



## Finding Hunters

Contact local hunting groups and programs to find hunters seeking land. F&W can help.

The New Jersey Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs has county chapters.

See  
[www.njsfsc.org/counties/](http://www.njsfsc.org/counties/)  
or  
Facebook for contact information.

## Deer Depredation Permits

These permits are valid 24-hours a day, seven days a week, on farmland assessed as cultivated lands with existing crop damage. Note that these permits can be issued to include the entire growing season if necessary. Permits can also be issued during February and March with documented past damage. Farmers recruit their own agents (i.e., shooters).

For more information on farmer depredation permits and applications scan this code with your smartphone camera.



## Did You Know?

Landowners granting permission to hunt are protected from liability under the New Jersey Landowner's Liability Act (NJ Statutes 2A:42A-2 et seq.), provided you do not charge a fee or receive a service to hunt.

Some hunting clubs, like the NJ Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, cover their members with \$1 million in liability insurance. Other clubs or organizations may also have liability insurance, or you can stipulate that a hunting club must have insurance to hunt on your property.

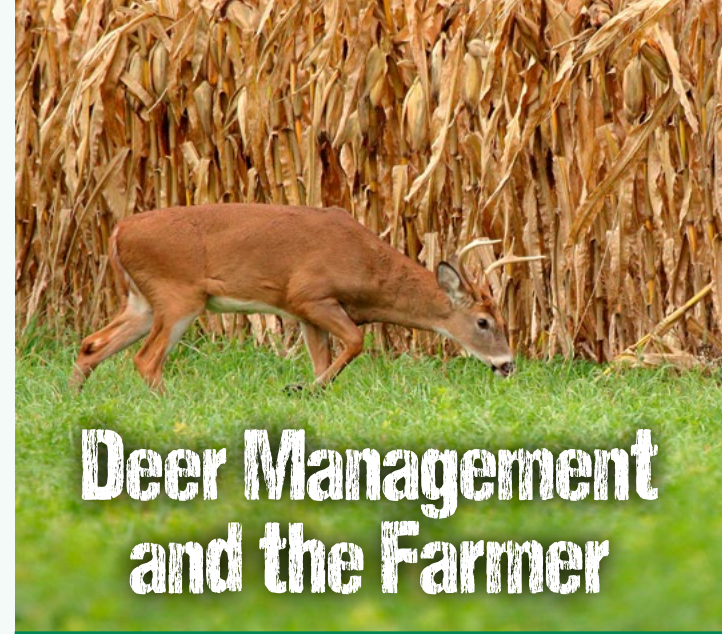
## Questions?

Contact NJDEP Fish & Wildlife Bureau of Wildlife Management



Brian Schumm  
Deer Outreach Biologist  
[Brian.Schumm@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Brian.Schumm@dep.nj.gov)  
609-789-8768

For more information on how NJ DEP Fish and Wildlife is assisting the NJ Agriculture community, please scan this code with your smartphone camera.



# Deer Management and the Farmer

A Farmer's Guide to the Reduction of White-tailed Deer



NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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



@NJFishandWildlife



## Farmers have these options to control deer populations on their properties:

**1 - Participate in the hunting season.** Farmers and their immediate families can receive FREE deer season permits for farmed properties and hunting licenses are not required on lands occupied by the farmer and immediate family.

**2 - Allow hunters onto your property.** Nearly 80% of the State remains in private ownership, so allowing access to hunters is key to successfully managing deer in New Jersey.

**3 - Apply for a farmer depredation permit.** This FREE permit is available to farmers in response to or in anticipation of deer damage during the growing season. NJ Hunters Helping the Hungry has a refrigerated trailer available to farmers who wish to donate deer taken during depredation hunts. Please call HHH at 908-399-6714 or the Farm Bureau at 609-393-7163 and ask for Ashley.

**4 - Apply for a DMAP permit.** Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) permits are available to all landowners in deer management zones with restrictive bag limits and allows the permittee to harvest more antlerless deer.

For more information on the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) please scan this code with your smartphone camera.



Harvesting antlerless deer is crucial to success.

## Guidelines for Managing Hunters

### Allowing hunting is not enough.

Landowners need to actively manage hunters to ensure that deer control objectives are being met. Hunting is usually the most efficient method of deer control, minimizing impacts on the landowner's time and expense.

Within the established deer season framework, it should be the landowner who decides when, where, how and who will hunt. Often, the landowner has little or no involvement with the hunting program and thus little control over what is achieved. **To ensure success, landowners must get involved.**

- *Use as many of the available deer hunting days as possible.* Make it a condition of access that an established amount of hunting be focused on antlerless deer. Archery seasons may be more useful in sensitive areas where noise or blaze orange might be troubling for neighbors.
- *Hunt as a team.* Hunters should coordinate to maximize coverage on days when conditions are favorable. Sharing deer movement patterns will increase harvest success on the property.
- **REQUIRE HUNTERS TO TAKE ANTLERLESS DEER** (two or more adult females) for each buck they harvest. Landowners with significant damage may require that hunters take a specific number of antlerless deer by the end of the seasons.
- *Require information* from your hunters about the deer harvested on your property. Have hunters fill out a daily hunt log and inspect each day's harvest to ensure that enough females are being taken.
- *Offer incentives*, which could include a reduced lease fee for an adequate antlerless harvest.
- *Coordinate hunting efforts* with neighboring landowners.



## Landowner/Hunter Communication

The landowner should make it clear to hunters what is expected in terms of deer harvest and conduct while hunting. This may include:

- Times and dates when hunting is permitted.
- Specific hunting and parking locations (i.e., areas to be avoided like buildings or where livestock is kept).
- On larger properties, farmers can offer assistance to hunters for retrieving deer and baiting areas when necessary.
- Property boundaries and locations of structures within the 450-foot safety zone for firearms or 150-foot safety zone for archery (or the landowner may grant permission to hunt within the safety zone).
- Number and sex of deer to be taken.
- Penalties of non-compliance (revoking the privilege to hunt on your land).