dumped in streams or other bodies of water. Rotting carcasses in a waterway can affect water quality downstream. Dumping dead deer and other wild animals in a waterway is considered littering and is a criminal offense punishable by a fine.

Carcasses should not be burned, as the act can cause air pollution. Carcasses cannot be left in the open for scavengers or people to see without permission from the landowner. Do not dump carcasses on public land. We recommend all discarded carcasses and unwanted animal parts be bagged and sent to a landfill.

Deer Hotline

If you have questions about deer hunting regulations, email INDeerHotline@dnr.IN.gov or call 812-334-3795, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday. This is not a toll-free call. Visit hunting.IN.gov for Deer Hunting FAQs.

DEER SEASONS, LICENSES, & EQUIPMENT		Bag Limit	Archery	Crossbow	Handgun	Muzzleloading Handgun	Muzzleloading Long Gun	Shotgun	Rifle
A separate deer license is required prior to taking each deer (exceptions: deer license bundle, youth hunt/trap, lifetime license, landowner exemption)									
* Youth Season – Sept. 26-27, 2020		1 antlered deer AND the number of bonus antlerless deer per county quota (page 25)							
Resident Youth Hunt/Trap License			•	•			•	•	•
Nonresident Youth Deer License (incl. Deer License Bundle)			•	•			•	•	•
Reduction Zone Season – Sept. 15, 2020- Jan. 31, 2021		1 antlered deer (see “earn-a-buck” page 21) AND 9 antlerless deer OR 10 antlerless deer							
Reduction Deer Zone License			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting License			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting/Fishing License			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Youth License			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
* Archery Season – Oct. 1, 2020- Jan. 3, 2021		2 antlerless deer OR 1 antlered and 1 antlerless deer (AND bonus antlerless county quota)							
Archery License			•						
Crossbow License				•					
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting License			•	•					
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting/Fishing License			•	•					
Deer License Bundle			•	•					
Bonus Antlerless License			•	•					
Youth License			•	•					
* Firearms Season – Nov. 14, 2020 - Nov. 29, 2020		1 antlered deer (AND bonus antlerless county quota)							
Firearms License (antlered deer only)					•	•	•	•	•
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting License					•	•	•	•	•
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting/Fishing License					•	•	•	•	•
Deer License Bundle					•	•	•	•	•
Bonus Antlerless License					•	•	•	•	•
Youth License					•	•	•	•	•
* Muzzleloader Season – Dec. 5-20, 2020		1 antlered deer OR 1 antlerless deer (AND bonus antlerless county quota)							
Muzzleloader License						•	•		
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting License						•	•		
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting/Fishing License						•	•		
Deer License Bundle						•	•		
Bonus Antlerless License						•	•		
Youth License						•	•		
Special Antlerless Firearms Season – Dec. 26, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021		The Special Antlerless Firearms Season is in all counties except those with a County Bonus Antlerless Quota of “A” (page 25)							
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting License					•	•	•	•	•
Lifetime Comprehensive Hunting/Fishing License					•	•	•	•	•
Deer License Bundle					•	•	•	•	•
Bonus Antlerless Deer License					•	•	•	•	•
Youth License					•	•	•	•	•

Orange Text — Hunter Orange clothing is required for the entire season (page 13).

*** Statewide Season** — Only one antlered deer per hunter may be taken during the special youth, archery, firearms, and muzzleloader seasons combined.

- An antlered deer must have at least one antler that is at least 3 inches long.
- If allowed by local ordinances, firearms may be used to hunt deer in designated Reduction Zones from Nov. 14, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021.

Additional opportunities:

Bonus Antlerless Deer — 1 antlerless deer per license not to exceed the bonus antlerless county quota (page 25)

Military/Refuge Properties (by reserved hunt drawing or invitation only) — 1 deer of either sex per Mil/Ref Deer License

State Park (must be drawn in online reserved hunts at hunting.IN.gov) — 3 antlerless deer or 2 antlerless deer and 1 antlered deer

NOTE: The Bonus Antlerless License (and bonus county deer under the Deer License Bundle) may not be used on all DNR properties. Contact the property for details.

Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a disease that affects the nervous system of deer, elk, reindeer, and moose. It causes brain lesions and is fatal in these species. There is no vaccine or treatment and no chance for infected animals to recover. CWD has been confirmed in approximately half of the United States, as well as in Canada, Europe and Asia. It is spreading to new places, and high prevalence in some areas is slowing deer population growth. CWD has been detected in wild deer close to Indiana's borders—in Michigan and Illinois, and in captive deer in Ohio. CWD had not yet been confirmed in Indiana.

The disease is caused by a misfolded protein called a prion. Prions are shed from infected deer through their bodily secretions such as saliva, feces, and urine. CWD can be transmitted when healthy deer contact bodily secretions either directly from infected deer or carcasses, or indirectly from places where infected deer have shed prions into the environment. CWD prions are highly resistant to disinfectants, freezing, and heat. Cooking or burning will not inactivate them. Prions can remain in the environment for many years and continue to infect deer.

CWD-infected deer may appear normal and look healthy, but still may be capable of spreading the disease. About 18 to 24 months after they have been infected, deer will begin to show symptoms such as weight loss, drooping ears and head, tremors, staggering, excessive drooling, and changes in behavior such as confusion or loss of fear of humans.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there have been no reported cases of CWD infection in humans. However, in areas where CWD is known to be present, the CDC recommends that hunters strongly consider having deer and elk tested before eating the meat. The CDC also recommends not to consume meat from an animal that tests positive for CWD.

For more information about precautions you can take to decrease your risk of exposure to CWD, visit cdc.gov/prions/cwd

For questions related to human health, you may call the Indiana State Department of Health at 317-233-1325.

The Indiana Board of Animal Health (BOAH) strictly limits the movement of cervid carcasses and body parts into Indiana to the following:

- Commercially processed meat, which may contain bone
- Carcasses or parts of carcasses if no portion of the head, spinal cord, or small intestine is attached or otherwise included
- Carcasses or parts of carcasses that include the head, spinal cord, or small intestine, if they are delivered within 72 hours after entry to one of the following:
 - A meat processor inspected by BOAH for processing

- A commercial deer processor registered with the DNR for processing
- A taxidermist licensed by the DNR
- Antlers, including those attached to skull caps, if the skull cap is cleaned of all brain and muscle tissue
- Hides
- Upper canine teeth, also known as “buglers,” “whistlers,” or “ivories”
- Finished taxidermist mounts

Indiana DNR has conducted surveillance for CWD in wild deer across the state for more than 10 years without any detection of infection. The DNR has recently increased surveillance in northwest and northeast Indiana due to the detection of positive wild deer in Illinois and Michigan. DNR will continue its efforts to detect this disease in Indiana in the coming years, but needs your help and support.

If you would like to have your hunter-harvested deer tested for CWD, you can 1) submit your deer's head to a DNR sampling station located at a Fish & Wildlife Area or a State Fish Hatchery at no cost or 2) submit samples directly to Purdue's Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab (ADDL) for a fee. More information and sampling locations can be found online at on.IN.gov/cwd. Information and submission forms for submitting directly to ADDL are available on the ADDL website: purdue.edu/vet/addl/

To find out more information about CWD and obtain updated details on surveillance in Indiana, visit on.IN.gov/cwd

What can you do to help?

- Report sick deer at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife
- Dispose of carcass parts responsibly, using one of these options:
 - Double-bag for regular trash pick-up
 - Take directly to a municipal landfill
 - Bury at the kill site deep enough to prevent scavengers from digging it up
- Be aware of and comply with carcass transport restrictions, which may vary from state to state.
- Participate in sampling and surveillance efforts conducted by the DNR and encourage other hunters to do so.
- If you would like to test deer harvested outside of DNR surveillance sites, you can submit samples to Purdue's Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab (ADDL) for a fee. More information and submission forms are available on the ADDL website: purdue.edu/vet/addl/
- Keep hunting.

Bovine Tuberculosis

Indiana DNR and BOAH monitor Indiana's deer herd for bovine tuberculosis (bTB) due to the detection of the disease in southeast Indiana. Bovine tuberculosis was detected at a captive cervid facility in Franklin County (2009), cattle farms in Dearborn (2011) and Franklin (2008, 2009, 2016) counties, and in a wild white-tailed deer and several wild raccoons from infected cattle farms in Franklin County (2016-2019).

With support from hunters and landowners, more than 5,000 deer have been tested for bTB from within the surveillance zone since 2009. The disease was not detected in any of these samples, suggesting the prevalence of bovine TB in wild deer is very low, if present in wild deer at all. More information about Indiana's bTB testing in deer is available at deer.dnr.IN.gov

While you are field-dressing a deer, be aware of the presence of white or tan lesions on the internal organs or inner wall of the chest cavity. Lesions may be found on the lungs, inside the rib cage, on the liver, on lymph nodes, or occasionally other internal organs.

While field-dressing or handling any carcass or other raw meat, you should wear disposable gloves and always wash your hands with soap and water afterward. Wash and disinfect all tools used during processing.

To learn more about bTB, including where to have a carcass tested or how to report a possible case, visit deer.dnr.IN.gov

EHD

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) is caused by infection with viruses from the genus Orbivirus that are transmitted by biting midges. EHD is not transmissible to humans. Infected deer develop a fever and seek comfort in or around water and may be found dead around water. Other signs of EHD include a blue-tinged tongue, ulcers on the tongue, or an eroded dental pad. The onset of freezing temperatures often brings an end to outbreaks.

Not all deer that contract EHD die as a result. Although there is no treatment for EHD, many infected deer recover and develop immunity. While deer mortality due to EHD may be high in a small area, large-scale or long-term deer population decreases due to EHD have not been observed.

