

Report Poachers and Polluters Hotline — 1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267)



To contact your local Environmental Conservation Officer (ECO), please scan this QR code for an up-to-date list of ECOs in each region.



Report All Poachers and Polluters

1-844-DEC-ECOS (844-332-3267)

Approximately 250 field ECOs patrol the entire state. Their job includes enforcement of fish and wildlife laws and state environmental quality laws. ECOs rely on the eyes and ears of our dedicated members of the sporting community to report suspected violations. Poachers and other violators are stealing from you, your children, and our environment.

As soon as possible, call the hotline to report suspected violations. Dispatchers will assist you in filing a complaint. You may ask to have your name kept confidential or file anonymously.

Complaints are forwarded to an ECO for investigation. The sooner you call and the more detailed information you provide, the more likely the violator will be apprehended. Try to remember the “who, what, when, where, and how” of the event.

Keep your distance.

Do not approach or confront suspects. They may be dangerous, destroy evidence, or simply evade officers if forewarned.

Who did it?

Provide names, age, sex, height, weight, clothing, or vehicle descriptions, etc.

What occurred?

What exactly is the nature of the violation? Examples — taking deer using bait, over limit, shooting from roadway, trespass, using tags of another, after hours, non-resident buying a resident license.

When did it occur?

Dates and times. Is it still in progress, ongoing, or yet to happen?

Where did it occur?

Provide exact street addresses, town/county, GPS locations, or other ways the officer can locate the scene, suspects, and evidence.

How did it occur?

What methods or circumstances were used in the violation?



ECO Helmer teaching the youth hunters how to clean pheasant and waterfowl from Fall Youth Waterfowl and Pheasant hunt.



ECO Rutherford with a seized doe and spike antlered buck from Rensselaer County.



ECOs Armstrong and Wing with an illegally harvested buck.



ECOs Della Rocco, Boyes, Dickson, Small, Zullo, Cacciola, DeVito, McGhee, Simmon, Vandenbos, Michelet, and Giarratana participated in the Second Annual Suffolk County Youth Hunt.