GUNS WANTED!
D&L is looking to buy used guns!
High cash paid for individual firearms or entire collections, whether it be modern, antique or military guns. Trades or consignments are always welcome

ACTIVE CASH FOR IDLE GUNS!
RI’s largest inventory of new & used guns  Over 3000 new & used guns in stock
Kimber Master Dealer • Colt Elite Dealer • Glock Perfection Dealer
One of Smith & Wesson and Ruger firearms largest dealers in the NE
Check out our “Daily Deals” online at DLHUNTING.COM

Monday: 12–5PM • Tuesday: 10AM–5PM
Wednesday: 10AM–5PM • Thursday: 10AM–8PM
Friday: 10AM–8PM • Saturday: 10AM–5PM • Sunday: Closed

We offer special pricing for law enforcement and military

3314 W Shore Rd, Warwick, RI 02886
Phone: (401) 738-1889
www.dlshootingsupplies.com
# Table of Contents

2  Director’s Welcome  
3  General Information  
4  Licenses & Permits  
6  Legal Shooting Hours  
7  Hunting Seasons Summary  
8  Checking & Tagging  
10  Special Hunting Seasons  
12  Deer Hunting  
15  Article - CWD Prevention  
16  Zone Map  
17  Article - EPO Recognition  
18  Migratory Bird Hunting  
22  Canada Goose Late Season Zone Map  
23  Article - Sea Duck Habitat Use  
24  State Lands  
25  State Land Spotlight - Rockville  
26  Goose Hunting - SSMA  
28  Turkey Hunting  
29  Article - Volunteer Opportunities  
30  Small Game Hunting  
31  Trapping  
32  Online Licensing
On behalf of Governor Gina Raimondo, I am excited to present the fifth annual Rhode Island Hunting and Trapping Regulation Guide for Rhode Islanders and out-of-staters who enjoy the great outdoors. We hope its information about the ins and outs of harvesting game animals will help novice and seasoned hunters alike.

Rhode Island’s diverse natural habitats – from coastal shrublands to forestland to grasslands that sway in the breeze – abound in hunting and trapping opportunities. Investing in land and wildlife conservation remains an important focus of the Department of Environmental Management (DEM). Through contributions from Rhode Island hunters, we’ve protected more than 500 acres in the last six years to enhance opportunities for hunting and trapping – bringing the total purchased to date with your support to more than 16,000 acres. This adds significantly to the 55,000 acres managed by our Division of Fish and Wildlife. Among the new public lands open to hunting are the 20-acre Perry property in Burrillville that has been incorporated into the state’s Buck Hill Management Area.

Although we’re known as the Ocean State, hunting and trapping are treasured traditions for many Rhode Island families and visitors. And as part of a broader network of recreational opportunities in Rhode Island, they strengthen our economy. According to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, consumer spending on hunting expands the state economy by $18 million annually. Spending on wildlife watching contributes another $200 million.

I hope this guide, funded through your contributions to the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson Act), enhances your hunting experiences, while encouraging you to be respectful of the environment and fellow hunters. Enjoy the excitement of the outdoors in beautiful Rhode Island and the tranquility and connection to nature that hunting brings. And thank you for being part of conservation efforts that will provide benefits for generations to come!

Janet Coit
Director

Hunting Abstract

This hunting abstract is a summary of the rules, regulations, seasons and bag limits for the 2018-2019 Rhode Island hunting season. For more detailed information, see the General Laws of Rhode Island, obtainable at most public libraries. A complete copy of the Hunting Regulations for the 2018-2019 Season can be viewed online at: http://www.dem.ri.gov/huntab

Copies are also available by contacting the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Report Game Violations

RIDEM Environmental Police Officers have broad responsibilities associated with the statewide enforcement of various state environmental laws and regulations, including those associated with hunting, freshwater fishing, and marine fisheries. Officers are always present and on guard to protect these valuable natural resources for all of our citizens.

You can assist them by reporting wildlife violations to the 24 hour hotline at DEM.

Turn In Poachers! – 401-222-3070 - 24 Hours/7 days week
Our Mission

Our mission is to ensure that the Freshwater, Marine, and Wildlife resources of the State of Rhode Island will be conserved and managed for equitable and sustainable use.

Significant Regulation Changes & Highlights 2018-2019

1. Hunting licenses, permits and tags are now available online, or at license vendors.
2. Harvest reports for deer and turkey are now to be completed online (except the first four (4) days of the muzzleloader deer season when all deer must be taken to a state operated check station).
3. Tiverton Rod and Gun Club will no longer be a deer check station during the first four (4) days of the muzzleloader deer season.
4. The use and/or possession of deer scents/lures that contain natural cervid (including deer, moose or elk) urine, gland oil, feces, tissue, blood or any other bodily fluids while taking, attempting to take, attracting or scouting wildlife is prohibited.
5. All turkeys must be reported using the online system by midnight on the day of the kill.
6. The Canada goose regular season has been reduced to 60 days and the daily bag limit has been reduced to two (2).
7. Waterfowl hunters must possess the Rhode Island Waterfowl Stamp certification purchased through the new online system, or a physical Rhode Island Waterfowl Stamp, which must be signed across the face to be valid.

8. Successful completion of a bow hunter education course is required for anyone using archery equipment to hunt any species for which archery is a permitted method of take.
9. Pheasants no longer have to be tagged. All pheasant hunters must purchase and possess a Game Bird Permit and comply with the daily bag limit of 2 pheasants per person.
10. The bag limit for the spring Wild Turkey season has been increased to two (2) bearded birds, only one of which may be taken on state land.
11. Treestands may not be installed on state-owned and co-op properties prior to August 15th and must be removed prior to February 15th annually.
12. The use of drones or other remotely operated unmanned aircraft systems and devices to drive or disturb wildlife or aid in the take of wildlife for the purpose of hunting is prohibited.

Definitions

Antlerless deer - deer having no antlers or antlers less than three (3) inches in length.
Archery Proficiency testing - the measurable demonstration of skills with archery equipment using a set of standards as determined by the hunter education program.
Bearded turkey - a wild turkey that carries a visible beard, i.e., a tuft of stiff filament-like feathers projecting outward and downward from the center of the chest.
Conibear-type trap - “conibear” model traps and similar body-gripping traps and devices, whether or not enclosed in or comprising part of a box, tube, or other enclosing device.
Daily bag limit - the maximum number of game of a single species or combination (aggregate) of species permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season.
Driving deer/cooperative drive - to pursue, drive, chase, or otherwise frighten or cause a deer to move in a direction toward a person or persons known to be waiting for deer.
Field possession limit - the maximum number of game of a single species or combination of species permitted to be possessed by one person while in the field, in one’s vehicle, boat, trailer or other means of transportation when traveling between the field and one’s personal abode. This shall be equal to the daily bag or season limit.
Junior Hunter - any person 12-14 years of age who possesses a hunter safety education certificate. Junior hunters may only hunt in the immediate company of an adult, 21 years of age or older who possesses a current RI hunting license.
Personal abode - one’s principal or ordinary home or dwelling place, as distinguished from one’s temporary or transient place of abode or dwelling such as a hunting club, or any club house, cabin, tent or trailer house used as a hunting club, or any hotel, motel or rooming house used during a hunting, pleasure or business trip.
Possess or Possession - to exercise dominion or control over any wild animal commencing at the time at which a decision is made not to return the wild animal to the immediate vicinity from which it was taken and lasting up until its ultimate disposition. The decision to possess or return the animal must be made at the first practical opportunity.
Season bag limit - the maximum number of game of a single species permitted to be taken by one person over the duration of the open season.
Tidal Waters - waters of the State extending from mean high water to the seaward limit of three (3) miles.

Chief’s Message:

Rhode Island has much to offer the outdoor enthusiast. With over 400 miles of coastline, miles of streams and rivers, freshwater lakes and ponds, the water sports opportunities are almost limitless. Add to this the ability to go into our state parks and you have all facets of what anyone could desire in the outdoors.

As a lifelong Rhode Islander, I never truly appreciated these areas until I became the chief of the division of law enforcement. During my time as chief, I have come across some areas of our state that rival those of the deep woods of New Hampshire or Maine. It is hard to imagine that such beautiful places are located literally within minutes of where we live.

Being an active hunter and fresh and saltwater fisherman, Rhode Island offers an incredible variety of options for all season. Waterfowl, whitetail deer and small game hunting are available on both state and private properties throughout the state. I would challenge many of our neighboring states to provide whitetail deer populations and hunter success rates. Stocked pheasant hunting is available and our location within the waterfowl migration and wintering routes offer what some would consider world class hunting experiences.

We have some of the best recreational and charter saltwater fishing options in the north-east. Whether fishing out of one of our ports with an experienced charter captain or simply walking the vast shorelines chasing fall runs of striped bass and bluefish, the avid angler has boundless opportunity. If it is offshore big game fishing that drives you, there is no shortage of available fisheries there. Codfish, shark, tuna and marlin can be found off our coastline and while you’re out you may see porpoise, whales, sea turtles and other marine life.

As far as freshwater fishing, the state stocks trout and salmon in our freshwater ponds, rivers and streams. I think that it would be difficult to find a state that stocks the volume and size of the trout that our hatcheries produce on a yearly basis.

As chief of the Rhode Island Environmental Police, I encourage you to get out and explore our great natural resources. Take part in the variety of outdoor activities whether on land or water, and see what you have been missing.

Dean Hoxsie, Chief

To report violations, please call: (401) 222-3070
Licenses & Permits

No person shall hunt, pursue, take or kill any wild bird or animal in the state without first having obtained a Rhode Island hunting license (RIGL 20-13-1). Hunters must have a signed paper copy of their license and permits in possession, on their person, at all times and shall present it for inspection on demand by any authorized person. Failure to present a license shall make a person liable to the same penalties as if he or she was hunting without a license (RIGL 20-2-9). Licensed hunters and trappers are subject to inspection of any boat, vehicle, game bag, blind, stand, or other paraphernalia used in conjunction with licensed activity (RIGL 20-2-32). Licenses may be suspended or revoked because of violations of hunting rules and regulations (RIGL 20-2-13).

The possession of a valid Rhode Island hunting, or combination hunting and fishing license, shall serve as a permit to hunt State Management Areas (RIGL 20-18-2 and 20-18-3), except when check stations are in operation or when special permits are required for deer, waterfowl, or turkey hunting on state lands.

This permit shall be valid only from the first day of season to the last day in February. The carrying of firearms on state management areas at any other time is prohibited.

Hunting Licenses are available from online at www.dem.ri.gov/hunt-fish, DEM Office of Boating Registration and Licenses at 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI 02908 (401) 222-3576; most city and town clerks; and most sporting goods stores. Reprints of lost or damaged licenses are free through the online system. Purchases made at a full service vendor carry an Enhanced Access Fee (EAF) to offset the cost of administering the licensing system. The enhanced access fees are as follows:

- **Resident:** $2 per license and $0.50 per permit
- **Non-Resident:** $3 per license and $1.00 per permit
- No EAF for Recreational Saltwater Fishing or No Cost Licenses and permits.

**Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP)**

All migratory bird hunters are required to obtain a HIP certification and answer a short survey. HIP permits are available free of charge through the online system, at license vendors, DEM Providence headquarters and the DEM Great Swamp Field Office. The HIP program provides state agencies and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agencies with better data that improves their ability to manage our nation’s migratory bird resources.

**License Type** | **Fee (online)** | **Fee (at vendor)**
--- | --- | ---
Resident Hunting License (must be 15 years old) | $18.00 | $20.00
Resident Combination License (Hunting & Fishing) | $33.00 | $35.00
Resident Junior Hunting License (12-14 years old) | $18.00 | $20.00
Permanent Resident Combination License (over 65 or disabled) | No fee | No Fee
Resident Trapping License | $10.00 | $12.00
Resident Fur Buyer License | $10.00 | $12.00
Non-Resident Hunting License (must be 15 years old) | $45.00 | $48.00
Non-Resident Tourist Hunting License (3-day) | $16.00 | $19.00
Non-Resident Junior Hunting License (12-14 years old) | $45.00 | $48.00
Non-Resident Trapping License (if reciprocal privileges allowed) | $30.00 | $33.00
Non-Resident Fur Buyer License | $30.00 | $33.00
Active Military Personnel Hunting License | $18.00 | $20.00
Resident All Outdoors Package Permit | $75.00 | $78.00
Resident Deer Permit | $12.50 | $13.00
Non-Resident Deer Permit | $25.50 | $26.50
Resident Turkey Permit | $7.50 | $8.00
Non-Resident Turkey Permit | $20.00 | $21.00
RI Game Bird Permit | $15.50 | $16.00
State Waterfowl Stamp | $7.50 | $8.00
Migratory Bird (H.I.P) Permit | No fee | No Fee

1 Junior hunters must hunt in the immediate company of an adult, 21 years of age or older, holding a valid RI hunting license.
2 Permits are season, sex and zone specific.
3 Any resident 65 years or older or with a permanent disability may obtain a free permanent license through the online system, at any license vendor, or at the DEM Office of Boat Registration and Licensing.
4 Non-Residents pay a 1.00 Enhanced access fee ($16.50 Gamebird Permit and $8.50 State Waterfowl Stamp).