The variability of the disease is affected by many factors, including the number of insect vectors, virus serotype, previous host immunity and host genetics, and deer population density. Outbreaks tend to occur cyclically, approximately every 5 years, and in 2019 increased cases were detected causing mortality in deer in Indiana, primarily in the southern half of the state.

If you suspect EHD in deer, please submit a report online at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife

Wild Game Processing Tips



Few meals are more satisfying than those featuring game meat that you harvested and processed yourself. Taking proper care can ensure the highest quality meat possible.

Field dressing and cooling large game, such as deer, should be done quickly after harvest. If outside temperatures are warm, put bags of ice inside a field-dressed deer and cover with a tarp to extend processing time. If you plan to take your meat to a processor, deliver it immediately so the carcass can be chilled quickly.

Doing it yourself? Skinning and quartering the carcass and aging the meat in a refrigerator for several days can improve meat flavor and tenderness. If it's cold outside, you could have several hours to several days to chill and age a field-dressed deer. The carcass should remain consistently cool (32-40 degrees F) if aged outdoors in cold weather.

On cold days, small game and waterfowl can go without field dressing for quite some time. If you're hunting on a warm day, cool your harvest as quickly as possible by placing it in a cooler full of ice.

After skinning or plucking the harvest, thoroughly clean the meat. Generally, it's okay to wash the whole body of small game animals with water. Large game typically does not require water for washing. Trim off damaged or dirty pieces of meat before packing. Soaking small game and waterfowl meat in saltwater or buttermilk is a popular technique to draw out excess blood.

You can hang field-dressed game birds in your refrigerator before consuming or packing meat to age and tenderize it. The hanging period is typically 1-3 days.

Game meat can be frozen for later use. Shrink-wrapping meat is a popular method to freeze game. You can do it without shrink wrapping by tightly wrapping the meat in plastic wrap (without air pockets) then packing it in freezer paper. For small game, place the meat in a plastic freezer bag, cover with water to remove any air pockets, and then freeze the sealed bag. Label packages with the date of harvest.

Find more information about processing wild game at hunting.IN.gov

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Rabbit

Cottontail rabbit season is from Nov. 1 through Feb. 28.

Hunting hours for rabbits in February on FWAs and at Mississinewa, Patoka, and Salamonie lakes are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour before sunset.

There are no equipment or ammunition restrictions for rabbit hunting. A 12- or 20-gauge shotgun loaded with 6- to 7 1/2-size shot is recommended.

It is illegal to remove a rabbit from a hole, den, or tree hollow with the aid of a ferret or other small animal or other means. Hunter orange clothing requirements must be met while hunting rabbits (page 13).

It is illegal to hunt, take, or possess swamp rabbits, which are an endangered species in Indiana.

Rabbits can be chased with a dog year-round with a hunting license. Certain restrictions apply on DNR-managed properties.

Squirrel

Gray and fox squirrel season is from Aug. 15 through Jan. 31.

Hunter orange clothing requirements (page 13) must be met while hunting squirrels from Nov. 1 through Jan. 31.

There are no equipment or ammunition restrictions for squirrel hunting. A 20-gauge or smaller shotgun loaded with 6- to 7 1/2-size shot or a .22-caliber rimfire rifle is recommended.

RESIDENT HUNTING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL GAME, GAME BIRDS, MIGRATORY BIRDS

Animal	License Required
Small Game	
Rabbit, Squirrel*	Hunting
Frog, Turtle	Hunting or Fishing
Game Birds	
Pheasant, Quail	Hunting and Game Bird Habitat Stamp
Crow	Hunting
Wild Turkey**	Turkey and Game Bird Habitat Stamp
Migratory Birds	
Waterfowl (Duck and Goose)	Hunting, Indiana Waterfowl Stamp, HIP Validation Number, and, if you are 16 or older, a Federal Duck Stamp
Mourning Dove	Hunting, HIP Validation Number, and Game Bird Habitat Stamp
Woodcock	Hunting and HIP Validation Number

Orange Text – Hunter orange is required for the entire season (page 13).

* Hunter Orange is required from Nov. 1, 2020 through Jan. 31, 2021.

** Hunter Orange is required from Dec. 5-20, 2020, and from Dec. 26, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021.

Shooting into or disturbing leaf nests and squirrel dens is illegal at all times.

It is illegal to hunt flying squirrels, which are protected species in Indiana. They cannot be possessed without a special permit.

Gray and fox squirrels can be chased with dogs year-round with a hunting license. Certain restrictions apply on DNR-managed properties.



Attention small game hunters

In early 2020, an outbreak of rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus type 2 (RHDV-2) was identified in wild and domestic rabbits in the Southwestern United States. The recent outbreak is the first detection of this disease in wild rabbits in the U.S. RHDV-2 is highly contagious among rabbits and has the potential to spread rapidly. As of July 2020 (prior to the printing of this Guide), the virus had not been detected in Indiana's wild rabbit populations. RHDV-2 does not pose a threat to human health.

RHDV-2 can be transmitted among rabbits through direct contact, shared food resources, and excrement. Additionally, surfaces may become contaminated by contact with tissue, blood, meat, fur, or excrement from an infected animal.

As always, hunters should not harvest rabbits or any other game species that appear sick. Hunters should take extra precautions when field dressing rabbits to minimize the

potential for spread of disease. The following guidelines are also recommended at this time: use disposable or rubber gloves while handling game, disinfect tools and surfaces, and wash hands after cleaning game.

Remains should not be disposed of where rabbits or scavengers can access them. Instead, bag remains and dispose of them in the trash. Hunters are encouraged

to shower and change clothing as soon as possible after cleaning game and to bathe dogs that come into contact with rabbits.

If RHDV-2 spreads to Indiana, it may cause significant local rabbit die-offs. Please report any dead or sick wild rabbits to the DNR at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife



Reptile/Amphibian

All reptiles and amphibians native to Indiana are regulated species.

Species of frogs, lizards, salamanders, snakes, toads, or turtles on the state- or federal-endangered species list may not be taken at any time. Eastern box turtles also are protected and cannot be collected from the wild at any time.

The collection limit for native nongame amphibians and reptiles is two per day and four per year (from April 1 through March 31 of the following year) for any one species. The possession limit is four per species.

Eastern snapping, smooth softshell, and spiny softshell turtles can be taken only between July 1 and March 31 of the following year and must be at least 12 inches in carapace length.

Carapace length is the straight-line measure along the top surface of the shell from the central point of the front edge directly behind the turtle's neck to a central point on the back edge directly above the turtle's tail.

A license is required to take a reptile or amphibian from the wild (see Reptile/Amphibian Seasons & Limits table).

Indiana residents older than 17 must possess a valid hunting or fishing license while collecting species of reptiles and amphibians from the wild. All nonresident adults and nonresident youth must possess a nonresident annual hunting license while collecting reptiles and amphibians from the wild.

REPTILE/AMPHIBIAN SEASONS & LIMITS

	Species	Season	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Game Turtles	Eastern Snapping Turtle	July 1 to March 31	4*	8*
	Smooth Softshell Turtle			
	Spiny Softshell Turtle			
Restrictions	Turtle traps may be used, but may not have an opening below the water surface. 12-inch minimum carapace length.			
Game Frogs	Green Frog & Bullfrog	June 15 to April 30	25*	50*
Restrictions	Frogs may be taken with the following: a gig or spear with a head not more than 3 inches in width and a single row of tines; long bow and arrow; club; hands alone; hand line with not more than one hook or artificial lure attached; .22-caliber firearm loaded with bird shot only; or an air rifle that fires a lead pellet (.177 diameter minimum) at least 500 feet per second.			

* Singly or in aggregate, which means the catch limit includes any combination of the species.

License holders must obey season dates and bag limits, and use legal methods. An individual with a valid hunting or fishing license may take game frog and game turtle species from a DNR property where hunting or fishing is authorized. Air rifles and firearms cannot be used at state parks.

Other species of reptiles and amphibians may not be taken from any DNR property.

The daily bag limit is 25 for game frog species and four for game turtle species. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Reptiles and amphibians collected from the wild in Indiana may not be sold. Only legally collected amphibians or reptiles held for fewer than 30 days may be released at their original capture site if they have never been housed with another animal.

Have questions or want to know more?
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WATERFOWL SEASON DATES

Regular Seasons	2020-2021 Season Dates		Bag Limits	Poss. Limits
Mourning Doves				
Statewide	Sept. 1	Oct. 18	15 **	45 **
	Nov. 1	Nov. 15	15 **	45 **
	Dec. 12	Jan. 7, 2021	15 **	45 **
Sora				
Statewide	Sept. 1	Nov. 9	25	75
American Woodcock				
Statewide	Oct. 15	Nov. 28	3	9
Snipe				
Statewide	Sept. 1	Dec. 16	8	24
Special Teal				
Statewide *	Sept. 12	Sept. 27	6	18
Ducks, Coots, & Mergansers				
North Zone	Oct. 24	Dec. 13	***	***
	Dec. 26	Jan. 3, 2021	***	***
Central Zone	Oct. 31	Nov. 8	***	***
	Nov. 21	Jan. 10, 2021	***	***
South Zone	Nov. 7	Nov. 8	***	***
	Nov. 28	Jan. 24, 2021	***	***
Geese				
North Zone	Sept. 12	Sept. 20	****	****
	Oct. 24	Nov. 1	****	****
	Nov. 21	Feb. 14, 2021	****	****
Central Zone	Sept. 12	Sept. 20	****	****
	Oct. 31	Nov. 8	****	****
	Nov. 21	Feb. 14, 2021	****	****
South Zone	Sept. 12	Sept. 20	****	****
	Nov. 7	Nov. 22	****	****
	Nov. 28	Feb. 14, 2021	****	****

VETERAN & YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS (DUCKS, GEESE, MERGANSERS, & COOTS)

Zones	Dates	Bag Limits
North Zone	Oct. 17-18	Same as Regular Season *****
Central Zone	Oct. 24-25	Same as Regular Season *****
South Zone	Oct. 31 - Nov. 1	Same as Regular Season *****

* Shooting hours are from sunrise to sunset.

