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MDC Sets 2018 Deer and Turkey Hunting Dates

DECEMBER 18TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

MDC Sets 2018 Deer and Turkey Hunting Dates

Missouri - At its meeting on Dec. 15, the Missouri Conservation Commission approved recommendations by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) for 2018-2019 turkey-hunting and deer-hunting season dates.

2018 SPRING AND FALL TURKEY HUNTING DATES

Spring Youth Portion: April 7 and 8

Regular Spring Turkey Season: April 16 through May 6

Fall Firearms Turkey Season: Oct. 1 - 31

2018 - 2019 ARCHERY DEER AND TURKEY HUNTING DATES

Archery Season: Sept. 15 through Nov. 9 and Nov. 21 through Jan. 15, 2019.

2018 – 2019 FIREARMS DEER HUNTING DATES

Firearms Deer Early Youth Portion: Oct. 27 and 28

Firearms Deer November Portion: Nov. 10 - 20

Firearms Deer Late Youth Portion: Nov. 23 - 25

Firearms Deer Antlerless Portion: Nov. 30 through Dec. 2

Firearms Deer Alternative Methods Portion: Dec. 22 through Jan. 1, 2019

Details on hunting regulations, harvest limits, allowed methods, required permits, and other related information will be available in the Department’s “2018 Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information” and the “2018 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information” booklets. Both will be available where permits are sold prior to the related seasons.

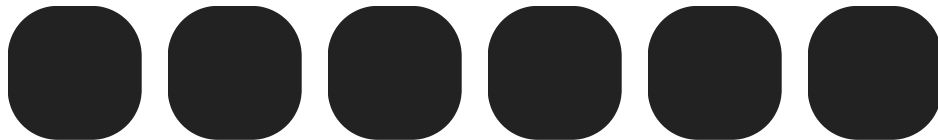
Learn more about deer and turkey hunting in Missouri at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/

Buy Missouri hunting (and fishing) permits from numerous vendors around the state, online at mdc.mo.gov/buypermits, or through MDC’s free mobile apps, MO Hunting and MO Fishing, available for download through Google Play for Android devices or the App Store for Apple devices.

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MDC Reports More Than 7,700 Deer Harvest During Antlerless Portion

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**MDC reports more than 7,700 deer harvested during antlerless portion
Top counties for the fall firearms antlerless portion were Callaway with 250, Macon with 212, and Pike with 205.**

Missouri- Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows that deer hunters in Missouri harvested 7,728 deer during the antlerless portion of the fall firearms deer season, which ran Dec. 1-3. Top harvest counties were Callaway with 250, Macon with 212, and Pike with 205 deer checked. Last year's harvest total was 6,503.

MDC reduced the length of the antlerless portion of fall firearms deer season starting in 2016 from 12 to three days so harvest numbers prior to 2016 are not comparable to this season.

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MDC Reports November Firearms Deer Harvest Ends with 191,000 Plus

NOVEMBER 27TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

MDC Reports November Firearms Deer Harvest Ends with 191,000 Plus

**MDC reports November firearms deer harvest ends with 191,000+
Top harvest counties for opening weekend were Howell, Texas, and Franklin.**

Missouri - Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows that deer hunters in Missouri harvested 191,368 deer during the November portion of fall firearms deer season, Nov. 11- 21. Of the 191,368 deer harvested, 99,431 were antlered bucks, 20,148 were button bucks, and 71,789 were does. Top harvest counties were Howell with 4,564 deer checked, Texas with 4,374, and Franklin with 4,095.

Last year hunters checked 185,062 deer during the 2016 November portion of firearms deer season with 95,381 being antlered bucks, 18,888 being button bucks, and 70,793 being does.

“The uptick in harvest this year is likely due to a combination of favorable weather and the continued recovery of deer populations in some areas hit hard by the 2012 drought,” MDC Deer Biologist Barb Keller said. “As the November firearms portion creeps one day earlier each year, it tends to coincide with more of the deer in rut – resulting in higher deer harvest.”

MDC reported three firearms-related hunting incidents during the fall firearms November portion. One of the hunting incidents involved a hunter wounding another hunter while hunting in Benton County. Another incident involved a hunter loading a gun in a truck and it went off hitting another hunter sitting in the truck in Washington County. Lastly another hunting incident involved a self-inflicted firearm wound that occurred in Bates County.

Deer hunting in Missouri continues with archery deer hunting from Nov. 22 through Jan. 15, 2018. The late youth portion of firearms deer season runs Nov. 24-26. The antlerless portion of firearms deer season runs Dec. 1-3. Lastly the alternative methods portion will run Dec. 23- Jan. 2, 2018.

Missouri offers some of the best deer hunting in the country and deer hunting is an important part of many Missourians' lives and family traditions. Deer hunting is also an important economic driver in Missouri and gives a \$1 billion annual boost to the state and local economies.

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MDC Collected 15,872 Samples This Past Weekend

NOVEMBER 16TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

[MDC Collected 15,872 Samples This Past Weekend](#)

MDC thanks hunters for help with CWD sampling
MDC collected 15,872 samples this past weekend, offers CWD testing through rest of season.

Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) thanks the more than 10,000 deer hunters who participated in the Department's mandatory CWD sampling efforts last weekend in 25 counties. Thanks to hunter participation, MDC collected 15,872 tissue samples last weekend from harvested deer for CWD testing.

MDC has also collected about 750 tissue samples for CWD testing over the past several months from harvested and road-killed deer with no new cases of CWD found so far this season.

MDC sends test samples to an independent laboratory for testing and will report test results as they become available. Stay up to date on test results received by MDC at mdc.mo.gov/cwd under CWD in Missouri.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there have been no documented cases of CWD in humans, but it is important to prevent human exposure to CWD. As a safeguard, the CDC recommends hunters strongly consider having their harvested deer tested for CWD before eating the meat if the animal was harvested from an area where CWD has been found. The CDC also recommends not consuming an animal that tests positive for the disease. Learn more at mdc.mo.gov/cwd under Human Health Risks from CWD.

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MDC Reports Firearms Deer Season Opening Weekend harvest Totals 94,000+

NOVEMBER 14TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

MDC Reports Firearms Deer Season Opening Weekend harvest Totals 94,000+

**MDC reports firearms deer season opening weekend harvest totals 94,000+
Top harvest counties for opening weekend were Howell, Franklin, and Texas.**

Missouri - Preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) shows that deer hunters in Missouri harvested 94,977 deer during the opening weekend of the November portion of the fall firearms deer season Nov. 11 and 12. Of the 94,977 deer harvested, 54,027 were antlered bucks, 9,535 were button bucks, and 31,415 were does.

Top harvest counties for opening weekend were Howell with 2,095 deer checked, Franklin with 2,060 and Texas with 1,855.

Last year hunters checked 96,131 deer during the opening weekend of the 2016 November portion of firearms deer season.

The November portion of fall firearms deer seasons continues through Nov. 21. Archery deer season opens again Nov. 22 through Jan. 15, 2016. The late youth portion of firearms deer season runs Nov. 24-26. The antlerless portion of firearms deer season runs Dec. 1-3 and the alternative methods portion will run Dec. 23- Jan. 2, 2018.

Missouri offers some of the best deer hunting in the country and deer hunting is an important part of many Missourians' lives and family traditions. Deer hunting is also an important economic driver in Missouri and gives a \$1 billion annual boost to the state and local economies.

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