**Licenses & Permits**

**Resident Hunting License**
- For residents 15 years old and older.
- Cost: $18.00 online; $20.00 at vendor.

**Resident Combination License**
- Includes hunting and fishing.
- Cost: $33.00 online; $35.00 at vendor.

**Resident Junior Hunting License**
- For residents 12-14 years old.
- Cost: $18.00 online; $20.00 at vendor.

**Permanent Resident Combination License**
- For residents 65 years old or disabled.
- No fee.

**Resident Trapping License**
- Cost: $10.00 online; $12.00 at vendor.

**Resident Fur Buyer License**
- Cost: $10.00 online; $12.00 at vendor.

**Non-Resident Hunting License**
- For residents 15 years old.
- Cost: $45.00 online; $48.00 at vendor.

**Non-Resident Tourist Hunting License**
- For non-residents.
- Cost: $16.00 online; $19.00 at vendor.

**Non-Resident Junior Hunting License**
- For non-residents 12-14 years old.
- Cost: $45.00 online; $48.00 at vendor.

**Non-Resident Trapping License**
- For non-residents.
- Cost: $30.00 online; $33.00 at vendor.

**Non-Resident Fur Buyer License**
- Cost: $30.00 online; $33.00 at vendor.

**Active Military Personnel Hunting License**
- For active military personnel.
- Cost: $18.00 online; $20.00 at vendor.

**Resident All Outdoors Package Permit**
- Includes hunting, fishing, and trapping.
- Cost: $75.00 online; $78.00 at vendor.

**Resident Deer Permit**
- For deer hunting.
- Cost: $12.50 online; $13.00 at vendor.

**Non-Resident Deer Permit**
- For non-resident deer hunting.
- Cost: $25.50 online; $26.50 at vendor.

**Resident Turkey Permit**
- For turkey hunting.
- Cost: $7.50 online; $8.00 at vendor.

**Non-Resident Turkey Permit**
- For non-resident turkey hunting.
- Cost: $20.00 online; $21.00 at vendor.

**RI Game Bird Permit**
- For hunting game birds.
- Cost: $15.50 online; $16.00 at vendor.

**State Waterfowl Stamp**
- For waterfowl hunting.
- Cost: $7.50 online; $8.00 at vendor.

**Migratory Bird (H.I.P) Permit**
- For migratory bird hunting.
- No fee.

Prohibited Activities

- No loaded rifles or shotguns in or on vehicles (RIGL 20-13-8).
- No shooting at, hunting, or pursuing game along, upon, or across a public highway (RIGL 20-13-9).
- It is a violation of law, punishable by a fine and imprisonment, to fire "into" land for which one does not have landowner permission.
- No hunting on posted land without landowner permission or state parks, with the exception of undeveloped state parks as denoted in the regulations, removing or defacing posters thereon, or doing willful damage to property (RIGL 11-44-4,5).
- No more than five (5) persons to hunt in unison (RIGL 20-13-11).
- Target or trap shooting on state lands is only allowed on provided ranges (RIGL 32-2-4).
- No hunting while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs (RIGL 20-13-10).
- Spotlighting for wild animals and birds is prohibited (statewide and islands) between September 15 - February 28 (RIHR 9.7.2.F).
- Shooting at any animal at anytime while such animal is on a telephone or electric line, pole, or tower or any communication device (RIHR 9.17.H).
- The importation, exportation, possession, liberation, or sale of any mute swan and/or eggs thereof, or live pen-reared or hybrid wild turkey and/or eggs thereof (RIHR 9.17.B).
- Importing of live birds or animals without permit (RIGL 20-17-9).

Hunter Safety Course Requirements & Licensing

Persons applying for a hunting license or archery permit for the first time or not having been a member of the armed forces must complete a course in safe hunting or archery practices and have been issued a Hunter Education Certificate to obtain a license. License applicants must present a valid hunter safety certificate from Rhode Island or other state, or possess a previous hunting license from RI or other state, or present proof of current or honorably discharged military status. Applicants for an archery deer permit or fall archery turkey permit must provide proof of successful completion of an Archery Safety Education course. A list of hunter safety classes, dates, and locations is available from the Hunter Safety Office: (401) 539-0019 or on the web: http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/fish-wildlife/wildlifehunter-ed/education/course-schedule.php.

An online hunter education course is available at https://www.hunter-ed.com/rhodeisland/ and an online bow hunter education course is available at https://www.bowhunter-ed.com/rhodeisland/.

**Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP)**

All migratory bird hunters are required to obtain a HIP certification and answer a short survey. HIP permits are available free of charge through the online system, at license vendors, DEM Providence headquarters and the DEM Great Swamp Field Office. The HIP program provides state agencies and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agencies with better data that improves their ability to manage our nation’s migratory bird resources.

**Enhanced Access Fee (EAF)**

The enhanced access fees are as follows:

- **Resident:** $2 per license and $0.50 per permit
- **Non-Resident:** $3 per license and $1.00 per permit
- No EAF for Recreational Saltwater Fishing or No Cost Licenses and permits.
• Taking of birds by any method other than shotgun, bow and arrow, or falconry without permit (RIGL 20-14-7).
• The sale of game, except as provided (RIGL 20-13-14).
• Feeding and baiting wildlife in the state of Rhode Island is not permitted at any time for any purposes except as defined in RIHR 9.17).

Discharge and Firearm Restrictions

• It is unlawful to carry a loaded firearm or archery equipment outside legal shooting hours. Provided the hunter is stationary, his/her firearm or archery equipment may be loaded within fifteen (15) minutes prior to legal shooting hours (RIHR 9.17.I).
• The use or possession of laser sights that project a beam or night-vision equipment while hunting is prohibited (RIHR 9.7.2.G).
• No lead shot larger than No. 2 at any time (RIGL 20-13-13).
• No rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire at any time; however, from Apr. 1 to Sept. 30, (both dates inclusive), centerfire rifles no larger than .229 caliber may be used during daylight hours (RIGL 20-13-13).
• Discharge of a firearm within 500 feet of an occupied dwelling without written permission is prohibited (RIGL 20-16-7, RIGL 20-15-1).
• Archery hunting, within 200 feet of an occupied dwelling without written permission is prohibited (RIGL 20-15-1).

Important Laws & Regulations Pertaining to Wildlife

The Lacey Act of 1900, the first federal game law, regulates interstate and international commerce in wildlife. The term “wildlife”, for the purposes of the act, means any wild animal, wild bird, amphibian, reptile, mollusk, or crustacean, or their dead bodies, parts, eggs, or offspring, but does not include migratory birds for which protection is afforded under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Briefly, action can be taken against anyone who transports, ships, or sells wildlife in interstate or foreign commerce contrary to state or foreign laws, or transports any package not properly labeled or tagged.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act, an international agreement signed in 1918 for the protection of migratory bird populations. Migratory birds are protected by the federal government with provisions allowing state regulation. All birds, their parts, nests, and eggs are protected, except as provided by open hunting seasons.

Reptiles & Amphibians

The removal from the wild, for any purposes, of any reptile or amphibian (to include eggs or nest) except bullfrog (Lithobates catesbeianus), green frog (Lithobates clamitans) and snapping turtle (Chelydra serpentine) is prohibited except by special permit (RIHR 9.15.A). The release into the wild of any non-native reptile or amphibian is prohibited.

A full list of protected species of reptiles and amphibians in Rhode Island can be found in the RIHR, section 9.15.B. The taking of snapping turtles at any time shall be limited to turtles with a minimum carapace length of twelve (12) inches, using: turtle traps, snagging, snaring, grabbing, jugging, bow and arrow, or while legally fishing. Traps and jugs must carry the trapper’s name and address (RIHR 9.15.A.4).

Fluorescent Orange Requirements

Fluorescent hunter orange must be worn above the waist and be visible in all directions. Examples are: a hat that covers 200 square inches or a combination of hat and vest covering 500 square inches. Fluorescent camouflage does not meet this requirement.

Fluorescent Orange Requirements for All Other Users:

In addition to the above hunter requirements, all other users of State Management Areas and designated undeveloped State Parks, including but not limited to: hikers, bikers, and horseback riders are required to wear two hundred (200) square inches of solid daylight fluorescent orange from the second Saturday in September to the last day of February (September 8, 2018 - February 28, 2019) and the third Saturday in April to the last day in May, annually (April 20, 2019 - May 31, 2019). During the shotgun deer season, five hundred (500) square inches are required to be worn by all users.
### Legal Shooting Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small Game</td>
<td>Sunrise until Sunset (7:00 AM on opening day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Hunting</td>
<td>½ hour before Sunrise until ½ hour after Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote</td>
<td>½ hour before Sunrise until ½ hour after Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raccoon</td>
<td>6:00 PM October 1 until 11:59 PM of the last day of February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterfowl</td>
<td>½ hour before Sunrise until Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose, September season only</td>
<td>½ hour before Sunrise until ½ hour after Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Turkey</td>
<td>½ hour before Sunrise until 1:00PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Turkey</td>
<td>½ hour before Sunrise until Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dove (1st segment)</td>
<td>Noon until Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dove (2nd and 3rd segment)</td>
<td>Sunrise until Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodcock, Snipe &amp; Rails</td>
<td>½ hour before Sunrise until Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crow</td>
<td>½ hour before Sunrise until ½ hour after Sunset</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sunrise / Sunset Table at Providence, RI

Darker brown indicates Daylight Savings Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rise</td>
<td>Set</td>
<td>Rise</td>
<td>Set</td>
<td>Rise</td>
<td>Set</td>
<td>Rise</td>
<td>Set</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>6:19</td>
<td>7:07</td>
<td>6:50</td>
<td>6:16</td>
<td>6:26</td>
<td>4:32</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>4:15</td>
<td>7:13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>6:28</td>
<td>6:52</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>6:38</td>
<td>4:23</td>
<td>7:07</td>
<td>4:16</td>
<td>7:10</td>
<td>4:42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For further information regarding specific bag, possession, and season limits please visit the pages noted in the table below.

### Deer Hunting (see page 12 for bag/season limit information)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archery (includes Crossbow)</td>
<td>September 8 - 9 (Youth only, Zone 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 29 - 30 (Youth only, Zone 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 15 - January 31, 2019 (Zone 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October 1 - January 31, 2019 (Zone 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery: Patience and Prudence Islands (Zone 3)</td>
<td>October 27 - 28 (Youth only)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 1 - January 31, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery: Block Island (Zone 4)</td>
<td>October 9-12, 15-19, 22-26, 29-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muzzleloader</td>
<td>October 27 - 28 (Youth only, Zones 1, 2)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 3 - 25 (Zones 1, 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 26 - January 2, 2019 (Zones 1, 2 Private land only, antlerless deer only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shotgun</td>
<td>December 1 - 16 (Zone 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 1 - 9 (Zone 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery and Muzzleloader: Block Island (Zone 4)</td>
<td>November 1, 2, 5, 7-9, 13-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery, Muzzleloader &amp; Shotgun: Block Island (Zone 4)</td>
<td>November 19, 20, 26, 27, 29, 30, December 3-7, 10, 11, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>January 3, 4, 7-11, 14-18, 22-25, 28-31, 2019,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 1, 4-8, 11-15, 19-22, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Season for Disabled Hunters: Patience and Prudence Islands (Zone 3)</td>
<td>October 23 - 26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Migratory Gamebird Hunting (page 18 for bag/possession limit information)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crow</td>
<td>August 10 - September 30 (Fri, Sat, Sun Only), October 20 - December 10,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 21 - April 6, 2019 (Fri, Sat, Sun Only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King/Clapper Rail</td>
<td>September 1 - November 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sora/Virginia Rail</td>
<td>September 1 - November 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snipe</td>
<td>September 1 - November 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mourning Dove</td>
<td>September 8 - October 7, October 20 - December 2, December 8 - 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodcock</td>
<td>October 20 - December 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose (Early Season)</td>
<td>September 1 - 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose (Regular Season)</td>
<td>November 17 - November 25, December 1 - January 20, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose (Late Season)</td>
<td>January 26 - February 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow Goose (including blue goose)</td>
<td>October 6 - January 20, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ducks, Mergansers and Coots</td>
<td>October 12 - 15, November 21 - 25, December 1 - January 20, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Ducks</td>
<td>November 22 - January 20, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brant</td>
<td>November 22 - January 20, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wild Turkey Hunting (see page 28 for bag/season limit information)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Archery</td>
<td>October 1 - 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth &amp; Paraplegic *</td>
<td>April 20 - 21, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Gobbler</td>
<td>April 25, 2019 - May 19, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Small Game Hunting (see page 30 for bag/season limit information)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coyote - State Land</td>
<td>September 15 - February 28, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April 25, 2019 - May 19, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote - Private Land</td>
<td>No Closed Season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raccoon</td>
<td>October 1 - February 28, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Pheasant*</td>
<td>October 13 - 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pheasant</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottontail Rabbit</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Squirrel</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobwhite Quail</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red, Gray Fox</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruffed Grouse</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See page 10 for more information on Youth & Paraplegic Hunter Opportunities*
State Operated Check Stations

The state operated check stations provide biologists with information on hunter success and give them a chance to inspect and sample harvested game.