** The daily bag and possession limits are for mourning doves and white-winged doves in aggregate.

*** The daily bag limit for coots is 15. The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, which may include no more than 2 hooded mergansers. The daily bag limit for ducks is 6, which may include no more than 4 mallards (2 of which may be hens), 3 wood ducks, 2 canvasbacks, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, 2 black ducks, 1 mottled duck, and 1 or 2 scaup. The daily bag limit may include only 1 scaup before November 14 in the North Zone, November 28 in the Central Zone, and December 12 in the South Zone. The daily bag limit may include 2 scaup after those dates. The possession limit is 3 times the daily bag limit.

**** The daily bag limit for dark geese (Canada, white-front, brant) is 5 in the aggregate. During Sept., all 5 may be Canada geese; during the remainder of the season, no more than 3 may be Canada geese. The possession limit for dark geese is 3 times the daily bag limit. The daily bag limit for light geese (snow, blue, Ross) is 20. There is no possession limit for light geese.

***** For youth and veteran hunting dates, the daily bag for scaup is 1 per day.

State/Federal Regulation Reminders

- In order to hunt ducks and geese in Indiana, all individuals 16 years and older must have an Indiana hunting license, an Indiana Waterfowl Stamp, and a free Harvest Information Program (HIP) validation number, plus a federal duck stamp. Federal duck stamps are available at most post offices and at fws.gov/duckstamps. Indiana Waterfowl Stamps are available from hunting and fishing license vendors and online by going to on.IN.gov/INhuntfish
- Indiana enforces all federal migratory bird laws. Violating any provision of a state law regarding federally protected migratory birds is also a violation of federal law.
- Migratory game birds may be hunted from a motorboat provided it is beached, resting at anchor, tied to a stationary object, or without motion other than that imparted by wind, current acting upon the hull, or hand-operated oars or paddles.
- Hunters may retrieve dead or injured birds by hand or from a motorboat under power but may NOT shoot from a boat under power or in motion due to motor power.
- Migratory game birds in a hunter's possession must have one fully feathered wing or head attached to the carcass for identification when the hunter is in the field or traveling from the field to home.
- All migratory game birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field.
- No person shall give, put, or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:
 - The hunter's signature
 - The hunter's address
 - The total number of birds involved, by species
 - The dates such birds were killed
- No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.
- Shooting hours for geese and ducks (except for teal season) is one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Harvest Information Program (HIP)

HIP is a joint effort of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state wildlife agencies.

The program is designed to derive harvest estimates for migratory game birds nationwide. Once harvest information is gathered, the information is used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and states to

Zones

North: Segment of Indiana north of a line extending east from the Illinois border along State Road 18 to U.S. 31; north along U.S. 31 to U.S. 24; east along U.S. 24 to Huntington; southeast along U.S. 224; south along State Road 5; and east along State Road 124 to the Ohio border.

Central: Segment of Indiana south of the North Zone boundary and north of the South Zone boundary.

South: Segment of Indiana south of a line extending east from the Illinois border along I-70; east along National Ave.; east along U.S. 150; south along U.S. 41; east along State Road 58; south along State Road 37 to Bedford; and east along U.S. 50 to the Ohio border.



ensure decisions regarding migratory game bird hunting seasons are based on sound scientific evidence.

All hunters in Indiana, including those exempt from purchasing a license, must register with the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) before hunting coots, doves, ducks, mergansers, geese, snipe, sora, or woodcock.

Hunters must register at on.IN.gov/INhuntfish or by calling 866-671-4499 and providing the information requested. At the end of the registration, the hunter is given a validation number to record on his or her license. This number is valid from the date of registration through the close of the last current migratory bird hunting season.

Lifetime license holders and those exempt from Indiana license and stamp requirements must also register with HIP.

Hunters need to register for HIP only once each season, not each time they hunt; however, hunters must register in each state in which they hunt.

In addition to providing name and address, hunters are asked questions designed to identify which species they hunted last year and, in some cases, the number of birds they harvested.

Non-Toxic Shot

Hunters are required to use approved non-toxic shot while hunting all waterfowl. Hunters are also required to use non-toxic shot to hunt mourning doves on all DNR properties. Non-toxic shot currently approved for use by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are:

**bismuth-tin
copper-clad iron
corrosion-inhibited copper
iron (steel)
iron-tungsten
iron-tungsten-nickel
tungsten-bronze**

**tungsten-iron-copper-nickel
tungsten-iron-polymer
tungsten-matrix
tungsten-polymer
tungsten-tin-bismuth
tungsten-tin-iron
tungsten-tin-iron-nickel**

Coatings of copper, nickel, tin, zinc, zinc chloride, zinc chrome, and fluoropolymers on approved non-toxic shot types are allowed. Lead shot plated with copper, nickel, or other material does not qualify.

It is illegal to possess shells loaded with anything other than approved non-toxic shot while hunting ducks, geese, and coots anywhere in the state. It is illegal to possess lead shot while hunting mourning doves on any state-managed property.

The use of lead shot for hunting waterfowl was banned nationwide in 1991.

Waterfowl Hunting on State Properties

Hunters can apply for reserved waterfowl hunts by completing the reserved waterfowl hunt application online at hunting.IN.gov

For more information concerning waterfowl hunting on state-owned properties, contact the property (page 42).

Restrictions

No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler that is incapable of being removed without disassembling the gun.
- From a sink box (a low, floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From any aircraft or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land vehicle, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may hunt from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land vehicle.

- By the use or aid of live decoys. All tame or captive live ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting and confined within an enclosure that substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

- By driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized vehicle or any sailboat to put them in the range of the hunters.

- By baiting or by hunting on or over any baited area, if the person knows or reasonably should know that the area is baited. Baiting includes the placing of corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed to serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. It is a separate offense to place, or direct placement of bait, on or adjacent to an area for the purpose of causing or allowing hunters to take or attempt to take birds. A baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after complete removal of any bait. The maximum federal penalties for hunting over bait are \$15,000/6 months jail time and for placing bait are \$100,000/1 year jail time. For more information on baiting visit, wildlife.IN.gov

- By the use of recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds.



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- Use illegal and unsafe methods to take wildlife for their own selfish gain

Indiana Conservation Officers patrol every county, but they can't be everywhere. That's where you can help. If you witness poaching or know someone who is stealing Hoosiers' wildlife, call the Turn In a Poacher (TIP) hotline: 1-800-TIP-IDNR.

Since 1984, more than 12,250 Indiana sportsmen, sportswomen, and other concerned Hoosiers have called the TIP hotline. These calls have led to hundreds of arrests and the conservation of countless fish and wildlife resources.

To help you remember the hotline number while in the field and promote this program, consider buying a TIP cap at tip.wildindiana.com. All cap purchases go to the TIP program to help DNR Law Enforcement continue to catch the criminals they might otherwise not be aware of.

Do your part. Help us get poachers out of the field.

If you see something, say something. Call 1-800-TIP-IDNR (1-800-847-4367).

Reasons You Should Call TIP:

- You will be helping stop criminals from stealing Indiana's wildlife.
- You do not have to provide your name or contact information; you can remain anonymous.
- Rewards of \$500 are available if your information leads to the arrest of someone who has taken fish and/or wildlife illegally. TIP also provides rewards for pollution cases that lead to the death of fish or wildlife.
- TIP is monitored 24 hours a day—you may call any time.
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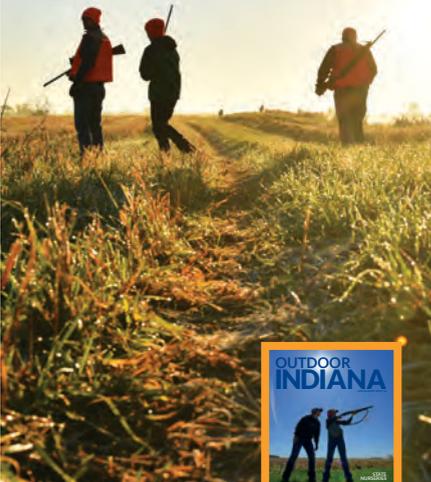


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Pheasant

Pheasant season is from Nov. 1 - Dec. 15. A valid hunting license and Indiana Game Bird Habitat Stamp are required to hunt pheasants. Hunter orange clothing requirements (page 13) must be met while hunting pheasants. The daily bag limit for pheasants is two male (cock) pheasants.

It is illegal to shoot female pheasants (hens), except during put-and-take hunts in designated areas. If you take a pheasant, you must leave the head and head plumage attached while you are transporting the bird. There are no equipment or ammunition restrictions for pheasant hunting. A 12- or 20-gauge shotgun loaded with 4- to 6-size shot is recommended. Non-toxic shot is required when hunting pheasant on some DNR properties. Call the property for additional information.

Put-and-Take

Pheasants are released for put-and-take hunting on Atterbury, Glendale, J. E. Roush Lake, Pigeon River, Tri-County, Willow Slough, and Winamac FWAs. There is a per-person fee to participate in put-and-take hunts. The bag limit for put-and-take pheasant hunting is two birds of either sex, except at Pigeon River, Willow Slough, and Winamac FWAs, where the limit is two roosters only. A hunter filling their limit in the put-and-take hunt may not take any more pheasants that day.

When applications are being accepted, hunters can reserve put-and-take pheasant hunts online at hunting.IN.gov. Hunts are no longer available first-come, first-served at the property.

Hunters can select the date, property, and area for their hunt.

Pheasant hunters in designated put-and-take areas are prohibited from harvesting game animals other than pheasants on days when pheasants are released and hunted. This restriction is only for pheasant hunters and only in their designated units.

Game Bird Areas

The Division of Fish & Wildlife conducts special reserved pheasant hunts on Game Bird Areas in northern Indiana (Benton, Jasper, Newton, Warren, and White counties). When the application period is open, hunters can apply at hunting.IN.gov

Indiana Private Lands Access

The Indiana Private Lands Access program provides hunting opportunities to hunters to hunt on privately owned land enrolled in the program. When the application period is open, hunters can apply online at hunting.IN.gov for a chance to participate.

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Quail

Quail hunting is divided into two zones — north and south. Interstate 74 is the dividing line.

The North Zone season is from Nov. 1 to Dec. 15, with a bag limit of 4 birds. The South Zone season is from Nov. 1 to Jan. 10, with a bag limit of 8 birds.

The daily bag limit at North Zone Fish & Wildlife Areas and at Mississinewa Lake and Salamonie Lake properties is 2 quail. The daily bag limit at South Zone Fish & Wildlife Areas and at Patoka Lake is 4 quail.

A valid hunting license and an Indiana Game Bird Habitat Stamp are required to hunt quail in Indiana. Hunter orange clothing requirements (page 13) must be met while hunting quail.

There are no equipment or ammunition restrictions for quail hunting. A 12- or 20-gauge shotgun loaded with 6- to 9-size shot is recommended.

Some DNR properties may have additional regulations for quail hunting. Check with the property for details (page 42).

Other Wild Birds

English sparrows, European starlings, monk parakeets, and feral pigeons (except homing pigeons) may be killed at any time.

Brown-headed cowbirds, common grackles, red-winged blackbirds, Brewer's blackbirds

and crows may be controlled without a permit when they are damaging trees or crops or creating a public health hazard in accordance with federal regulations. All other nongame species of birds not otherwise covered in this regulation are protected by state or federal law and may not be killed. These provisions do not override any local ordinances restricting the use of firearms and other equipment.

Crow

Crow hunting season is July 1 - Aug. 15, 2020 and Dec. 13, 2020 - March 1, 2021.

Crows may be taken outside of the hunting season only if they are damaging trees, crops, livestock or wildlife, or creating a public health hazard. There are no restrictions on use of calls or decoys, and crows may be taken with bow and arrow, crossbow, or firearm in accordance with local ordinances.

You are not required to have a state stamp, federal stamp, or HIP registration number.



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WILD TURKEY



License Requirements

To hunt wild turkey, a valid turkey hunting license and Game Bird Habitat Stamp are required.

Those who have a lifetime comprehensive hunting, lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing, or resident or nonresident youth hunt/trap license can hunt turkey and do not need to purchase the Game Bird Habitat Stamp because it is included with those license types.

A separate turkey hunting license is required when hunting during each turkey hunting season — one for the spring season and one for the fall season.

Game Bird Habitat Stamps are good for both spring and fall seasons in the same calendar year.

Regardless of whether or not you have harvested a turkey yourself, you can only assist another hunter by calling if you are licensed to turkey hunt.

Season and Bag Limits

Spring 2021 - The spring season is April 21 through May 9, 2021. The bag limit is one bearded or male turkey for the spring season. Spring turkey hunting is allowed statewide.

Fall 2020 - The bag and possession limit for the fall seasons is one bird of either sex, regardless of hunting equipment used or what portion of the season. Fall archery season is statewide. Fall firearms season has specific dates for specific counties (see below or map on page 37).

- Fall archery (including crossbows): Statewide from Oct. 1-Nov. 1, 2020 and Dec. 5, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021.
- Fall firearms: Oct. 21 - Nov. 1, 2020 in the following counties only:
 - Bartholomew, Brown, Clark, Clay, Crawford, Daviess, Dearborn, DeKalb, Dubois, Elkhart, Fayette, Floyd, Fountain, Franklin, Gibson, Greene, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Knox, Kosciusko, LaGrange, LaPorte, Lawrence, Marshall, Martin, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Ohio, Orange, Owen, Parke, Perry, Pike, Posey, Putnam, Ripley, Scott, Spencer, St. Joseph, Starke, Steuben, Sullivan, Switzerland, Union, Vanderburgh, Vermillion, Vigo, Warren, Warrick, Washington

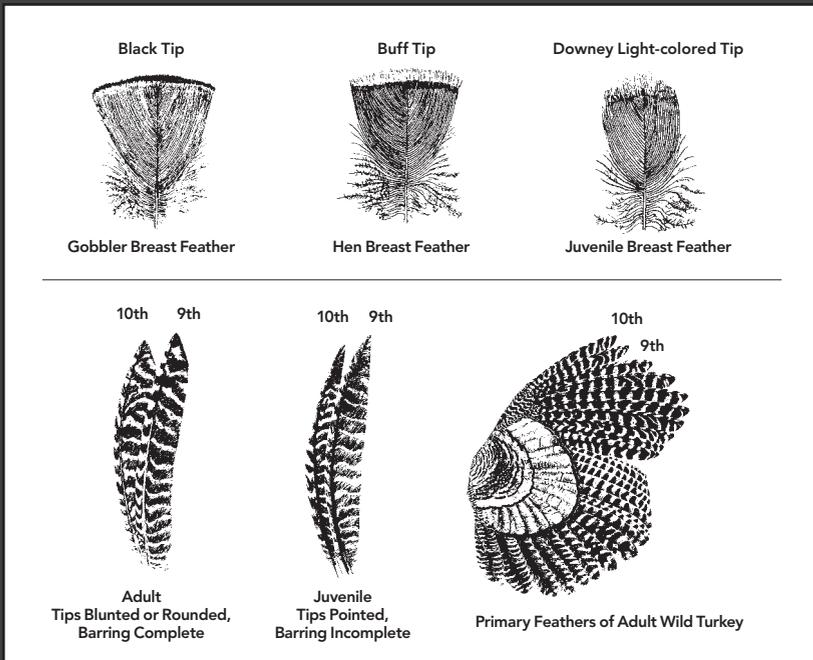
Fall Wild Turkey Sex and Age Determination

If no obvious leg spur:

- use breast feathers to determine sex and wing tips to determine age (amount of barring and shape of 9th and 10th primary tips)

If obvious leg spur, then bird is a male:

- adult male: 1/2 inch or longer
- juvenile male: less than 1/2 inch



Art by Dave Hamilton.
Used by permission of MO DOC

Reserved Hunts

Special reserved turkey hunts are scheduled at select DNR Fish & Wildlife Areas.

Special reserved turkey hunts also take place at Big Oaks and Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuges. Applications and drawings are managed through the DNR reserved hunt system. For details and to apply during open applications, go to hunting.IN.gov

Youth Season

Information about the youth season is on page 11.

Legal Equipment

Turkeys can be hunted only with:

- A 10-, 12-, 16-, 20-, or 28 gauge or .410 shotgun, loaded with pellets of size No. 4, 5, 6, 7 or 7½. Tungsten Super Shot #9 and 10 may also be used. Non-toxic shot is required while hunting turkey on some DNR properties. Call the property you are interested in hunting on for additional information.
- A muzzleloading shotgun not smaller than 20-gauge and not larger than 10-gauge, loaded with pellets of size No. 4, 5, 6, 7 or 7½. Combination loads using shot sizes other than these are illegal.
- Bow and arrow
- A crossbow

Hunting Hours

Wild turkeys may be hunted only from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. All DNR properties managed by the Division of Fish & Wildlife have spring season hunting hours one-half hour before sunrise until noon for properties on CT and until 1 p.m. for properties on ET. Mushroom hunters are required to stay out of the field until after this time.

Tagging Requirements

Immediately upon killing a turkey, the hunter must complete a temporary transportation tag on paper stating the hunter's full name, address, sex of the turkey, license number (if applicable), and the date the turkey was taken before transporting the turkey from the field.

Reporting Requirements

Hunters are required to register their harvested turkey within 48 hours of the kill. This can be done one of three ways:

- Self reporting online through the DNR's CheckIN Game system (CheckINGame.dnr.IN.gov)
- Calling 800-419-1326 (a \$3 fee applies)
- Finding a check station, license vendor, or retailer who will file the information for you through CheckIN Game

Once the turkey is registered with the CheckIN Game system, a confirmation number will be generated. The number must be recorded on a temporary transportation tag and kept with the turkey until processing begins.