- **Arcadia Management Area**: Rt. 165, Ten Rod Road, at Wood River, Exeter, Phone: 401-539-7117.
- **Carolina Management Area**: Pine Hill Road, Richmond, Phone: 401-364-3483.
- **Durfee Hill Management Area**: Reynolds Road (Rte 94), Glocester, Phone: 401-568-6753.
- **Great Swamp Management Area**: 277 Great Neck Road, West Kingston, Phone: 401-789-1636.

Check-In for Small Game Hunters

Small game hunters are required to check in and out of state operated check stations and present harvest for inspection if hunting at Great Swamp, Arcadia, Durfee Hill and Carolina Management Areas on the following dates: October 20 - 21, October 27 - 28 and November 3 - 4.

State Operated Check Station Operating Hours

- **Small Game Season**: October 20 - 21, October 27 - 28 and November 3 - 4; open 1/2 hour before sunrise until sunset.
- **Muzzleloader Deer Season**: All deer taken during the period November 3 - 6 must be physically checked at a state operated biological check station; open 8:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. daily; except those deer taken on Patience, Prudence and Block Islands.

NEW for 2018-19

How to Tag and Report Your Wild Turkey

DEM recently launched the new online hunting and fishing licensing system! In addition to using this new system to purchase licenses, permits and tags electronically, you will use this system to report your harvests. The following shows you how to properly tag and report your wild turkey harvest!

1. **BAG IT!**
   Congratulations on your successful harvest!

2. **TAG IT!**
   Your tag must be notched (day, month and hour of harvest) before moving the bird for photos or to leave the woods!
   
   - The notched tag and turkey must remain in your possession when removing the turkey from the field.
   - If you must leave the field prior to removing the turkey (to return gear to your vehicle or dwelling); the notched tag must be attached to and remain with the carcass.

3. **REPORT IT!**
   Use your QR reader on your smartphone to scan your permit, or go to: [www.ri.gov/dem/huntfish](http://www.ri.gov/dem/huntfish)
   
   - Measure the beard and spurs:
     - Beard less than 6” and spurs less than 0.5” = Jake
     - Beard longer than 6” and spurs longer than 0.5” = Tom
     - No beard or spurs = Hen (fall archery season only!)
   - You must report your harvest by **midnight** on the **day of the harvest**.
   - If you do not have internet or cellular data access to report your turkey harvest, you may call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (401) 789-0281 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. M-F to report your harvest.
   - Write your harvest report confirmation number on your tag and keep the tag with your turkey until prepared for taxidermy or consumption.

Questions: Call the Division of Fish and Wildlife (401) 789-0281 or email dem.dfw@dem.ri.gov.
Deer Tagging & Harvest Reporting

How to Tag Your Deer and Report Your Harvest

The new online licensing system has brought changes to tagging and reporting your deer harvest that all hunters should be aware of. Before you leave the house or license vendor sign your hunting license and deer tags! Now you will not need a pen until you report your harvest online or over the phone! Before heading afield, grab a zip tie or string along with a durable plastic bag and put your license and tags inside the bag to protect them from the elements!

1. **BAG IT!**
   Congratulations on your successful deer harvest!

2. **TAG IT!**
   Your tag must be notched (day, hour and month of harvest) before moving the deer for photos, field dressing or to leave the woods.

   Per Rhode Island Law, the notched tag must be affixed to and remain with the deer. Use care to securely affix the tag so that the tag will not be lost when removing the deer from the woods or transporting to a check station, butcher or your home.

   **HELPFUL TIP:** It is recommended to place your tag in a durable, clear plastic bag (Ziploc bag) to make sure your tag will not rip, tear, or become illegible from water, blood or dirt. Consider rolling up the bag with the tag inside, and placing it inside the deer’s ear and tie the ear shut with a piece of string or zip tie. Reminder: The notched tag must remain affixed to the deer at all times until the deer has been prepared for taxidermy or consumption.

3. **Report It!**
   Use your QR reader on your smartphone to scan your permit, or go to: [www.ri.gov/dem/huntfish](http://www.ri.gov/dem/huntfish)

   - You must report your deer harvest within 24 hours. If you do not have internet or cellular data access to report your deer harvest, you may call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (401) 789-0281 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday to report your harvest.
   - Once on the harvest reporting site, you will be asked a few questions to determine the age and sex of the animal, the location and method of harvest and information about your time afield (effort).
   - When you are finished reporting your deer online or over the phone, you will be given a harvest report confirmation number. This number confirms that you have reported your harvest. Write the number on your tag and keep the tag affixed to the deer until prepared for taxidermy or consumption.

   **REMINDER:** Physical checking of deer required November 3 - 6 at a biological check station!

   - All deer taken during the period Nov. 3 - 6 must be physically checked, except those taken on Patience, Prudence and Block Islands.

   Above: Deer tag securely fastened inside ear with zip-tie.

   Below: Deer tag protected in plastic bag and securely fastened to leg with electrical tape.
Youth Hunting Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Deer Archery</td>
<td>Zone 1</td>
<td>September 8 - 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zone 2</td>
<td>September 29 - 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zone 3</td>
<td>October 27 – 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Deer Muzzleloader</td>
<td>Zones 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>October 27 – 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Waterfowl</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>October 27 – 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Pheasant</td>
<td>Great Swamp WMA, South Kingstown Durfee Hill WMA, Gloucester Eight Rod Farm WMA, Tiverton</td>
<td>October 13 – 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Turkey</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>April 20 - 21, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- All youth hunters ages 12 to 14 must be in possession of a resident or non-resident junior hunting license in order to hunt in RI. Youth hunters age 15 must possess a resident or non-resident hunting license. Licenses can be purchased after the completion of a Hunter Safety course.
- Youth hunters age 12 - 14 must hunt in the immediate company of an adult, 21 years of age or older, holding a valid RI hunting/archery license. Hunters age 15 do not have to hunt in the immediate company of a licensed adult EXCEPT when waterfowl hunting during the youth waterfowl hunt when all youth hunters ages 12 - 15 must hunt in the immediate company of a licensed adult.
- An adult may accompany no more than two youth hunters at any one time. Adults are prohibited from hunting or carrying archery equipment/firearms during the youth-only hunting days.
- All other hunting permit requirements and hunting regulations per season remain.
- For more information on hunting, contact the Division of Fish & Wildlife at 401-789-0281 or by emailing DEM.DFW@dem.ri.gov.
- For more information about youth hunting opportunities or our Hunter Education program, call 401-539-0019 or email Jessica.Pena@dem.ri.gov.

Youth Deer Hunting: Dates vary depending on Season and Zone. All other regulations and permit requirements apply. Please see page 12 for more deer hunting information.

Youth Waterfowl Hunting: Youth hunters may take ducks, sea ducks and geese following daily bag and possession limits for the regular seasons. All youth hunters (12 - 15) and those adults accompanying youth hunters must have a current HIP Permit and RI hunting license. The accompanying adult must also possess a current RI State Waterfowl Stamp and Federal Duck Stamp.

Youth Pheasant Hunting: Youth Pheasant Hunt to be held on October 13 - 14 at Great Swamp, Durfee Hill and Eight Rod Farm Wildlife Management Areas. For more information please email Jessica.Pena@dem.ri.gov or call 401-539-0019.

Youth Turkey Hunting: Youth hunters may take two (2) bearded turkeys during the spring season, provided they purchase two (2) spring turkey permits and at least one (1) is taken on private property. All stipulations, permit requirements, and pertinent regulations apply. Accompanying adult may assist the youth hunter in calling the bird. No preregistration is required. For more information please contact our hunter education office by emailing Jessica.Pena@dem.ri.gov or by calling 401-539-0019.

Disabled Hunting Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Deer Season for Disabled Hunters</td>
<td>Zone 3</td>
<td>October 23 – 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraplegic Hunter Turkey Season</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>April 20 - 21, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Patience and Prudence Islands (Zone 3) Special Deer Season for Disabled Hunters. The taking of deer will be limited to paraplegic and double amputee hunters only.
- A special hunting permit must be obtained through the RI DEM Office of Boat Registration and Licensing Division, 235 Promenade St. Providence, RI 02908 (401) 222-3576 by each applicant prior to the hunt. None will be issued on the island. An application signed by a physician for a first-time hunter, or a photocopy of a previous paraplegic/double amputee hunting license, is required.
- None of the hunter’s assistants will be allowed to hunt or carry loaded firearms at any time. No license is required of the assistants.
- All deer taken must be checked using the online harvest reporting system ri.gov/dem/huntfish.
- All deer wounded, but not recovered, must be reported to DEM within 24 hours.
- Ammunition is limited to a single lead or alloy projectile, rifled slug or sabot rounds in 10, 12, 16, or 20 gauge only. Buckshot is prohibited. Hunters may use muzzleloading firearms on Prudence Island.

Paraplegic Hunter Turkey Season: Spring turkey permit required. Hunting is this season is limited to paraplegic hunters only as evidenced by possession of a permanent disability hunting license. Bag limit is two (2) provided no more than one (1) is taken on public land.
THE ULTIMATE
OFF-ROAD ELECTRIC BIKE

FOR DETAILS OR DEALER INQUIRIES: 970.328.2399 | QUIETKAT.COM
Deer Hunting Seasons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archery (includes Crossbow)</td>
<td>September 8 - 9 (Youth only, Zone 1) September 29 - 30 (Youth only, Zone 2) September 15 - January 31, 2019 (Zone 1) October 1 - January 31, 2019 (Zone 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery: Patience &amp; Prudence Islands (Zone 3)</td>
<td>October 27 - 28 (Youth only)* November 1 - January 31, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery: Block Island (Zone 4)</td>
<td>October 9-12, 15-19, 22-26, 29-31 (Check local ordinance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery and Muzzleloader: Block Island (Zone 4)</td>
<td>November 1, 2, 5, 7-9, 13-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muzzleloader</td>
<td>October 27 - 28 (Youth only Zones 1, 2)* November 3 - 25 (Zones 1, 2) December 26 - January 2, 2019 (Zones 1, 2 Private land only, antlerless deer only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shotgun</td>
<td>December 1 - 16 (Zone 1) December 1 - 9 (Zone 2) December 26 - January 2, 2019 (Zones 1, 2 - Private land only, antlerless deer only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery, Muzzleloader, Shotgun (Zone 4)</td>
<td>November 19, 20, 26, 27, 29, 30 December 3-7, 10, 11, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21 January 3, 4, 7-11, 14-18, 22-25, 28-31, 2019 February 1, 4-8, 11-15, 19-22, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Season for Disabled Hunters: Patience &amp; Prudence Islands (Zone 3)</td>
<td>October 23 - 26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018-19 Season Bag Limits

| Statewide (all zones & methods combined)     | 2 Antlered Deer, (Zone 3: no more than 1 Antlered Deer) |
| Zone 1                                      | 3 Antlerless Deer                                      |
| Zone 2                                      | 2 Antlerless Deer                                      |
| Zone 3                                      | 2 Antlerless Deer                                      |
| Zone 4                                      | Unlimited Antlerless Deer                               |

* See page 10 for more information on Youth & Disabled Hunter Opportunities

1 Hunters may not possess more than ten (10) Block Island Deer Permits at one time. See RIHR 9.7.7.B for additional information.

Deer Hunting Methods

Please note: Only one firearm or bow may be possessed in the field per individual hunter while hunting deer. Check local ordinances for further restrictions in specific towns.

Shotgun

- No person shall hunt, pursue, shoot or attempt to shoot any deer with a shotgun capable of holding more than five shells, unless it is plugged with one-piece filler, which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- Ammunition permitted for shotgun deer season is limited to a single lead or alloy projectile, including rifled slugs or sabot round. Buckshot is prohibited at all times.
- Shotguns of 10, 12, 16, or 20-gauge are allowed.
- Muzzleloaders will be permitted during the shotgun season provided hunters possess a current shotgun deer permit and comply with muzzleloader restrictions. Hunters taking a deer must tag the deer with the shotgun deer tag immediately after taking. All shotgun deer season fluorescent orange requirements will be enforced.

Muzzleloader

- Firearms for muzzleloader deer season are limited to .45 caliber or larger using percussion caplock, flintlock, and in-line ignition systems using percussion caps, rifle, or shotshell primers. Only single barrel or double barrel firearms that must be loaded from the muzzle are permitted.
- Ammunition for muzzleloader deer season is limited to a single projectile, including round ball, or maxi ball type projectiles. Sabot rounds for muzzleloader firearms are permitted. Powder is limited to manufacturers’ specifications. Telescopic sights are permitted. Possession of modern shotgun shotshells while hunting is prohibited.
- A muzzleloader is considered unloaded when the percussion cap, primer or pan powder is removed.