For a printable version of a temporary transportation tag, visit hunting.IN.gov

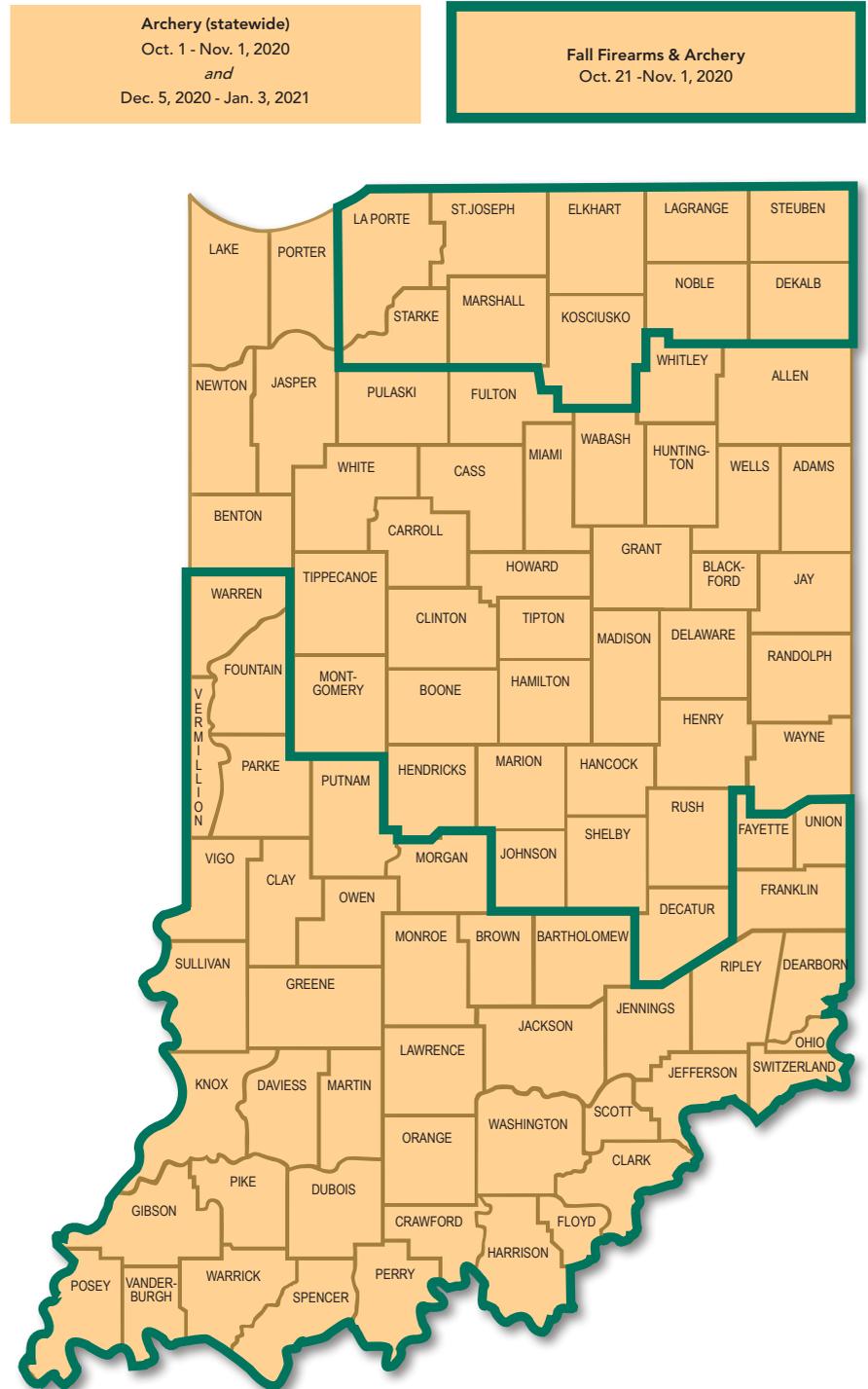
Hunter Orange

Turkey hunters must meet hunter orange requirements while hunting turkeys Dec. 5-20, 2020 and from Dec. 26, 2020 through Jan. 3, 2021 (in locations where the deer special antlerless season is open). See hunter orange requirements on page 13.

Fair Chase

While hunting wild turkey, it is illegal to use or possess a dog, another domesticated animal, a live decoy, a recorded call, an electronically powered or controlled decoy, or bait. An area is considered baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait and affected soil, but an area is not considered to be baited that is attractive to wild turkeys resulting from normal agricultural practices.

2020 Fall Turkey Hunting Firearms/Archery Seasons Map



FURBEARER HUNTING SEASONS

Furbearers	Hunting Seasons
Red & Gray Fox	Oct. 15, 2020 - Feb. 28, 2021
Coyote & Striped Skunk	Oct. 15, 2020 - March 15, 2021
Raccoon & Opossum	Nov. 8, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021
Dog Running (Raccoon & Opossum only)	Feb. 1, 2020 - Oct. 25, 2020
	Feb. 1, 2021 - Oct. 25, 2021

Furbearer Hunting

A valid hunting license is needed to hunt coyote, gray fox, opossum, raccoon, red fox, and striped skunk. See the chart above for season dates.

A continuously burning light that can be seen for at least 500 feet must be carried while pursuing furbearing animals between sunset and sunrise. It is illegal to:

- Remove wild animals from any cavity or den
- Disturb the den or nest of any animal by shooting, digging, cutting or chipping with the aid of smoke, fire, fumes, chemicals, ferret, or other small animal, or with any device introduced into the hole where the animal is sheltered
- Use or carry tree-climbing or cutting equipment for the purpose of dislodging an animal from a tree

Dog Running

The dog running season for raccoon and opossum extends from Feb. 1 through Oct. 25. A person needs a valid Indiana hunting license to chase wild animals with dogs. See license exemptions on pages 8-9. It is legal to hunt and chase foxes (Oct. 15 - Feb. 28), raccoons (Nov. 8 - Jan. 31), and coyotes (Oct. 15 - March 15) with dogs during the established hunting seasons. Youth who are younger than 13 years old, do not possess a bow, crossbow, or firearm, and are accompanied by a valid license holding individual who is at least 18 years of age are exempt from needing a hunting license while chasing a wild animal during the dog running season. Certain restrictions apply on DNR-managed properties. It is legal to chase foxes and coyotes with dogs year-round

with a hunting license and permission of the landowner.

Fox & Coyote Hunting

It is legal to hunt fox and coyote with the use of mouth or hand-operated calls, or with the use of recorded calls. Spotlights may be used to take fox and coyote. There are no restrictions on hunting hours or firearms for hunting fox and coyote. It is illegal to hunt fox or coyote from a roadway or with the use of any motor-driven conveyance.

Protected Species

Badgers and bobcats are protected species. It is illegal to take these furbearers in Indiana. If you accidentally trap a badger or bobcat, report the incident to an Indiana Conservation Officer (page 43). There is no penalty for reporting accidental captures. If the animal is dead, the carcass must be surrendered to an Indiana Conservation Officer. Information provided by hunters and trappers is an important means of determining the status and distribution of these species in Indiana.

For more on protected wildlife, call the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife, 317-232-4200, or go to wildlife.IN.gov

Wildlife Conflicts

Resident landowners or tenants may use legal methods, without a permit, to take a beaver, mink, muskrat, long-tailed weasel, red fox, gray fox, opossum, skunk, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, or raccoon that is on their own property and damaging property or posing a health or safety threat.

If the animal is released, it must be released in the county of capture with permission of the recipient landowner.

Groundhogs (woodchucks), moles, voles, and chipmunks may be taken at any time using any equipment without a permit.

Landowners may take coyotes at any time on the land they own without a special permit or license, or they may provide written permission for others to take coyotes on their land at any time. A valid hunting or trapping license or nuisance wild animal control permit is required to take a coyote on land other than your own.

Coyotes that are taken outside the hunting and trapping season by a landowner or

someone with written permission from a landowner cannot be possessed live for more than 24 hours, and the live coyote cannot be sold, traded, bartered, or gifted.

Possession of Hides & Carcasses

There is no deadline for the possession of lawfully obtained untanned hides or unprocessed carcasses of furbearers taken during the season.

The sale of legally harvested furbearing mammals or untanned hides of furbearing mammals can be made to licensed fur buyers only.

Go to wildlife.IN.gov for a list of Indiana licensed fur buyers, or call the Division of Fish & Wildlife at 317-232-4200.

Possession of Live Furbearers

Only raccoons, red foxes, gray foxes, and coyotes can be retained alive during the trapping season for that species.

Raccoons, foxes, or coyotes that are removed from a trap and kept alive must be confined in a cage or other enclosure that: (a) makes escape of the mammal unlikely and prevents the entrance of a free-roaming mammal of the same species; (b) is structurally sound; (c) is of sufficient strength for the species involved; (d) is maintained in good repair and smoothly secured to prevent escape or injury to the mammal in the enclosure; (e) is constructed to allow sufficient space for individual posture, to turn about freely, and make normal social movements; (f) is secured when unattended with protective devices at entrances and exits to prevent escapes if kept outdoors and if needed to prevent injuries to human or the mammal's health; (g) and has ambient ventilation by means of windows, doors, vents, fans, or air conditioning to protect the health of the mammal and to minimize drafts, odors, and condensation.

Night quarters, transportation cages, and nesting boxes may not be used as primary housing. Surface water must be adequately drained from a cage or enclosure where the mammal is housed. If necessary for the mammal in possession, adequate lighting must be provided by artificial or natural means and cycled for appropriate photoperiod. The cages or enclosures must also have adequate shelter from the elements and provide adequate shade for the animals.

You must remove and dispose of food wastes, feces, urine, and bedding from the enclosure. You must also remove from the enclosure and appropriately dispose of trash, garbage, debris, and carcasses as soon as they are observed.

You must also provide daily: 1) fresh, clean drinking water in clean containers and 2) food that is unspoiled, uncontaminated, appropriate to the dietary needs of the mammal, and of sufficient quantity for the mammal involved.

Furbearers that are possessed alive and their cages or other enclosures must be made available for inspection by an Indiana Conservation Officer upon request.

Trapping Regulations

Furbearing game animals in Indiana include beaver, coyote, gray fox, red fox, long-tailed weasel, mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon, river otter, and striped skunk.

You must have a valid Indiana trapping license to set traps.

Traps must be checked and animals removed at least one time every 24 hours. Traps may be set at any distance from openings to tile drains or entrances to beaver or muskrat lodges. Tree-climbing equipment may not be used as an aid in removing wild animals from trees. The use of motor-driven watercraft is permitted for purposes of setting or checking trap lines.

There are no daily bag or possession limits, except for river otters.

Furbearers (except for raccoons, foxes, and coyotes that can be retained alive) that are

TRAPPING SEASONS	
Furbearers	Trapping Seasons
Coyote & Striped Skunk	Oct. 15, 2020 - March 15, 2021
Red & Gray Fox	Oct. 15, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021
Beaver	Nov. 15, 2020 - March 15, 2021
Mink, Muskrat, Weasel (long-tailed weasel only)	Nov. 15, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021
Raccoon & Opossum	Nov. 8, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2021
River Otter (in designated counties)	Nov. 15, 2020 - March 15, 2021 (or until quota is met)

trapped must either be released into the wild in the county in which they were captured within 24 hours of capturing the animals or be

euthanized immediately after removal from the trap or immediately upon transporting from the trap site.