Archery

- Archers may use a long bow, re-curve bow, compound bow or crossbow for hunting deer.
- Long bow, re-curve bow and compound bow must be set at not less than forty (40) pounds for archers using fixed blade broadheads, and a minimum of fifty (50) pounds for archers using mechanical broadheads.
- Only broadhead tipped arrows with at least two (2) metal cutting edges are allowed. All broadheads must be seven eighths (7/8) of an inch or greater at the widest point including mechanical broadheads measured in the “open” position.
- Crossbows must be set at not less than one hundred twenty five (125) pounds minimum draw weight. Expandable broadheads are permitted.
- One (1) field point arrow may be carried in the quiver for the safe discharge of the crossbow; the field point arrow must be made distinguishable from the crossbow arrow by a color difference.
- All archery deer hunters must have taken and successfully completed bow hunter education classes or hold a prior year archery deer permit in order to obtain a current year archery deer permit.
- Licensed deer hunters may carry one (1) blunt or judo tipped arrow to hunt the open portion of the small game season during the archery deer season.
- Licensed archery deer hunters using a crossbow may carry one (1) blunt or judo tipped arrow to hunt small game mammals during the open portion of the small game season during the archery deer season; no birds may be taken with a crossbow and this arrow must be made distinguishable from broadhead tipped arrows and the discharge arrow.
Adaptive Aids
Special archery adaptive aids for use with vertical held bows may be used by all hunters without a special permit.

Decoys
Deer decoys may be used on private lands in Zone 1 between September 15 and October 31, and in Zone 2 between October 1 and October 31 while archery hunting only. However, deer decoys may be used throughout the extent of the open archery season on private lands in towns where hunting with a firearm is prohibited but used of archery equipment is permitted. When transporting deer decoys for the purpose of hunting, persons must wear 500 square inches of fluorescent orange visible from all sides as is currently required for shotgun deer hunting.

Prohibited Deer Hunting Activities
- The use or possession of deer scents/lures that contain natural cervid (including deer, moose, elk) urine, gland oil, feces, tissue, blood or any other bodily fluids while taking, attempting to take, attracting, or scouting wildlife.
- The use of electronic calls.
- The placement or installation of tree stands on state land and co-op properties prior to August 15th and failure to remove the tree stands by February 15th.
- The construction and use of permanent tree stands, or the use of nails, spikes, bolts, or climbing devices, which may damage trees on state or co-op properties; and on private property without the permission of the landowner.
- Hunting, pursuing or molesting deer in tidal waters or while deer are swimming in any waters of the state.
- Feeding or baiting: the act of using, placing, giving, exposing, distributing, or scattering any material, or any act to maintain the availability of such material that attracts deer to feed on such material.
- Driving deer by parties of over five (5) people.

Written Permission
Annual written landowner permission is required for deer hunting on private land (RIGL 20-15-1) during the deer season. It is not required that deer permits (tags) be signed by the landowner, provided the hunter has other written permission in possession. Deer permits (tags) must be carried while hunting. Annual written permission must be shown to any authorized person upon demand, and must be presented when checking a deer.

Landowner Rights & Liability
Written landowner permission is required to hunt deer on private property. Hunters are urged to gain a landowner’s permission prior to hunting for all other hunting activities as well. To maintain good landowner - hunter relations, always treat the landowner’s private property with respect, and know and respect the property boundaries. It is also unlawful to shoot upon the land of another without their permission. Hunting on private land is a privilege not to be taken lightly.

To encourage landowners to make their lands available for recreational purposes, the RI General Law (32-6-3) limits the liability of persons making private land available for recreational activities, including hunting and fishing.

Liability of Landowner: an owner of land who either directly or indirectly invites or permits without charge any person to use that property for recreational purposes does not thereby:

Some of the LARGEST whitetails on the planet!
Cypress Ridge Hunting Preserve is located just outside of Orlando, less than an hour away from Disney. We have 450 acres of prime Florida land high fenced with many different species including whitetail deer, wild hogs, and exotics such as black buck antelope and axis deer. Come hunt the buck of a lifetime at Cypress Ridge Hunting Preserve. Please don’t hesitate to contact us with any questions.

We also have a wide variety of exotic animals:
- Red stag
- Blackbuck antelope
- Scimitar oryx
- Blue wildebeest
- Fallow deer
- Axis deer
- Aoudad
- Barasingha
- Whitetail deer
- Lechwe
- Pere David’s deer
- and many more!

Now offering African hunts!

Cypress Ridge Hunting Preserve
African Safaris
Thabazimbi in the Limpopo province -
The hunting trip of a lifetime!

10935 Mattioda Rd, Groveland, FL (406) 698-8170 • www.huntcrp.com
Limitations
(a) Nothing in the law limits in any way any liability which, but for this chapter, otherwise exists:

(1) For the willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure, or activity after discovering the user’s peril; or

(2) For any injury suffered in any case where the owner of land charges the person or persons who enter or go on the land for the recreational use there-of, except that in the case of land leased to the state or a subdivision thereof, any consideration received by the owner for that lease shall not be deemed a “charge” within the meaning of this section.

(b) When the Coastal Resources Management Council designates a right-of-way as part of its designation process as specified in § 46-23-6(5), or when the coastal resources management council stipulates public access as a condition of granting a permit, the landowner automatically will have “limited liability” as defined in this chapter, except as specifically recognized by or provided in this section.

Local Ordinances
Some towns restrict hunting or the discharge of firearms and, therefore, it is important to check town ordinances before hunting. Local municipalities may not prevent hunting on State-owned land. Towns closed to Sunday hunting on private lands include Portsmouth, Little Compton, Middletown, and Barrington. Some towns require written permission of the landowner, and/or local police department. For local and Sunday hunting regulations, check with the town police department or town clerk.

Patience and Prudence Islands
The only legal method of deer hunting on Prudence and Patience Islands is by archery, including crossbows. Proficiency testing is required for all archery deer hunters on Prudence and Patience Islands. Archery deer hunting is permitted at the Heritage Property from December 1 - 15 only. Proficiency cards must be carried while hunting. All deer taken must be reported to DEM within 24 hours using the harvest reporting website www.ri.gov/DEM/huntfish or be reported to an Environmental Police Officer as prescribed. The antlered deer (buck) bag limit is one (1).

Block Island (New Shoreham)
Written permission from a landowner must be obtained before hunting on private land and presented to and countersigned by the Block Island Chief of Police. All deer taken must be reported to DEM within 24 hours using the harvest reporting website www.ri.gov/DEM/huntfish or be reported to an Environmental Police Officer.

Cooperative and Special Hunting Areas

Block Island State Land (Black Rock / Rodman Hollow)
Deer hunting is allowed by special permit only, selected by lottery. Applications (available at www.dem.ri.gov) to hunt state lands must be postmarked by October 15, 2018.

Block Island and Ninigret National Wildlife Refuges
Open for limited white-tailed deer hunting by special permit only on specific units, selected by lottery. Block Island NW: archery and firearm hunting opportunities are available. All Block Island hunting restrictions, DEM, and refuge regulations apply. Ninigret NWR: specific units are open in November for a muzzleloader/archery season, in December for a shotgun/archery season, and in January for an archery only season. Crossbows are prohibited on refuge lands. December also offers a firearms deer season for youth hunters only. For information, regulations, permits and dates, please contact the USFWS at 401-364-9124, or on line at http://www.fws.gov/refuge/ninigret/visit/hunting.html

Northwest Cooperative Hunting Area (Glocester)
Permit required and may be obtained through the online hunting license system www.ri.gov/dem/huntfish. One permit will be issued for all methods of deer hunting.

The Nature Conservancy Deer Hunting Co-Op

• No Special Permits Required.
• No vehicles of any kind are allowed on the property, except in designated parking areas.
• Deer hunting only, the hunting and/or take of other species of wildlife is prohibited.
• The construction or use of permanent treestands is prohibited. The use of nails, spikes, bolts, or devices that may damage trees is prohibited. Climbing tree stands are permitted.
• Treestands may not be installed on TNC property prior to August 15th and must be removed by February 15th annually.

Francis Carter Preserve in Charlestown, Queens River Preserve in Exeter, Canochet Preserve in Hopkinton, King Preserve in North Kingstown, Cuttyhunk Brook Preserve South (area south of Stony Ln) in Exeter and Pocasset Ridge Conservation Area in Tiverton: Deer hunting only using archery equipment.

• Cuttyhunk Brook Preserve North (area north of Stony Ln) in Exeter and Grass Pond Preserve (TNC property only) in Richmond: Deer hunting only using archery equipment, muzzleloader or shotgun.

How-Davey Preserve in Hopkinton: Deer hunting only using archery equipment or muzzleloader.

Beavertail (Jamestown)
Archery only (11/11/18 - 1/31/19) no weekends prior to 12/31. Proficiency certification is required and cards must be carried while hunting. Permits must be returned by February 15 regardless of activity or success, to be eligible for next year’s hunt. Permits are available at the Jamestown Police Department. Ten (10) hunters are allowed per day on a first-come first-served basis. Limit of 5 slots per week reserved no more than twenty (20) days in advance.

Grills Preserve I (Westerly) and Grills Preserve II (Hopkinton)
Hunting for deer and wild turkey only. No special permit is required. Deer hunting is permitted only during the archery and muzzleloader portions of the deer season.

Turkey hunting is permitted in accordance with rules for the established turkey seasons.

Photo Submissions
Want to share your story or photo of a successful hunt in next year’s magazine? If so, we want to know everything: time of day, location, target species, weight, length and any other animal specific data you wish to provide. We would love to share your success with everyone! That is, if you want to give up your secrets!

Send your photo of deer, turkey, pheasant, etc. to DEM.DFW@dem.ri.gov and if space allows, it may be used in next year’s edition.
Chronic Wasting Disease Prevention

By Dylan Ferreira, Senior Wildlife Biologist, RI DEM

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease affecting cervids (deer, elk, moose and reindeer) caused by an abnormal form of cellular protein known as a prion. CWD is transmitted by direct animal-to-animal contact and by contact with saliva, feces, urine, and carcass parts (brain, spinal cord, lymph nodes, tonsils and spleen). Prions are very persistent in the environment and can be spread through contaminated soil and vegetation. When CWD infects an area, it is extremely expensive and difficult to manage, and nearly impossible to eradicate. There are no vaccines for CWD and there are limited methods of managing the disease once an area is infected.

The introduction of CWD into Rhode Island would have significant impacts on the deer population and could change deer hunting as we now know it. As a result, the Rhode Island DEM, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) continues to work proactively to keep this disease out of the state. In addition to annual monitoring efforts on hunter-harvested, road killed and reported sick deer, the DFW also has specific regulations pertaining to the feeding/baiting, importation, and possession of specific carcass parts and live cervids, particularly from CWD-endemic areas. These regulations can be found at http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/cervid.pdf.

Research also indicates that there is potential for prions to be spread using natural deer urine lures/scents. Starting in 2018, the use or possession of these products is prohibited as an additional precautionary measure to further minimize the potential for CWD to be introduced into Rhode Island. The new regulation reads as follows: “The use or possession of deer scents/lures that contain natural cervid (including deer, moose, elk) urine, gland oil, feces, tissue, blood or any other bodily fluids while taking, attempting to take, attracting, or scouting wildlife is prohibited.”

Knowing and following the existing regulations, as well as the helpful tips provided below, is the best way for you to help keep Rhode Island CWD-free.

Report all sick deer to the RI DEM Environmental Police @ 401-222-3070.

Facts and Helpful Tips to Keep Rhode Island CWD-Free

- There is no cure or vaccine for CWD.
- CWD would negatively impact Rhode Island’s deer herd and hunters.
- CWD is spread by: animal to animal contact, saliva, feces, urine, contaminated soil, and carcass parts.
- Burning or chemical treatment will not destroy CWD.
- Do not use natural deer urine lures (It is illegal!). Instead, use (synthetic) products that do not contain cervid parts.
- Do not feed/attract/bait deer (It is illegal!).
- Dispose of deer carcasses by double bagging them and bringing them to a landfill. Do not throw them in the woods.
- Do not import potentially CWD infectious materials from CWD-endemic areas (It is illegal!).
- Permitted carcass parts: Deboned meat, hide or cape, skull cap with antlers-free of blood and brain matter, antlers, finished taxidermy, tanned hide, a fresh head and cape only after certified CWD free from a USDA Lab.
RI Deer Management Zones

Zone 1: Barrington, Bristol, Central Falls, Charlestown, Cranston, Cumberland, East Greenwich, East Providence, Jamestown, Johnston, Lincoln, Middletown, Narragansett, Newport, North Kingstown, North Providence, North Smithfield, Pawtucket, Providence, Smithfield, South Kingstown, Warren, Warwick, West Warwick, Westerly, Woonsocket.

Zone 2: Burrillville, Coventry, Exeter, Foster, Glocester, Hopkinton, Little Compton, Portsmouth, Richmond, Scituate, Tiverton, West Greenwich.

Zone 3: Patience and Prudence Islands

Zone 4: Block Island (New Shoreham)

RI Wildlife Management Areas

More detailed maps and information are available in the Management / Hunting Area Atlas at www.dem.ri.gov/maps/
Environmental Police
OFFICER RECOGNITION

By Kurt Blanchard, Acting Chief, RI DEM Division of Law Enforcement

Every year the Division of Law Enforcement recognizes some really-fine work by officers of the Division who have gone above and beyond. This recognition comes through three very supportive groups who believe in the Conservation Law Enforcement mission. The Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Association is made up of member states/provinces from the United States and Canada. This organization was founded in 1942 and has continually supported our profession through their actions and annual support of an officer of the year award. The second group is Shikar-Safari Club International; this conservation organization has supported our officers through awards, grants and insurance programs since 1981. The final group is the National Wild Turkey Federation (Rhode Island State Chapter). With the support of these fine organizations the following officers were recognized for outstanding work in 2017.

Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Association
Please accept my nomination of Environmental Police Officer Christopher Duguid and his K9 partner, Bear of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Division of Law Enforcement for the Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Association’s Officer of the Year. EPO Christopher Duguid is a 14-year veteran of the agency and is currently assigned to the Marine Unit.

EPO Duguid is a model officer who is engaged in all facets of our profession. He is an extremely active officer and has lead the way in training and coordination of our K9 program. The goodwill and public support developed through our program is a credit to EPO Duguid’s hard work and commitment. An example of his dedication to training and the development of his abilities is illustrated in a call to service where EPO Duguid was asked to pursue a bank robbery suspect in the Town of Narragansett. EPO Duguid and his partner, Bear responded to the bank where he was asked to track the suspect who had fled from the bank on foot. The K9 team set off on a track that covered several terrain changes as well as an obstruction leading to an out-building on a nearby property. Once at this location, Bear indicated on the building where the suspect was located, and the suspect was taken into custody without incident.

The apprehension of this bank robbery suspect was a positive reflection on EPO Duguid and his partner, Bear, as well as the Department. In consideration and appreciation of EPO Christopher Duguid’s efforts in this incident, I nominate him as the Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Association Officer of the Year.

Shikar-Safari International
Please accept my nomination of Environmental Police Officer Adam Hill of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Division of Law Enforcement for the Shikar Safari Club International, Wildlife Officer of the Year. EPO Adam Hill is a 13-year veteran of the agency and is currently assigned to the Marine Unit.

EPO Hill is a model officer who is engaged in all facets of our profession. He is an extremely active officer and has facilitated several investigations into illegal hunting and fishing complaints. One such example of his dedication to the profession is illustrated in an arrest made by EPO Hill and EPO Kevin Snow. On the evening of August 20, 2017 both officers were working striped bass enforcement in and around the docks in

...Continued on page 27

Fetch Your Tickets

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

Ducks Unlimited
## Migratory Bird Hunting

### Waterfowl Seasons and Bag Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Daily Bag Limit</th>
<th>Restrictions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days*</td>
<td>October 27 - 28</td>
<td>Same as regular season, listed below</td>
<td>Open to youth hunters age 12-15 accompanied by a licensed adult, 21 years of age or older and may take ducks, sea ducks and geese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose Early Season</td>
<td>September 1 - 30</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset for September season only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose Regular Season</td>
<td>November 17 - 25 and December 1 - January 20, 2019</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Special permits are required for the South Shore Management Area and may be obtained through the online licensing system or the DFW. Field reservations are required. See page 26 for more information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose Late Season</td>
<td>January 26 - February 9, 2019</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Limited to Providence, Bristol and Kent counties and portions of Washington County as described in RIHR §9.11(B)(3)(d). A map depicting the area open to hunting is available on the Department of Environment Management’s website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow Goose (Including Blue Goose)</td>
<td>October 6 - January 20, 2019</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>No possession Limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brant</td>
<td>November 22 - January 20, 2019</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Ducks(^1)</td>
<td>November 22 - January 20, 2019</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Eider, Long-tailed Duck, Scoter (only 4 of any one species per daily bag limit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ducks</td>
<td>October 12 - 15 November 21 - 25 December 1 - January 20, 2019</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>The daily bag limit shall contain no more than:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mallard ........................................................................................................ 4(2 hens)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Black Duck .......................................................... 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Canvasback .......................................................... 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pintail ............................................................. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Redhead ............................................................................. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scaup .............................................................................. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wood Duck ........................................................................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coots</td>
<td>Same As Ducks</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mergansers</td>
<td>Same As Ducks</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hooded merganser ........................................................................ 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swans</td>
<td>No Season</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlequin Duck</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Caution:</strong> Harlequin ducks are found in sea duck hunting areas along rocky coastal shores, specifically in the vicinity of Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge, Middletown and Beavertail Pt., Jamestown. The female Harlequin duck is similar in appearance to female bufflehead, goldeneye, or scoter, and can be mistaken for the latter species.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The possession limit shall contain no more than three (3) times the daily bag limit listed above.

\(^{*}\)See page 10 for more information on Youth and Disabled Hunter Opportunities

### Migratory Shore and Upland Game Bird Seasons and Bag Limits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Bag Limits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crow</td>
<td>August 10 - September 30 (Fri, Sat, Sun Only) October 20 - December 10 (inclusive) December 21 - April 6, 2019 (Fri, Sat, Sun Only)</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King/Clapper Rail</td>
<td>September 1 - November 9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sora/Virginia Rail</td>
<td>September 1 - November 9</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snipe</td>
<td>September 1 - November 9</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mourning Dove</td>
<td>September 8 - October 7 October 20 - December 2 December 8 - 23</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodcock</td>
<td>October 20 - December 3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The possession limit shall contain no more than three (3) times the daily bag limit listed above.

\(^{1}\)Except for the periods November 22 - 25, 2018 and December 1, 2018 – January 20, 2019 may be taken only in the Special Sea Duck Hunting Areas. These areas are seaward of the first upstream bridge, which includes Washington Bridge-Seekonk River; Mt. Hope Bridge- Mt. Hope Bay; and Sakonnet Bridge- Sakonnet River. Sea ducks taken in areas outside of Special Sea Duck Hunting Areas during the periods November 22 – 25, 2018 and December 1, 2018 – January 20, 2019 will be considered as part of the regular daily six (6) bird bag limit. Sea ducks may not be taken during the first segment, as well as the first day of the second segment of the regular duck season October 12 - 15 and November 21, 2018.
2018-19 Waterfowl Highlights:
1. Black duck daily bag limit remains at two (2) birds per day.
2. Canada goose regular season has been reduced to sixty (60) days.
3. Canada goose bag limit during the regular season has been reduced to two (2).
4. Permit and reservations are required to hunt geese at the South Shore Management Area during the regular season. Permits will be issued online and at the DFW Great Swamp Field office (see page 26 for details).
5. All migratory bird hunters must possess a Rhode Island Harvest Information Program (HIP) Permit, available through the online licensing system.
6. All waterfowl hunters sixteen (16) years of age and older must possess a RI State Waterfowl Stamp and Federal Duck Stamp.
7. Discharge of a firearm within five hundred (500) feet of an occupied dwelling is prohibited.
8. Cripples may be pursued, shot and retrieved from a boat under power in tidal waters seaward of the first upstream bridge; crippled birds must be immediately killed.
9. All regulations pertaining to migratory bird hunting also pertain to falconry hunting (special permit required, contact the DFW for more details).

Migratory Bird Hunting And Conservation Stamp
The law requires that each waterfowl hunter sixteen (16) years of age and over must carry on his or her person a valid Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (“Federal Duck Stamp”) signed in ink across the face. Waterfowl hunters must also possess a RI State Waterfowl Stamp, signed in ink across the face, or a State Waterfowl Stamp Certification obtained through the web-based online licensing system ri.gov/dem/huntfish. Those wishing to obtain a RI waterfowl stamp ($7.50) may do so at the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Great Swamp Field Headquarters: 277 Great Neck Rd, West Kingston, RI 02892, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. A limited number of “hunter” edition stamps will be printed and available for purchase.

Harvest Information Permit - HIP
All migratory bird hunters are required by Federal Law to obtain a RI Harvest Information Program (HIP) Permit, obtainable through the online licensing system www.ri.gov/dem/huntfish, at hunting license vendors and participating town clerks statewide. For more information, call 401-789-0281. A HIP certification must be included on your license document to hunt migratory birds.

About The Artist
Kaia Bennett recently completed seventh grade at the Exeter West Greenwich Junior High School. She enjoys participating in art classes at Lionheart Studies, playing the flute and dancing. Kaia is passionate about nature and animals and she loves spending time outdoors. This is Kaia’s first selection as the Rhode Island Waterfowl Stamp artist.

Non-Toxic Shot Requirements
No person shall hunt, pursue, shoot or attempt to take waterfowl, rails, or snipe within the State of Rhode Island, including associated jurisdictional tidal waters which extend from mean high water to the seaward limit of three miles, while possessing shells loaded with any shot other than non-toxic shot (e.g., steel, bismuth-tin, tungsten-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-matrix, and tungsten-nickel-iron-shot) and other shot as approved by United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). All shot larger than BB is prohibited; including duplex loads containing shot larger than BB. Tin shot is prohibited.

Hunting Restrictions
No person shall take migratory game birds:
• With a trap, snare, net, crossbow, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, 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 removal 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 water).
• From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance.
• From or by means of any motor boat or sail boat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefore has ceased.
• By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
• Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls.
• By driving, rallying or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in the range of hunters.
• By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on/over a baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation.
Closed Areas

Providence, East Providence, Pawtucket – That portion of the Seekonk River north of the railroad bridge to a line across the Seekonk River running between the intersection of Gulf Road and River Drive (Providence side) to the southerly abutment of the railroad bridge at the outlet of Omega Pond (East Providence side), shall be closed to waterfowl hunting. The discharge of firearms while waterfowl hunting on the Seekonk River is restricted to discharge toward open water (seaward).

Warwick – Brush Neck Cove, so-called, in its entirety. Mill Cove, so-called, in its entirety, including the beachfront. Buttonwoods Cove, so-called, in its entirety.

North Kingstown – Mill Cove, Wickford, so-called, in its entirety. Fishing Cove, Wickford, area west of a line to be determined bisecting Cornelius Island. All discharge of firearms while waterfowl hunting is restricted to discharge in an easterly direction from the above line. The Division of Fish and Wildlife will establish the line of demarcation.

Charlestown – Watchaug Pond and Poquiant Brook, or hunting within 100 yards upland of the shore or bank of same.

Tiverton – That unnamed estuary in Tiverton, north of Seapowet Avenue and east of Jack’s Island, bounded on the west, south, and east shore by the Audubon Society of RI’s Emile Ruecker Wildlife Refuge, and as posted by Audubon Society of RI and Department of Environmental Management signs. The affected area includes the inlet of this estuary and marshland on the north side of this outlet.

Middletown – Sachuest Point (NWR) shoreline below mean high water to mean low water surrounding the National Wildlife Refuge property is closed to all hunting. No hunting along shoreline.

Lincoln/Central Falls – Pursuant to RIGL 11-47-49.1, discharge of a firearm within the Blackstone Valley Flood Plains or Marshes, also known as “Valley Marshes” is prohibited.

Additional Restrictions

Barrington – The Barrington River between Central Bridge at Massasoit Avenue and Barrington Bridge #123 at County Road is closed to hunting, except for that section on the river east of Puritan Avenue (41.745873° N, -71.309876° W) and west of the point southwest of Seabrook Court (41.744189° N, -71.306622° W). Hunting shall be restricted to the water areas below the vegetation line. Discharge of firearms while waterfowl hunting is restricted to discharge toward open water (seaward).

Bristol – Walker Island - discharge of firearms while waterfowl hunting is restricted to discharge toward open waters (seaward).

East Providence – Check local ordinances for restrictions. The discharge of firearms while waterfowl hunting is restricted to discharge toward open water (seaward).

Warwick – Rock Island and its adjacent groin extending northward off Narragansett Parkway. The discharge of firearms while waterfowl hunting is restricted to discharge toward open water (seaward).

Cranston – Washouset Point (Pawtuxet Cove) north to Fields Point including Stillhouse Cove, the discharge of firearms while waterfowl hunting is restricted to discharge towards open water (seaward). No hunting within five hundred (500) feet of occupied buildings (RIGL 20-13-7) from the shoreline or from a watercraft.

Little Compton – All waterfowl hunters must have the following to hunt the Simmons Mill Pond only in the Simmons Mill Management Area: (a) waterfowl decoys; (b) retrieving breed of hunting dog, and/or a boat without motor, or canoe without motor.

North Kingstown – Waterfowl hunting on Belleville Pond is restricted to the northwest segment of the large pond as designated by DEM signs. The discharge of firearms is restricted toward open waters. Waterfowl hunting is permitted after November 15 by town ordinance. Firearms must remain cased until individual reaches hunting area (blind or boat).

Check local ordinances for shooting or hunting restrictions.

Wanton Waste

All migratory game birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved, if possible, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field.

Tagging

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:

1. The hunter’s signature
2. The hunter’s address
3. The total number of birds involved, by species
4. The dates such birds were killed

No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another unless such birds are properly tagged.

Possession Of Live Birds

Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

Dressing

No person shall completely field dress any migratory game bird (except doves and band-tailed pigeons) and then transport the birds from the field. The head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to one’s home or to a migratory bird preservation facility.