River Otter Rules

A valid Indiana trapping license is required to set traps for river otters. An individual who sets a trap for river otters must be at least 10 years old, unless the individual has passed a state-certified trapper education course.

The bag limit is two otters per trapper per season. An individual who sets a trap that catches a river otter must count the animal toward his or her season limit. River otters taken during the trapping season must be reported to the DNR CheckIN Game system (CheckINGame.dnr.IN.gov or call 800-419-1326) within 24 hours of harvest. A CheckIN Game confirmation number will be provided and must be kept with the river otter until the animal is physically registered by a designated Indiana DNR employee or at an official DNR river otter check station. Check online at hunting.IN.gov for locations.

There is a statewide quota of 600 river otters for the 2020-21 season. The season will close early if the quota is reached prior to March 15, 2021. Trappers are responsible for knowing if the quota has been met. The current reported river otter take can be found at hunting.IN.gov or by calling 317-232-4080. If the season closes early, an exception may be made for an individual who traps a river otter within 48 hours after the close of the season and has not yet reached his/her bag limit.

The 2019-2020 river otter trapping season closed early on February 3, 2020 due to the quota of 600 river otters being met.

Individuals who kill river otters after the statewide quota has been met or after he/she has reached his/her bag limit must notify the DNR within 48 hours of capture and make arrangements for the DNR to take the carcass.

River otters trapped outside the season or in counties closed to river otter trapping must

be turned in to the DNR. Call your local District Wildlife Biologist (page 41), local Conservation Officer (page 43), or 812-837-9536.

You must take the skinned carcass and separated pelt to a designated DNR employee or registration station for physical registration and CITES tagging within 15 days after the month of harvest.

River otter pelts will be sealed with a CITES tag and the carcass collected so DNR biologists can evaluate reproductive and age data from the animal. The information helps biologists make future season recommendations.

What is a CITES tag?

CITES stands for the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora. It is an international agreement governing trade of endangered species. As a CITES participant, the United States follows certain requirements. River otters are in Appendix II of CITES, which means they are a “look-alike” species to other endangered otter species around the world.

To ensure river otters entering international trade were harvested legally in the United States, an unaltered CITES tag must be affixed to the pelt. Each state has uniquely marked tags. An otter pelt must have a CITES tag before it can be sold.



TRAP REGULATIONS

Body Gripping Traps

A person must not take a wild animal with a Conibear, Dahlgren, Bigelow, or other body-gripping trap on land if the widest inside jaw-spread measured at the horizontal center of the trap's jaws (Figure 1) and the widest horizontal inside jaw-spread measured at the vertical center of the trap's jaws (Figure 2) is:

1. Larger than 7.5 inches if square or
2. Larger than 8 inches if round

Otherwise, the trap must be completely covered by water.

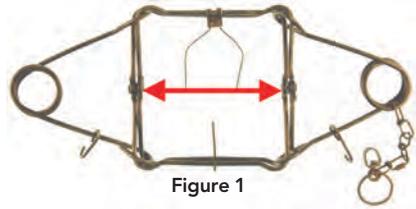


Figure 1

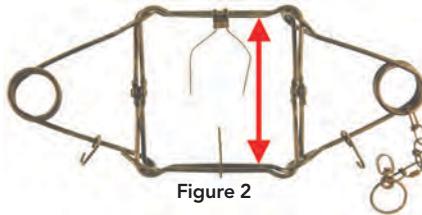


Figure 2

Snares

It is only legal to use a snare to trap a wild animal on land you own or with the written permission of the landowner. The maximum legal circumference for snare loops is 15 inches, unless at least half of the snare loop is covered by water or if the snare employs a relaxing snare lock. A relaxing snare lock allows the snare loop to loosen slightly to reduce the possibility of strangulation. Regulations on snare size and lock are designed to prevent accidental loss of domestic animals.

Box Traps

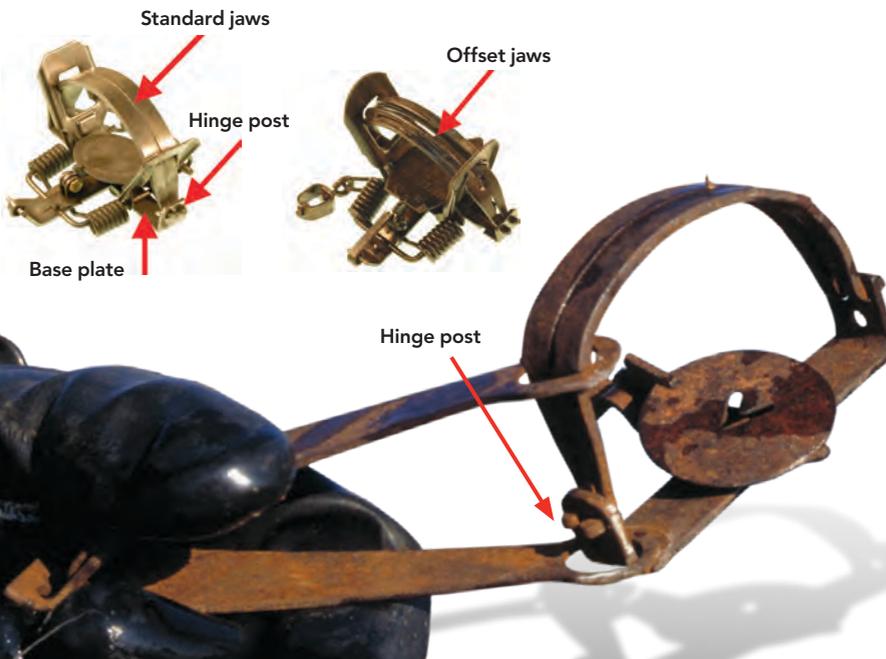
Furbearers may be captured in box traps used on land or underwater.

Foothold Traps

It is illegal to use a foothold trap with saw-toothed or spiked jaws. It is illegal to take a wild animal with a foothold trap if the widest inside jaw-spread measured perpendicular to the trap's base plate and the inside width between the trap's hinge posts (both measurements) is greater than 5¾ inches and less than or equal to 6½ inches, unless the jaws of the trap have at least a ¼-inch offset, the gap of the offset is filled with securely attached rubber pads, or the trap is completely covered by water.

Securely attached rubber pads are those attached with bolts or rivets. The trap's hinge posts must be maintained at a 90-degree angle to the trap's base plate. It is illegal to take a wild animal with a foothold trap on land if the widest inside jaw-spread measured perpendicular to the trap's base plate and the inside width between the trap's hinge posts is greater than 6½ inches.

It is illegal to set or place a stake, chain, drag, or another portion of a trap that is designed to take a wild animal, except during a season established for trapping that wild animal.



Measuring your foothold trap

1. Measure the widest inside jaw spread perpendicular to the trap's base plate as in Figure 3 and circle the measurement (or closest measurement) in Column 1.
2. Measure the inside width between the trap's hinge posts as in Figure 4 and circle the measurement (or closest measurement) in Column 2.
3. If both measurements fall in Box 1, then the trap can have standard jaws (offset jaws are not required).
4. If either measurement falls in Box 2, then the jaws of the trap must have at least a ¼ inch offset or the gap of the offset can be filled with securely attached rubber pads. "Securely attached" means with bolts or rivets, not tape.
5. If either measurements fall in Box 3, then the trap must be completely covered by water.



Figure 3



Figure 4

BOX	COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2
1	5" or less	5" or less
	5¼"	5¼"
	5½"	5½"
	5¾"	5¾"
2	> 5¾" *	> 5¾"
	6"	6"
	6¼"	6¼"
	6½"	6½"
3	> 6½"	> 6½"
	6¾"	6¾"
	7"	7"
	7¼" or more	7¼" or more

* The Symbol ">" means "greater than." (i.e.: "> 5¾" means "greater than 5¾")

DNR Wildlife Biologists

District 1

Mike Mycroft
4112 E. SR 225
West Lafayette, IN 47906
765-320-0516
mmycroft@dnr.IN.gov

District 2

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4320 W. Toto Road
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District 3

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ltresenriter@dnr.IN.gov

District 4

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khanauer@dnr.IN.gov

District 5

Jeff Thompson
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Winslow, IN 47598
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jstompson@dnr.IN.gov

District 6

Temporary Coverage
Jeff Thompson
See District 5

District 7

Shannon Winks
4931 S. CR 250 W.
Vallonia, IN 47281
812-358-2253
swinks@dnr.IN.gov

District 8

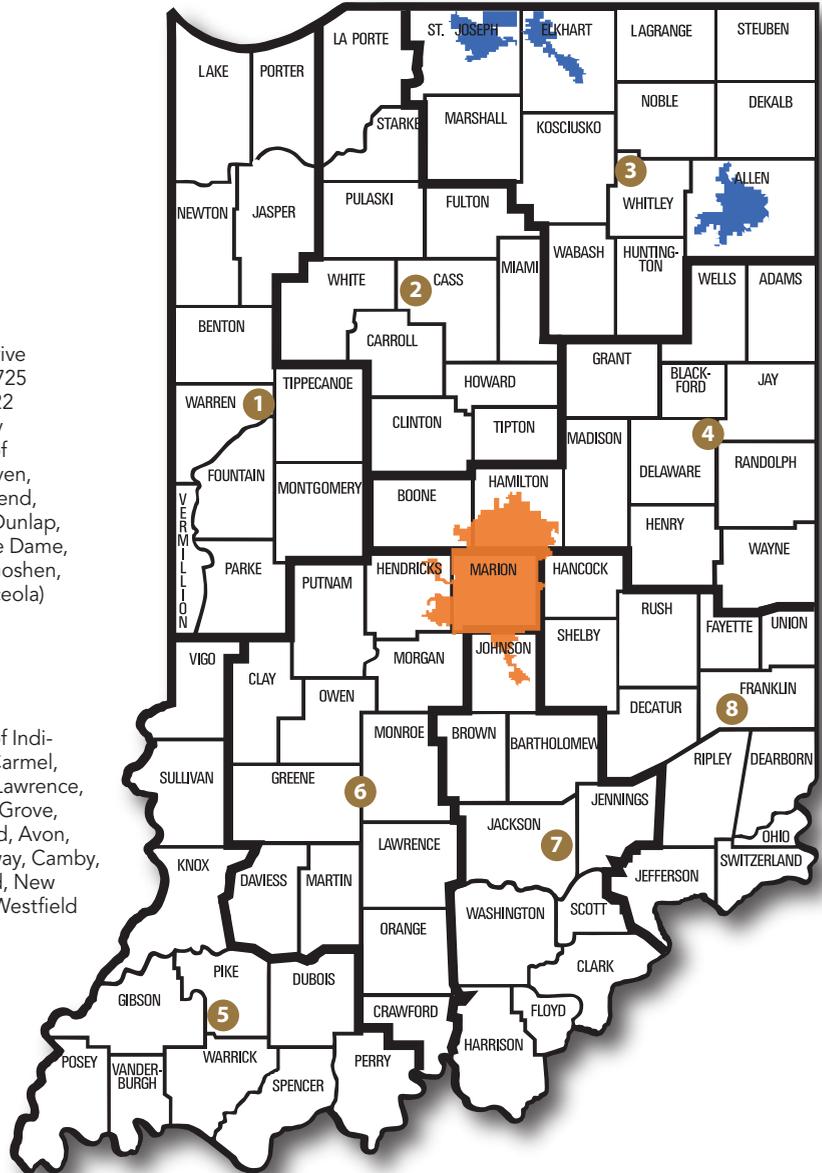
Temporary Coverage
Shannon Winks
See District 7

North Urban

Jessica Merkle
1353 S. Governors Drive
Columbia City, IN 46725
260-244-6805 ext. 222
jmerkle@dnr.IN.gov
(Incorporated areas of Fort Wayne, New Haven, Hometown, South Bend, Mishawaka, Elkhart, Dunlap, Simonton Lake, Notre Dame, Granger, Roseland, Goshen, Gulliver Park and Osceola)

South Urban

Temporary Coverage
Jessica Merkle
See North Urban
(Incorporated areas of Indianapolis, Zionsville, Carmel, Fishers, Noblesville, Lawrence, McCordsville, Beech Grove, Greenwood, Plainfield, Avon, Brownsburg, Speedway, Camby, Southport, Whiteland, New Whiteland, Franklin, Westfield and Cumberland)



Reasons to contact a Wildlife Biologist:

- Information on and help with wildlife habitat improvements on private lands
- Assistance with living and interacting with wildlife

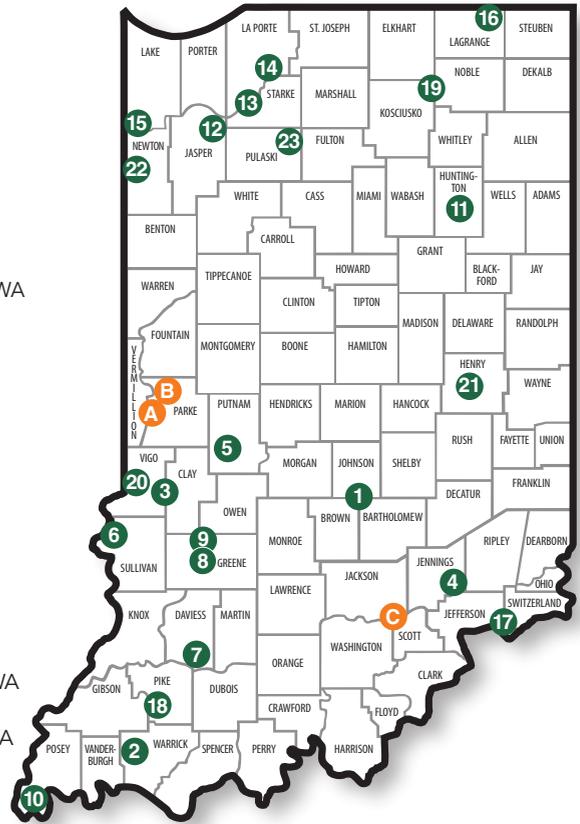
BE A DNR VOLUNTEER

Help Indiana's Natural Resources

ON.IN.GOV/DNRVOLUNTEER

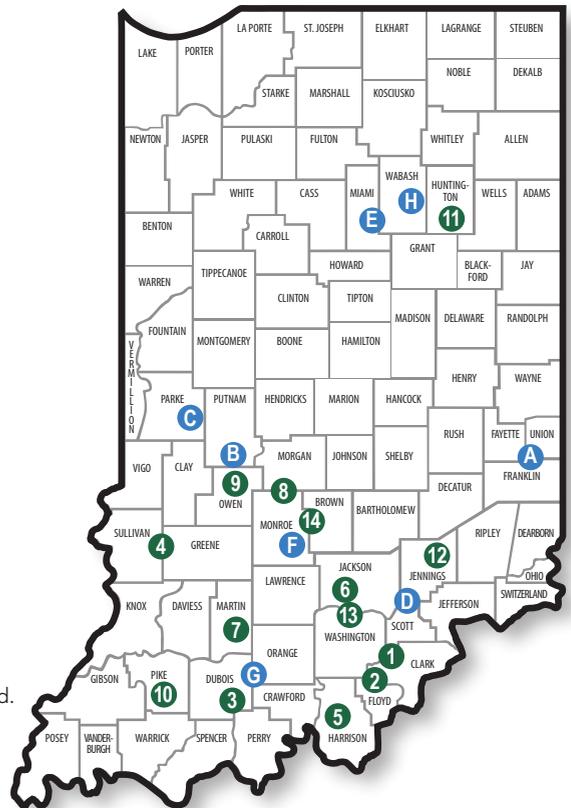
Fish & Wildlife Areas / Healthy Rivers Initiative Sites

- 1. Atterbury FWA**
7970 S. Rowe St.
Edinburgh, IN 46124
812-526-2051
 - 2. Blue Grass FWA**
Contact Sugar Ridge FWA
 - 3. Chinook FWA**
Contact Deer Creek FWA
 - 4. Crosley FWA**
2010 S. SR 3
North Vernon, IN 47265
812-346-5596
 - 5. Deer Creek FWA**
2001 W. CR 600 S.
Greencastle, IN 46135
765-653-0453
 - 6. Fairbanks Landing FWA**
Contact Goose Pond FWA
 - 7. Glendale FWA**
6001 E. 600 S.
Montgomery, IN 47558
812-644-7711
 - 8. Goose Pond FWA**
13540 W. CR 400 S.
Linton, IN 47441
812-512-9185
 - 9. Hillenbrand FWA**
Contact Goose Pond FWA
 - 10. Hovey Lake FWA**
8401 SR 69 S.
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620
812-838-2927
 - 11. J.E. Roush Lake FWA**
517 N. Warren Road
Huntington, IN 46750
260-468-2165
 - 12. Jasper-Pulaski FWA**
5822 N. Fish & Wildlife Ln
Medaryville, IN 47957
219-843-4841
 - 13. Kankakee FWA**
4320 W. Toto Road
North Judson, IN 46366
574-896-3522
 - 14. Kingsbury FWA**
5344 S. Hupp Road
LaPorte, IN 46350
219-393-3612
 - 15. LaSalle FWA**
4752 W. 1050 N.
Lake Village, IN 46349
219-992-3019
 - 16. Pigeon River FWA**
8310 E. 300 N.
Howe, IN 46746
260-367-2164
 - 17. Splinter Ridge FWA**
Contact Crosley FWA
 - 18. Sugar Ridge FWA**
2310 E. SR 364
Winslow, IN 47598
812-789-2724
 - 19. Tri-County FWA**
8432 N. 850 E.
Syracuse, IN 46567
574-834-4461
 - 20. Wabashiki FWA**
Contact Deer Creek FWA
 - 21. Wilbur Wright FWA**
2239 N. SR 103
New Castle, IN 47362
260-468-2165
 - 22. Willow Slough FWA**
1803 S. 700 W.
Morocco, IN 47963
219-285-2704
 - 23. Winamac FWA**
1493 W. 500 N.
Winamac, IN 46996
574-946-4422
- A. Wabash River (HRI)**
Contact Deer Creek FWA
- B. Sugar Creek (HRI)**
Contact Deer Creek FWA
- C. Austin Bottoms (HRI)**
Contact Crosley FWA