Shipment

No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (a) the name and address of the person sending the birds, (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and (c) the number of birds, by species contained in the package.
Importation
For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66. One fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory birds being transported between the port of entry and one’s home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except as required in 20.63), drawn, and head and feet are removed. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

Reference
Federal regulations related to migratory game birds are located in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.

Hunting On National Wildlife Refuges
More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on Federal regulations, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agent, 401-364-9124.

Avian Disease
Since the detection of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in North America in 2015, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management has participated in a nationwide surveillance effort of wild birds. To date, there have been no positive detections of HPAI in wild birds in Rhode Island. The Department and cooperators have scaled back HPAI surveillance efforts and appreciates the past support of hunters in providing specimens for sampling. Despite scaled back surveillance efforts, the Department encourages hunters to remain vigilant and report unusual or suspected mortality events. Due to the presence of HPAI in North America, the DFW strongly advises hunters to adhere to the following procedures when handling wild birds to avoid possible exposure to themselves, pets or domestic poultry:

- Do not handle or butcher game animals that are obviously sick or are found dead.
- Do not eat, drink, or smoke while cleaning game.
- Wear rubber gloves or cover hands with plastic when cleaning game.
- Wash your hands with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds after handling game.
- Carry disinfecting wipes or an alcohol-based gel into the field with you for immediate use after handling game.
- Wash tools and working surfaces with soap and water, then disinfect with a 10% solution of chlorine bleach.
- Cook game meat thoroughly—reaching an internal temperature of 165° F.
- Clean birds in an area that poultry and pet birds cannot access. There should be a solid barrier between your game cleaning area and where birds are housed.
- Keep a separate pair of shoes to be worn only in the game cleaning area. Clean and disinfect all footwear when coming in and out of the cleaning area.
- Use dedicated tools for cleaning game, do not mix tools that you use around poultry or pet birds.
- Double bag offal and feathers, tying both bags shut.
- Place bags in a container that poultry, pet birds, children, or other pets cannot access.

Attention Migratory Bird Hunters
Reminder: Report ALL bird bands ONLINE!

www.reportband.gov

Since June 2017, band reports are no longer taken over the phone via the 1-800 number. Band reports may also be mailed to: USGS Bird Banding Lab 12100 Beach Forest Rd, Laurel, MD 20708

Your band reports are important for migratory bird conservation!
Late Season CANADA GOOSE MAP

Legend

- Open to Hunting
- Closed to Hunting

Zone Map for Canada Goose Late Hunting Season Only

**Dates:** January 26 - February 9, 2019
**Bag Limit:** 5  **Possession Limit:** 15
Limited to Providence, Bristol and Kent counties and portions of Washington County as described in RI Hunting Regulations §9.11 (B)(3)(d).
Sea ducks are some of the most prized waterfowl species for duck hunters, wildlife photographers, and birders. The coastal waters and offshore environments in southern New England provide crucial winter habitat for several species including Common Eiders, all three species of scoters (Black, White-winged, Surf), and Long-tailed Ducks. Over the past several decades, population declines of many sea duck species have highlighted the need for a better understanding of their habitat preferences, migration patterns and timing, and linkages between important geographic areas throughout their life cycle. Reasons for these declines remain poorly understood, but habitat conditions and disturbance on the wintering grounds may have carry-over effects impacting annual survival and breeding productivity during subsequent seasons. Because sea ducks spend much of their annual cycle in nonbreeding areas where human-induced threats are often greatest, understanding habitat use on their wintering grounds is crucial for conservation planning. As the development of offshore wind power moves closer to large-scale implementation in the northeastern United States, particularly in areas used by sea ducks during winter, identifying important habitats used by wintering sea ducks informs the planning process and helps avoid displacement of sea ducks from preferred habitats.

One species of sea duck that inhabits New England coastal waters during the wintering period is the White-winged Scoter (Melanitta fusca). White-winged Scoters are a long-lived sea duck species that winters along both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of North America, with increasing numbers also wintering on the Great Lakes. White-winged Scoters nest throughout the interior boreal forest from Alaska to central Canada, with geographically separate eastern and western populations, although some studies have suggested that birds from Atlantic and Pacific coasts may overlap on the breeding grounds. Like most other sea duck species, White-winged Scoters have apparently experienced a long-term population decline throughout the last half-century. Researchers from RI DEM, University of Rhode Island, Biodiversity Research Institute, and the Canadian Wildlife Service partnered together between 2015 and 2018 to study the movement ecology of White-winged Scoters. We deployed over 50 satellite transmitters in adult females on their wintering grounds in southern New England and at a molting area in the St. Lawrence River Estuary in Quebec. We were able to follow the movements of many individuals for over two years, as they traversed thousands of miles between wintering areas on the East Coast to breeding grounds across the northern boreal forest from Quebec to the Northwest Territories of Canada, on their return migration to important molting and then wintering areas, and for some back again to the breeding grounds.

The data gathered from these birds allowed us to calculate the size and habitat characteristics of winter home ranges, and to identify specific areas in southern New England during winter that were preferred by White-winged Scoters (Fig. 1). Our results suggested that offshore sites predicted to be most used by scoters had very minimal overlap with currently leased and proposed wind energy areas in southern New England. However, many birds made long-distance flights throughout the winter between areas like Montauk Point, NY and the Nantucket Shoals south of Nantucket Island, therefore they were often crossing wind energy areas as they moved between their preferred sites. This suggests that future wind energy development in the currently proposed wind energy lease blocks could pose a deterrent or barrier to these important within-winter movements.

Using the movement data from these scoters, we were also able to identify and document their primary migration routes between breeding and wintering areas and the timing of these movements (Figs. 2, 3). This information is important for biologists responsible for designating hunting

Fig. 1. Estimated probability of use by adult female White-winged Scoters in nearshore and offshore waters in southern New England based on movements of satellite-tagged birds.

Fig. 2. Movements by satellite-tagged adult female White-winged Scoters in spring from wintering sites to breeding locations.
State Lands

There are over 55,000 acres of land designated as state management areas in Rhode Island. Maps of management areas are available from the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife at the Great Swamp Field Office or online at: www.dem.ri.gov. Regulations are designed and enforced to allow all outdoor enthusiasts to safely enjoy these land holdings. Hunting and trapping is allowed during the open seasons. In order to effectively manage and safeguard these open areas for people, wildlife, and habitat, the following regulations are to be followed:

- Except for fishing, hunting, launching, and/or mooring of boats, all management areas are closed ½ hour after sunset to 5:00 a.m., except by written permit (RIGL 32-2-4).
- Camping is prohibited on all areas with the exception of portions designated at Arcadia and George Washington Management Areas. Contact the Division of Forest Environment for camping information (401) 539-2356.
- The use of motorcycles is prohibited except in designated portions of Arcadia Management Area.
- The use of ATVs is prohibited statewide.
- The blocking of any gate, road, or access in State Management Areas is prohibited and subject to fines (RIGL 8-8.2-2).
- Horseback riding is prohibited in the Great Swamp Management Area during small game and shotgun deer season (RIGL 32-2-4).
- Groups consisting of 10 or more persons must obtain a special use permit available at the RI DEM Office of Boat Registration and Licensing (401-222-3576).
- Galilee Bird Sanctuary is open to deer hunting using archery equipment.
- The use of live birds is by special permit only. A hunting license is required when training dogs on wild game on state management areas, except when participating in state sanctioned field trials.

Undeveloped State Parks

Hunting is permitted in the following:

- Cocumcussoc and Washington Grove
- Burlingame State Park North Camp is open to deer and turkey hunting only
- Snake Den is open to archery hunting only
- Ninigret Conservation Area/East Beach is open to small game hunting and archery deer hunting only.
- J.L. Curran is open to shotgun and archery hunting only, within the posted designated areas; this area is closed to mourning dove hunting.

Dogs on Management Areas

No dogs shall be trained, run, exercised or be permitted to run at large on state management areas from March 15 - August 15, inclusive, without written permission of the State Lands Management Council, except in specified dog training areas (below). Walking of dogs on a leash of not more than twenty-five (25) feet in length shall be permitted on roads and trails only. All dogs being utilized in hunting or training activities must wear a collar bearing the name and address of the owner and the handler must hold in possession a valid dog license or tag but it does not need to be on the dog.

Special Dog Training Areas

Dog training is allowed in designated areas located within Arcadia Management Area (Midway Trail) in Exeter, Nicholas Farm Management Area (north of Trestle Trail) in Coventry, and Black Farm Management Area in Hopkinton from January 1 to September 30, from sunrise to sunset. The use of live birds is by special permit only. A hunting license is required when training dogs on wild game on state management areas, except when participating in state sanctioned field trials.

Bay Islands

Prudence Island

Written permission of the landowner, countersigned by the police chief, must be obtained to hunt private property on Prudence Island. South Prudence is closed to small game hunting. The small game season on Prudence Island is November 1 - 30, except on North Prudence, where the small game season is January 1 - 31, 2019; North Prudence is located north of the State gate, at the northern terminus of Neck Farm Road. Raccoon open season for Prudence Island is the first day of January through the last day of February with written permission of the landowner. Bow hunters with a valid archery deer permit may take raccoon on Prudence Island during legal deer hunting hours beginning on the first day of November and ending on the last day of January.

Waterfowl hunting is permitted no more than 10 feet above mean high water on Prudence Island, except during the early waterfowl season, as established by federal regulation, and during November 1 – 30. Special deer season for disabled hunters limited to paraplegic and double amputee deer hunters only by special permit available at the RI DEM Office of Boat Registration and Licensing (401-222-3576).

Other Restrictions

Dutch Island: Closed to hunting and all other access.

East and West Island: No Trespassing April 1 - August 15, for nesting birds.

Dyer Island, Gould Island, Hope Island: No Trespassing April 1 - August 15, for nesting birds. All domestic animals prohibited except hunting dogs during small game, migratory upland game bird and waterfowl seasons.

Patience Island: Closed to small game and upland game bird hunting, except for coyote. All domestic animals prohibited except hunting dogs during the waterfowl season.

To plan your hunt, call J. Paul Taylor at 877.539.5699
Visit us at www.pa-ko.com
Rhode Island DEM’s Management Areas provide hunting and fishing opportunities to the public, and protect wildlife habitat and exemplary natural communities. In 1959 a 155-acre parcel in Hopkinton, Rhode Island, located between Long Pond and Asheville Pond, was purchased to establish Rockville Management Area. Subsequent acquisitions throughout the next several decades added to this area, and with a recent purchase of 30 acres along Canonchet Rd in December 2017, the area now totals 1,019 acres. This recent purchase was accomplished with funding from the State of Rhode Island Open-Space Bonds; this area contributes to over 2,100 acres of conservation land in western Hopkinton held by RIDEM, Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy and Hopkinton Land Trust.

A variety of habitats occur within Rockville Management Area including oak forest, mixed forest, and freshwater ponds. Lichen-covered rocky outcroppings and dense stands of mountain laurel understory are a common occurrence throughout the property. Asheville Pond, Blue Pond, Ell Pond, Long Pond, and several smaller unnamed ponds, all feature largely undeveloped shorelines with opportunities to fish or explore in a relatively wild setting. During the flood event of 2010, the stone dam impounding Blue Pond was permanently washed out, resulting in a unique wet meadow habitat, while still retaining some open water habitat that provides excellent bass fishing opportunities.

Rockville Management Area is accessible from designated parking areas along Canonchet Rd in western Hopkinton. Gated access roads and unimproved trails wind throughout the property. Rockville Management Area is open to all forms of regulated hunting and trapping, and is located within Deer Management Zone 2. White-tailed deer, fisher, and mink are considered relatively abundant here with opportunities for turkey and waterfowl hunting also present. Asheville Pond Fishing Area (Canonchet Rd) provides opportunities for shore fishing or launching small craft boats. This pond is stocked with trout several times each year and is open to canoes, kayaks, and boats with electric motors. Federal Aid to Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration funds made available through the Pittman-Robertson Act and Dingell-Johnson Act, along with matching funds from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and permits, are used to maintain and enhance this Management Area.

With the recent boundary expansion here and acquisitions elsewhere, RIDEM continues to increase its portfolio of open space to help support wildlife conservation and provide hunting opportunities to the public. Get outside and enjoy Rockville Management Area!

Continued from page 23

By Tanner Steeves, Wildlife Biologist, RI DEM

seasons and for protecting key areas used during migration, and for others responsible for managing offshore wind farms and other potential sources of disturbance. White-winged Scoters wintering in coastal New England bred throughout northern Canada from northern Quebec to the Northwest Territories. After leaving the breeding grounds, scoters underwent a month-long wing molt primarily in James Bay and the St. Lawrence River Estuary before continuing their fall migration back to their primary wintering grounds in southern New England. An important finding from this research was that migration timing was consistent among all birds in our study, regardless of where they bred or molted, and regardless of what route they decided to take. Essentially, the eastern portion of the continental White-winged Scoter population seems to function as a single, continuous population with little evidence of any geographically distinct sub-populations. This suggests that our current harvest of White-winged Scoters would not disproportionately target any particular segment of the population.