State Reservoirs & State Forests

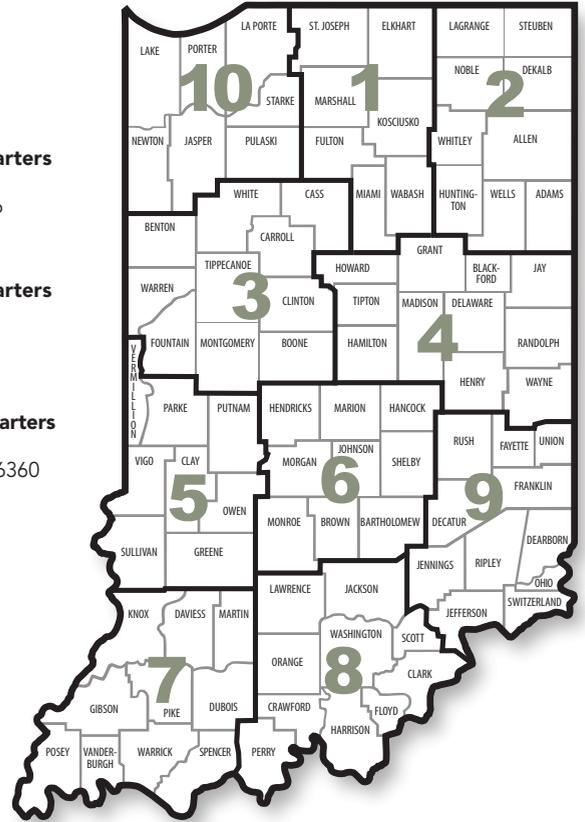
- A. Brookville Lake**
14108 SR 101
PO Box 100
Brookville, IN 47012
765-647-2657
- B. Cagles Mill Lake**
1317 W. Lieber Road
Suite 1
Cloverdale, IN 46120
765-795-4576
- C. Cecil M. Harden Lake**
1588 S. Raccoon Parkway
Rockville, IN 47872
765-344-1412
- D. Hardy Lake**
5620 Hardy Lake Road
Scottsburg, IN 47170
812-794-3800
- E. Mississinewa Lake**
4673 S 625 E
Peru, IN 46970
765-473-6528
- F. Monroe Lake**
4850 S SR 446
Bloomington, IN 47401
812-837-9546
- G. Patoka Lake**
3084 N. Dillard Road
Birdseye, IN 47513
812-685-2464
- H. Salamonie Lake**
9214 W Lost Bridge W
Andrews, IN 46702
260-468-2125
- 1. Clark SF**
P.O. Box 119
#2 Service Road
Henryville, IN 47126
812-294-4306
- 2. Deam Lake SRA**
1217 Deam Lake Road
Borden, IN 47106
812-246-5421
- 3. Ferdinand SF**
6583 E SR 264
Ferdinand, IN 47532
812-827-2857
- 4. Greene-Sullivan SF**
2551 S SR 159
Dugger, IN 47848
812-648-2810
- 5. Harrison-Crawford SF**
7240 Old Forest Rd. SW
Corydon, IN 47112
812-738-7694
- 6. Jackson-Washington SF**
1278 E SR 250
Brownstown, IN 47220
812-358-2160
- 7. Martin SF**
14040 Williams Road
Shoals, IN 47581
812-247-3491
- 8. Morgan-Monroe SF**
6220 Forest Road
Martinsville, IN 46151
765-792-4654
- 9. Owen-Putnam SF**
2153 Fish Creek Road
Spencer, IN 47460
812-829-2462
- 10. Pike SF**
5994 E. SR 364
Winslow, IN 47598
812-827-2857
- 11. Salamonie River SF**
5400 E. Salamonie
Forest Rd.
Lagro, IN 46941
260-782-0430
- 12. Selmier SF**
905 E CR 350 N
North Vernon, IN 47265
812-346-2286
- 13. Starve Hollow SRA**
4345 S. 275 W, Box 291
Vallonia, IN 47281-9741
812-358-3464
- 14. Yellowwood SF**
772 Yellowwood Lake Rd.
Nashville, IN 47448
812-988-7945



DNR Law Enforcement Districts

Contact DNR Law Enforcement Central Dispatch (24 hours) to report violations or if you need assistance from an Indiana Conservation Officer. Call 1-800-TIP-IDNR to report any poaching activities.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Central Dispatch
4850 S SR 446
Bloomington, IN 47401
812-837-9536</p> | <p>4. District 4 Headquarters
3734 Mounds Road
Anderson, IN 46017
765-649-1062</p> | <p>8. District 8 Headquarters
P.O. Box 330
Henryville, IN 47126
812-639-4148</p> |
| <p>1. District 1 Headquarters
9822 N. Turkey
Creek Road
Syracuse, IN 46567
574-457-8092</p> | <p>5. District 5 Headquarters
1317 W. Lieber Road
Suite 2
Cloverdale, IN 46120
765-276-0196</p> | <p>9. District 9 Headquarters
1387 E U.S. 50
Versailles, IN 47042
812-689-4370</p> |
| <p>2. District 2 Headquarters
1353 S. Governors Drive
Columbia City, IN 46725
260-244-3720</p> | <p>6. District 6 Headquarters
P.O. Box 282
Nineveh, IN 46164
812-526-4101</p> | <p>10. District 10 Headquarters
100 W. Water St.
Michigan City, IN 46360
219-879-5710</p> |
| <p>3. District 3 Headquarters
4112 E SR 225
West Lafayette, IN 47906
765-567-7859</p> | <p>7. District 7 Headquarters
2310 E. SR 364
Winslow, IN 47598
812-789-9538</p> | |



Public Shooting Ranges

DNR shooting ranges are open to the general public. Contact the range in your area with questions on range hours, fees and other information or go online to wildlife.IN.gov

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>1. Clark State Forest
rifle/shotgun/handgun
812-294-4306</p> <p>2. Patoka Lake
archery
812-685-2464</p> <p>3. Wilbur Wright FWA
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
260-468-2165</p> <p>4. J. E. Roush S Lake FWA
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun/trap/skeet
260-468-2416</p> <p>5. Jackson-Washington State Forest
archery
812-358-2160</p> <p>6. Jasper-Pulaski FWA
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
219-843-4841</p> | <p>7. Crosley FWA
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
812-346-5596</p> <p>8. Atterbury FWA S
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun/trap/skeet
812-526-6552</p> <p>9. Tri-County FWA
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
574-834-4461</p> <p>10. Pigeon River FWA
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
260-367-2164</p> <p>11. Kingsbury FWA S
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
219-393-1128</p> <p>12. Willow Slough FWA S
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
219-285-2060</p> | <p>13. Cecil M. Harden Lake
archery
765-344-1412</p> <p>14. Sugar Ridge FWA
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
812-789-2724</p> <p>15. Winamac FWA
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
574-946-4422</p> <p>16. Hardy Lake
archery
812-794-3800</p> <p>17. Greene-Sullivan State Forest
archery
812-648-2810</p> <p>18. Brookville Lake S
archery/rifle/shotgun/
handgun
765-647-2657</p> <p>19. Deer Creek FWA S
rifle/shotgun/handgun
765-276-3032</p> |
|--|---|---|



S - A fee is charged.

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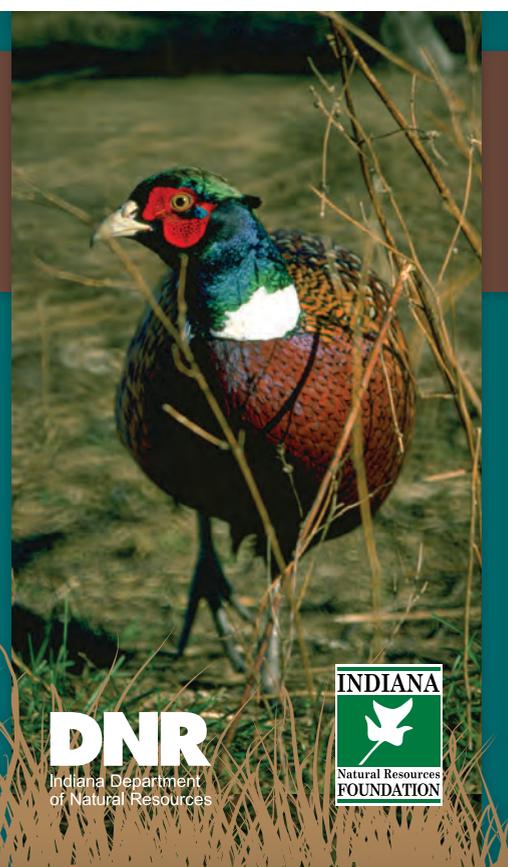


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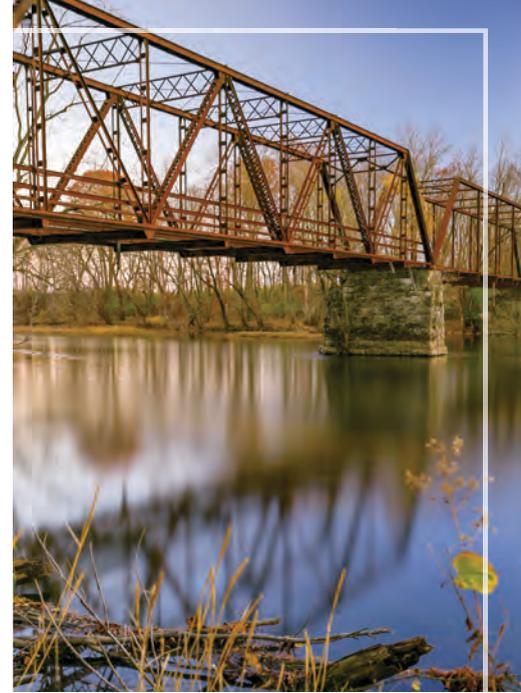
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PULASKI COUNTY

I N D I A N A

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AN OUTDOORSMAN'S PARADISE

Offering opportunities for wild-dove and pheasant hunting in the heart of rural Pulaski County, Sandy Prairie Hunt Club provides more than 200 acres of ground, including 40 acres of prairie-grass strips and sun-flower fields. Individuals and small parties are welcome, dogs are required, and there's no membership fee.

The Winamac Fish and Wildlife Area, in northern Pulaski County, along U.S. 35, offers tremendous opportunities for hunting deer, wild turkey, rabbit, quail, squirrel, woodcock, dove, and furbearers. Waterfowl hunting is offered, but is limited due to the small amount of wetlands, and opportunities exist for pheasant, quail and dove hunting. Wetland trapping is always permitted. Two two-acre ponds are home to bluegill, channel catfish, and largemouth bass waiting to challenge master anglers and recreational fishers alike.

Northwestern Pulaski County's Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area is home to the Ryan Ditch (shoreline fishing), two gravel pits with boat ramps, and numerous small ponds to provide plenty of diversity as you seek the catch of the day — or just a day out of the office, communing with nature. Deer, quail, rabbit, squirrel, snipe, dove, sora rails, woodcock, waterfowl and wild turkey all inhabit the area, challenging mature marksmen and first-timers alike.

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