Our hope is that this project provides helpful information to policy makers, developers, and biologists to best conserve and manage this important species. This study was part of the Atlantic and Great Lakes Sea Duck Migration Study, a multi-partner collaborative project initiated by the Sea Duck Joint Venture. Funding for this project was provided by the Sea Duck Joint Venture, RI DEM Fish and Wildlife using Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration funds made available through the Pittman-Robertson Act and the University of Rhode Island. More information can be found at seaduckjv.org.

Fig. 3. Movements by satellite-tagged adult female White-winged Scoters in fall from breeding locations to molting and wintering sites.
South Shore Management Area Goose Hunting Cooperative

Permits:
- Required for all goose hunters during the regular Canada Goose season (November 17 - 25, December 1 - January 20, 2019).
- Must be obtained from the online licensing system www.ri.gov/dem/huntfish or from the Division of Fish and Wildlife’s Great Swamp Field Headquarters, 277 Great Neck Rd., West Kingston.
- License document with SSMA permit certification must be carried while goose hunting at the SSMA and must be shown to any DEM Environmental Police Officer or Division of Fish and Wildlife employee upon request.

Field Reservations
- Required for Canada goose hunting during the regular goose season (November 17 - 25, December 1 - January 20, 2019).

Additional SSMA Goose Hunting Regulations
- See information packet provided with the goose hunting permit for additional rules and regulations for goose hunting in the SSMA.
- SSMA is CLOSED during the late (February) goose season: January 26 - February 9, 2019.

Harvest Reporting
- All regular season Canada goose hunters are required to report their harvest through the online licensing system. Those without internet access may submit their written log to the Division of Fish and Wildlife using the hunting activity and harvest record included with their SSMA permit. Failure to do so may result in a loss of hunting privileges for the 2019-20 season.

Prohibited:
- Littering
- Fires
- Destruction of fencing, equipment, farm property, or standing crops
- Possession or use of alcoholic beverages
- Shooting within five hundred (500) feet of an occupied building; shooting near or otherwise disturbing person working in the area
- Urinating or defecating in pit blinds

Additional Hunting Restrictions at SSMA

Dove hunting is allowed in fields 1, 3, 5 and 6 during early dove season. Doves may be taken by permitted goose hunters while goose hunting when the field reservation system is in place during the open Dove season. Possession of lead shot for taking doves while goose hunting is prohibited.

Upland game hunting is allowed only in fields 5 and 6 during the upland game season except during the regular Canada goose season. All upland game hunting is prohibited during regular goose season, including Youth Waterfowl Weekend.

Deer hunting during the archery season is allowed ONLY in the wooded portions of field 3, 5 and 6 throughout the archery season, including during the regular Canada goose season when the field reservation system is in place.

Deer hunting during the muzzleloader season is allowed ONLY in field 6 and its wooded portions EXCEPT during the regular Canada goose season.

Waterfowl hunting is allowed outside of the regular Canada goose season but within legal waterfowl seasons and without special hunting permits, reservation, or decoy restrictions, once crops are harvested. The taking of ducks during legal duck seasons is permitted while goose hunting.

Violations of any SSMA regulations, state management area regulations, and/or any state or federal hunting laws will result in loss of hunting privileges on the SMMA for a period of one year, beginning from the date of the violation.

For additional information, see the 2018-2019 RI Hunting Regulations or call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (401) 789-0281.
Newport Harbor. The officers had received information of the illegal commercialization of striped bass with Rhode Island recreational fish being transported to Massachusetts for commercial sale. During this patrol the officers encountered a known commercial fisherman who they observed enter a marina via his boat, and then in a very short time exit from the marina again by boat and move to an area at the State Pier where this vessel is traditionally docked. The officers approached this fisherman to check for compliance. The fisherman indicated he had caught fish but that none were keepers so he released them. The officers finished their boarding and allowed the fisherman to leave. Officer Hill suspected that this fisherman was not telling the truth and proceeded to walk the docks around the marina where they had originally observed this fisherman. On the end of one of the piers Officer Hill located a cooler containing striped bass. Officer Hill then stayed in the area to surveil this cooler. At approximately 8:00 a.m. after six hours of surveillance, the officers observed the fisherman enter the dock and watched as he retrieved the cooler full of striped bass. Once the cooler and fish were taken to shore by the fisherman the officers each approached him from separate directions. Officer Hill was the first to engage the fisherman and take him into custody for exceeding his daily limit of striped bass, failure to fin clip striped bass, and obstruction of an officer.

This case, as well as EPO Hill’s daily level of patrol effort and follow-through on investigations was a positive reflection of EPO Hill as well as the Department. In consideration and appreciation of EPO Adam Hill’s efforts in this incident, I nominate him to receive the Shikar Safari Club International, Wildlife Officer of the Year.

National Wild Turkey Federation (Rhode Island State Chapter)
Please accept my nomination of Environmental Police Officer Michael Schipritt of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Division of Law Enforcement for the NWTF Rhode Island Chapter, Officer of the Year. EPO Michael Schipritt is a 14-year veteran of the agency and is currently assigned to the Upland Unit and patrols the Towns of South Kingstown and Narragansett.

EPO Schipritt is a model officer who is engaged in all facets of our profession. He is an extremely active officer and has spearheaded several investigations that have led to citations and arrests for hunting deer out of season, failure to tag a deer, hunting migratory birds over bait, taking a protected bird, non-resident in possession of a resident turkey tag, and a felony offense of a person being in possession of a firearm after being convicted of a crime of violence. It is not because of EPO Schipritt’s steadfast patrol activity that I nominate him for this award; rather, it is for his extracurricular activities where he has honored our profession. In the past year EPO Schipritt has taken the lead in promoting an Operation Game Thief (OGT) program in the State of Rhode Island. While working closely with International Wildlife Crimestoppers, a non-profit agency dedicated to reducing the illegal taking of fish and wildlife resources, EPO Schipritt has brought great recognition to this program in Rhode Island. He has organized a sporting clays fundraiser, sought a grant to purchase a turkey decoy, and continues to work toward the development of a statewide OGT program in Rhode Island. These efforts have been completed after-hours during EPO Schipritt’s personal time. His efforts have raised approximately $12,000 that will be used in the promotion of IWC/OGT in Rhode Island and nationally. Additionally, the State was awarded a $1,000 grant to purchase an eastern wild turkey decoy. This decoy will be deployed to deter the illegal take of wild turkeys.

In consideration and appreciation of EPO Michael Schipritt’s efforts in these operations, I nominate him to receive the NWTF Rhode Island Chapter, Officer of the Year.

It is with immense pride and gratitude that these officers were nominated and selected as officers of the year for their respective sponsoring organizations. The story behind these nominations shows the depth of training, skills and dedication to the mission of Conservation Law Enforcement that our officers all believe in. We are extremely proud of these officers and all they have accomplished over the past year.

Don’t dig yourself into trouble...

The Perfect Excavation:

- Pre-mark the location of intended excavation using white stakes, paint or flags.
- In MA, ME, NH and RI, notify Dig Safe® at least 72 hours in advance - not including weekends and holidays.
- In Vermont, notify Dig Safe® at least 48 hours in advance - not including weekends and holidays.
- Notify non-member facility owners.
- Maintain the marks placed by underground facility owners.
- Use caution and dig by hand when working within 18" of a marked facility.
- If a line is damaged, do not backfill. Notify the affected utility company immediately if the facility, its protective coating, or a tracer wire is damaged.
- Call 911 if the damaged facility poses a risk to public safety.
- Know your state’s excavation requirements. Go to digsafe.com for educational material and current laws.

Call 811 before you dig.

digsafe.com

Call Dig Safe®. It’s Smart, It’s Free, and It’s the Law.
Wild Turkey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Season Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Archery</td>
<td>October 1 - 14</td>
<td>1 either sex bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth &amp; Paraplegic*</td>
<td>April 20 - 21, 2019</td>
<td>2 bearded birds¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Gobbler</td>
<td>April 25 - May 19, 2019</td>
<td>2 bearded birds¹</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* See page 10 for more information on Youth & Paraplegic Hunt Opportunities
¹No more than one (1) turkey may be taken on state lands during the spring season. See Permits and Tagging for more information.

General Rules and Regulations

- The hunting of wild turkey is permitted statewide. Check local ordinances for firearm discharge restrictions. Firearms are permitted for turkey hunting during the Spring Gobbler and Youth & Paraplegic seasons only.
- Hunting and shooting hours for the spring seasons (Youth/Paraplegic and Spring Gobbler) end at 1:00 PM. All spring turkey hunters must leave the woods by 1:00 PM.
- Limited to: shotguns, gauges 10, 12, 16, and 20 only, with shot sizes 4, 5, 6 and 7 magnum turkey loads only; and archery equipment. Long bow, re-curve bow and compound bow must be set at not less than forty (40) pounds for archers using fixed blade broadheads, and a minimum of fifty (50) pounds for archers using mechanical broadheads. Only broadband tipped arrows with at least two (2) metal cutting edges are allowed. All broadheads must be seven eights (7/8) of an inch or greater at the widest point including mechanical broadheads measured in the “open” position.
- Hunters must carry a turkey-calling device (non-electric) while hunting. Calling is the only legal method for hunting wild turkey gobblers.
- The use of decoys while hunting is allowed.
- Surveys are no longer automatically issued to every individual purchasing a turkey permit; however, the Division may send a survey to randomly selected hunters. If selected, completion of this survey information is vital to the turkey management program in Rhode Island and assists DEM biologists in maintaining a successful wild turkey season for our hunters. The Division requests your cooperation in returning the hunter survey card, whether or not you were successful.

Prohibited

- The use of any unauthorized firearm, live decoy(s), dog(s), baiting, cooperative drive(s).
- The use of crossbows for turkey hunting.
- Electric calling devices, or any other devices, to capture or ensnare turkeys.
- The shooting of turkeys from the roost.
- Stalking or attempting to sneak up on a turkey to get a shot.
- The hunting, killing, taking, or attempting to take or possess, any wild turkey by any individual unless they possess a permit to do so. However, a person having a valid Rhode Island hunting license may call turkeys for individuals with a valid turkey permit.
- Possession of more than one firearm or archery implement while turkey hunting.
- Possession of a firearm while hunting for wild turkey during the fall archery season.

Permits and Tagging

- A hunter may purchase, possess and use one (1) all lands turkey permit and one (1) private land only turkey permit for the taking of one (1) bearded turkey on each permit during the spring seasons.
- A hunter may purchase, possess and use one (1) fall either sex archery permit, valid on both public and private property.
- A person killing a wild turkey must immediately notch the month, day, hour of kill and type of property taken on (private or public). The carcass and notched tag must remain in the possession of the hunter after the kill and while removing the carcass from the field. Should the hunter leave the carcass prior to removal from the field, the notched tag must be attached to and remain with the carcass. After removal from the field, the notched tag must be attached to and remain with the carcass until prepared for consumption or taxidermy.

Reporting Your Harvest

The killing of a wild turkey must be reported to DEM using the online harvest reporting website www.ri.gov/DEM/huntfish by 11:59 p.m. on the date of the kill. The notched tag with harvest report confirmation number must remain attached to the carcass until prepared for consumption or taxidermy.

Please see page 8 for more details on tagging and checking wild turkeys.

Safe Turkey Hunting Is No Accident!

When compared to other sports activities (baseball, basketball and swimming—juries per hundred thousand participants) hunting is a relatively safe activity. These comparisons should not cause any hunter to take accident-free hunting for granted. Each and every hunter must make safety the top priority of the hunt.

Very few hunting experiences compare with the exhilaration of turkey hunting. A chance to spend a day afield in the turkey woods, enjoying not only the hunt but also the splendor of the outdoors in spring makes this experience worthwhile to sportsmen and sportswomen. This is a privilege not to be taken for granted. Be sure that your turkey hunting experience is an enjoyable one by observing these key ingredients for a safe hunt:

Turkey Hunting Safety

- NEVER crowd another hunter working a bird and avoid high-pressure areas.
- “Missed for game” accounts for 87% of all turkey hunting accidents—be sure of your target and what’s beyond.
- Use proper setup techniques—sit against a wide tree to shield head, neck and back. A tree is an effective blind as it breaks your outline.
- Never wear the colors red, white or blue while turkey hunting. These colors mimic the colors of a gobbler’s head and can draw fire. Be totally camouflaged.
- Never stalk turkey sounds or turkeys—it’s unsafe and illegal. Never use the sounds of a turkey to warn approaching hunters.
- Avoid using gobbling calls—which draw more hunters than game.

How to Tell the Sex & Age of a Turkey

Determination of the sex and age of a wild turkey is vital to the hunter, since only bearded wild turkeys are “legal birds” in the spring gobbler season. Proper identification of your target before shooting protects vulnerable hen turkeys from accidental shooting during the spring nesting season. The composition of the harvest provides biologists with information about the flock and is important for making conservation and management decisions.

Hunters are reminded they should use a variety of characteristics to identify a legal bird, including behavior (strutting, gobbling) and color (black body coloration, bright red, white and blue head color).
Volunteering to Support Wildlife Conservation

By Jennifer Brooks, Volunteer Coordinator, RI DEM

Have you ever wanted the opportunity to participate in wildlife conservation and management, but are not sure how to get involved? The RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) Volunteer Program offers opportunities for the public to help monitor and conserve state fish and wildlife, with no previous experience necessary!

DFW volunteers are invited to participate in a number of unique experiences, assisting biologists in data collection, and participating in various management and conservation activities. Volunteers provide the DFW with additional eyes, ears, and boots on the ground. Volunteers can be found independently collecting samples for DNA testing for the New England cottontail project or bear population study, conducting bat counts at night throughout the summer to help monitor local bat populations, surveying river herring as they make their way inland for their spring spawn, or banding Canada geese with the waterfowl program.

Other volunteer opportunities include:
- Deer check station assistance
- Building and monitoring wood duck boxes
- Spring turkey gobbling surveys
- American black duck banding
- Habitat stewardship
- And more!

Who Can Volunteer?
The Volunteer Program is comprised of a diverse group of volunteers from the community, including families, students, business professionals, retirees, scouts, and many public interest groups. Since the start of the Volunteer Program in 2015, hundreds of volunteers have contributed their time and talents to assist the DFW in reaching our goals in monitoring, management, and conservation.

Aside from providing hands-on support to DFW projects, volunteers also increase environmental awareness within the community through their dedication and advocacy, and by sharing information about the important work that the DFW does for the conservation and management of Rhode Island’s flora and fauna. Additionally, participation in the Volunteer Program helps financially support the enhancement and conservation of state fishing and hunting areas, as well as local fish and wildlife populations, through a federal funds matching program. This is achieved by recording the time and mileage each volunteer contributes through their service, and submitting the records to the US Fish & Wildlife Service. The hours and mileage are then assigned a monetary value, and released to the DFW for allocation back into state fish and wildlife projects. DFW volunteers give back in so many ways, and we thank our volunteers for everything they do!

Want to Know More?
If you are interested in learning more about the RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife Volunteer Program, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Jennifer Brooks, Jennifer.brooks@dem.ri.gov

Who Can Volunteer? (continued)

Other volunteer opportunities include:
- Deer check station assistance
- Building and monitoring wood duck boxes
- Spring turkey gobbling surveys
- American black duck banding
- Habitat stewardship
- And more!

Want to Know More?
If you are interested in learning more about the RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife Volunteer Program, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Jennifer Brooks, Jennifer.brooks@dem.ri.gov

Who Can Volunteer? (continued)

Other volunteer opportunities include:
- Deer check station assistance
- Building and monitoring wood duck boxes
- Spring turkey gobbling surveys
- American black duck banding
- Habitat stewardship
- And more!

Want to Know More?
If you are interested in learning more about the RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife Volunteer Program, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Jennifer Brooks, Jennifer.brooks@dem.ri.gov
Small Game Hunting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Daily Bag Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coyote - State Land</td>
<td>September 15 - February 28, 2019</td>
<td>unlimited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April 25 - May 19, 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote - Private Land</td>
<td>No closed season</td>
<td>unlimited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raccoon</td>
<td>October 1 - February 28, 2019</td>
<td>unlimited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Pheasant*</td>
<td>October 13 - 14</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pheasant</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottontail Rabbit</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Squirrel</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobwhite Quail</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red, Gray Fox</td>
<td>October 20 - February 28, 2019</td>
<td>unlimited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruffed Grouse</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* See page 10 for more information on Youth Hunt Opportunities

Management Area Check Stations
Small game hunters are required to check in and out of the state operated check stations at Great Swamp, Arcadia, Durfee Hill, and Carolina Management Areas on the following dates: October 20 - 21, October 27 - 28 and November 3 - 4. Check station hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset, except during the first four days of deer muzzleloader season (Nov 3-6) when check stations will be open until 6:00PM. Hunters may be asked to produce harvested game for inspection.

Pheasant and Quail Hunting
A Gamebird Permit is Required to hunt ring-neck pheasant and bobwhite quail. The daily limit for pheasant is two (2) either sex birds and the daily bag limit for quail is three (3). Pheasants are stocked prior to opening day, then weekly through the end of December. Pheasant stocking does not occur in January and February. Stocked management areas are: Arcadia, Black Hut, Big River, Buck Hill, Carolina, Durfee Hill, Great Swamp, Nicholas Farm, Sapowet Marsh, Simmons Mill Pond and Eight Rod Farm.

Block Island Pheasant Hunting
Pheasant hunting is open on Block Island, with written landowner permission, on November 21st and 28th, December 12th and 19th and January 2nd, 2019. Only male pheasants (roosters) may be taken from Block Island, daily bag limit 2 per day.

Additional Regulations
The small game hunting season will remain OPEN during the December shotgun deer season. This allows small game hunting on state management areas during the shotgun deer season.

Muzzle-loading rifles, no greater than .40 caliber with round ball and patch, may be used for hunting small game mammals during established seasons.

Archery hunters with a valid deer archery hunting permit may take raccoon during legal deer hunting hours beginning on the first day of October and ending on the last day of January.

Air Rifles
Air rifles are permitted to hunt the following small mammals: squirrels, woodchucks, and cottontail rabbits, provided that the air guns are a minimum of .177 caliber and not larger than .22; a minimum of 750 fps velocity with pellets 7.5 grains or larger.

Coyote Hunting
The hunting season for coyotes on state lands shall be from September 15 until the last day in February, inclusive, and during the open spring turkey hunting season, April 25 - May 19, 2019. The hunting season for coyotes on Prudence Island shall be: on state land during archery season with a valid archery permit, during the small game season on private land, November 1 – 30 and on North Prudence during the small game season, January 1 - 31, 2019. There is no closed season for coyote hunting on private lands.

During the spring turkey season, coyote hunters must possess a valid turkey hunting permit while hunting on state lands.

Coyote hunters on state lands must wear a minimum of 200 square inches of fluorescent orange during the small game hunting season. During the shotgun deer season, 500 square inches is required.

The placement or use of carcasses or meat parts thereof is allowed on private property for the purposes of hunting coyotes. The placement or use of carcasses or meat parts thereof is prohibited for purposes of hunting coyotes on state lands.

Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset.

Legal methods of take for coyote hunting include shotgun (no lead shot larger than No. 2) and rimfire rifle not larger than .22 caliber at any time, bow and arrow and crossbow; however, on private lands from April 1 to September 30 (both dates inclusive), centerfire rifles not larger than .229 caliber may be used (RIGL 20-13-13) and by any means allowed during any concurrent hunting season. When coyote hunting during deer season, the hunter must be in possession of a valid deer permit.
Trapping

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Bag Limit</th>
<th>Pelt Tagging</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mink, Muskrat, Skunk, Raccoon, Opossum, Weasel, Red Fox, Gray Fox, Rabbit</td>
<td>November 1 - January 31, 2019</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote - Private</td>
<td>no closed season</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote - State Land</td>
<td>November 1 - January 31, 2019</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaver - Private*</td>
<td>November 1 - March 14, 2019</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaver - State Land*</td>
<td>December 1 - February 28, 2019</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisher*</td>
<td>December 1 - 24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Special permit required in addition to RI trapping license, which may be obtained at Fish and Wildlife’s Great Swamp Field Headquarters (401) 789-0281 or email DEM.DFW@dem.ri.gov

General Regulations

- No person shall set, maintain, or tend any trap without first obtaining a trapping license from the Department of Environmental Management. A resident of this state may set traps on property which they own and on which they are domiciled without obtaining a trapping license (RIGL 20-16-7).

- Every holder of a trapping license will be provided with a trapping harvest report card that must be returned to the Division of Fish and Wildlife within thirty (30) days of the end of the trapping season. Failure to return the card will result in denial of trapping license renewal (RIGL 20-16-12).

- Traps may not be set, staked, or placed prior to sunrise on opening day.

- All traps must have a metal tag or embedded or cut into the trap (RIGL 20-16-7).

- Written landowner permission is required to trap on private land (RIGL 20-16-9).

- All traps must be checked at least once in every 24-hour period (RIGL 20-16-9).

- There is no open season on bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) or river otter (*Lontra canadensis*).

Types of Traps Permitted

Furbearers for which there is an open season may be taken in: box (a.k.a. “cage”) traps, body-grip (a.k.a. “conibear”) traps, or species specific traps, with the following restrictions:

**Body-grip traps**

**Private land:** Body-grip (a.k.a. smooth wire or “conibear”) type traps up to six and one half (6.5) inch jaw spread are permitted on land or in water on private land. Body-grip type traps greater than six and one half (6.5) inch but not exceeding eight (8) inch jaw spread (“220”) may only be set if completely submerged in water or set no less than six (6) feet above the ground. Body-grip traps greater than eight (8) inch but not exceeding ten (10) inch jaw spread (“330”) may only be set completely submerged in water.

**State land:** Body-grip traps up to six and one half (6.5) inch jaw spread are only permitted in water sets (i.e. all or a portion of the trap in water) or if placed six (6) feet above the ground. Body-grip traps with a jaw spread greater than six and one half (6.5) inches but not exceeding ten (10) inches (“220-330”) may only be set if completely submerged in water.

**Box traps**

The use of box traps is permitted on private and state lands.

**Species specific traps**

The use of species specific traps is permitted on private and state land. A species specific trap is characterized by all of the following: triggering and restraining mechanisms are enclosed within a housing; triggering and restraining mechanisms are only accessible through a single opening when set; access opening does not exceed 2 inches in diameter; triggering mechanism can only be activated by a pulling force; has a swivel mounted anchoring system.

**Permit to trap state lands**

All trappers harvesting furbearers from state management areas must obtain a special permit (no fee), issued by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Great Swamp Field Headquarters in addition to their current RI trapping license.

**Prohibitions**

- The use of poisons or snares (RIGL 20-16-6).
- The use of steel-jawed leghold traps (RIGL 20-16-8).
- No person shall disturb, tend, or possess a trap of another, or take an animal from the traps of another unless specifically authorized to do so (RIGL 20-16-11).
- The setting of traps within ten feet of a beaver lodge or bank den or within eight feet of a muskrat lodge unless authorized by special permit.
- The taking or possession of a road-killed furbearer (RIGL 20-16-1), unless with a current RI trapping license and during the open season for that species or as provided for under a current RI Scientific Collectors Permit (RIGL 20-1-18) or otherwise permitted by the Division.
- The relocation of beaver.
- The use of deadfalls, pitfalls, fish hooks, treble hooks, or other similarly sharpened instruments to catch, capture, or injure furbearers is prohibited.
It’s now easier than ever to purchase Rhode Island hunting and fishing licenses, permits, tags and stamps, so you can get outdoors and enjoy the many recreational opportunities made possible through conservation and management of Rhode Island’s natural resources.

You can go online or visit vendors across the state to purchase hunting and fishing licenses and permits. This service expands on the current online offering of fishing licenses to include hunting licenses, permits and tags, as well as waterfowl and trout stamps. You will also use this system to report your deer and turkey harvests in the field using your mobile smart phone or from the convenience of your home.

DEM.ri.gov/huntfish is your entry point to help plan your next adventure and make the most of Rhode Island’s great outdoors. There you can find maps of hunting areas and fishing access points, answers to frequently asked questions, and more!
For $500 per night, per person, we take you on the ultimate Hog Hunt! We use highly modified 4x4 vans equipped with long range FLIR on the roof and large screens and comfortable seating. This allows us to take up to 4 hunters in comfort and cover 1000’s of thousands of acres a night in search of wild hogs to kill. Once we spot them from the van, it turns into bowhunting with an AR. We foot stalk into 60 yards and you try to kill every pig in front of you with an AR with a top of the line Armasight thermal scope. How many will ya get?

www.HogSwat.com

**Tioga Ranch**

“We have hundreds of acres of the best hunting area in the east”

**Experience is the Difference!**

**Year Round Hunting 7 Days A Week, No License Required**

(570) 835-5341

www.TiogaBoarHunting.com

1552 Mann Hill Road | Tioga, PA 16946 | tiogaboarranch@gmail.com

**Hunting for Heroes**

We Provide Hunting Opportunities to Law Enforcement Agents Injured in the Line of Duty.

To Volunteer Or Donate, Please Visit Our Website

HuntingForHeroes.org

**McCoy Elk Ranch**

Elk Hunts
COWS & TROPHY BULLS
Starting at $2,000.
No license required.
September–March.

Central Minnesota
(866) 806-7973

**Granberg Alaskan Mills.**

Durability. Reliability. Affordability. Since 1957, Granberg International has been producing the highest quality chain saw mills and accessories available anywhere. Our American-made Alaskan Chain Saw Mills give you the capability and accuracy of a professional-grade saw mill at a price that doesn’t break the bank.

Call 1-800-233-6499

For a free catalog or to find a dealer, visit www.granberg.com

**eRegulations.com**

The most up-to-date regulations online.
Located at The Preserve at Boulder Hills
87 Kingstown Road in Richmond RI · TheSportingShoppe.com
Open to Public
87 Kingstown Rd, Richmond RI - 401.247.GUNS
ThePreserveRI.com
Largest in R.I.
Most Inventory
BEST DEALS
Open to Public
87 Kingstown Rd, Richmond RI - 401.247.GUNS