Tuckahoe WMA
Managed
Waterfowl Hunt

page 65

A Summary of Regulations and Wildlife Management Information
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This Is Not the Full Law

THIS IS NOT THE FULL LAW. The information in this Digest is based on N.J.S.A. Title 23, Title 13:1B-34 and N.J.A.C. 7:25-5. The amended regulations are known as the Game Code and implement the statute laws. Consult Fish and Wildlife’s Bureau of Law Enforcement for further details. See Law Enforcement Conservation Police Contacts, page 18 for regional Law Enforcement offices. All persons are reminded that the statutes, code and regulations are the legal documents.
Regulations in red are new this year.

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Where to Write Us
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MC 501-03 • P.O. Box 420 • Trenton, NJ 08625-0420 • NJFishandWildlife.com

New Jersey Fish and Wildlife
Our Mission
To protect and manage the state’s fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

Our Goals
• To maintain New Jersey’s rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.
• To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.
• To maximize the recreational and commercial use of New Jersey’s fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.

NJDEP Fish and Wildlife receives federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and thus prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age and sex pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or service, contact NJDEP Fish and Wildlife, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420. The telephone number is (609) 292-9410. You may also write to the Office of Civil Rights, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240.
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This year marks New Jersey Fish and Wildlife’s 130th Anniversary. Since 1892, our dedicated wildlife professionals have been working to restore, maintain and protect the health and diversity of the state’s fish and wildlife resources. This has resulted in the successful restoration of many species and abundant wildlife throughout the state. The hunters, trappers, and anglers of New Jersey have been great partners in our success over the past 130 years. They support professional wildlife management and provide funding through the purchase of hunting and fishing licenses. This is an excellent example of sensible wildlife management being accomplished with the public’s participation and cooperation. Collectively, we help keep species healthy and stable across the state.

New Jersey offers a wide diversity of habitats for hunting and trapping. With more than 800,000 acres of public open space, our state has abundant opportunities for outdoor pursuits. Consider scouting your new hunting spot on one of the state’s Wildlife Management Areas, State Parks, or State Forests this year. There is room for all of us, but please remember to be respectful and courteous of others also enjoying open space. If hunting or trapping private lands is a better fit for you, consider using the “Landowner-Hunter/Trapper Agreement Card” on page 40 to get yourself started.

Whether you decide to hunt public or private lands, consider bringing a young hunter into the field with you this year. Special youth days are offered for deer, turkey, pheasant, and waterfowl. These exclusive offerings provide unique experiences and great memories for both the young and experienced hunter alike. See page 20 for more information about youth days and visit https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/hunting/hunter-education/ if you have not yet completed New Jersey’s mandatory Hunter Education course. Our “R3 Mentoring Program” helps introduce hunting to new participants. Refer to page 6 to see how you can share your experience with a new hunter.

If you are one of those successful deer hunters that fills their freezer early in the season and then stops hunting because there is no more room for venison in the freezer, consider extending your season this year by participating in the Hunters Helping the Hungry program. This program works with deer processors across the state to donate venison to food banks in New Jersey. Hunters can bring their field-dressed deer to a participating butcher and contribute it to the program free of charge during the 2022–2023 season. This is a terrific way to spend time afield and help local families in need. Last year the program donated 26,054 pounds of venison (104,216 servings from 839 hunter-provided deer) to food banks and charitable organizations. Refer to page 38 for more information on how you can participate.

It is with great excitement that we launched our new agency website during the summer of 2022 (NJFishandWildlife.com). With a very user-friendly interface, our new website offers information on a wide range of wildlife-oriented activities. Details of the programs mentioned here along with license and regulation information can all be easily found on the new site. Check it out and stay updated on all that’s happening with New Jersey Fish and Wildlife!

Remember that a successful hunt is a safe and legal hunt. Review the information in this Digest to make sure you are current on all the pertinent regulations before you set out on your hunt. Make great memories in the field as a legal, ethical hunter and share your experience with new hunters so they can also be successful. Who are you going to take with you this year?

Dave Golden, Assistant Commissioner NJDEP Fish and Wildlife
Your Dollars Make a Difference!

When you purchase hunting equipment in New Jersey, excise tax dollars – paid by manufacturers of ammunition, firearms, and archery equipment – come back to New Jersey to support wildlife conservation! This is the federal Wildlife Restoration Program.

*Your* license fees and federal Wildlife Restoration dollars produce the following benefits:

- Management and restoration of wildlife species throughout the state
- Acquisition of suitable wildlife habitat and/or public access for hunting or other wildlife-oriented recreation.
- Development, maintenance and restoration of Wildlife Management Areas throughout the state for the benefit of the public
- NJ’s pheasant hunting program
- Creation of hunter education and R3 programs

Hunters and target shooters purchase firearms and ammunition.

Manufacturers pay federal excise taxes on firearms and ammunition.

Revenue from these federal excise taxes is distributed to state fish and wildlife agencies.

State fish and wildlife agencies receive federal funds to implement programs and projects.

Better hunting and associated recreation increase the public’s understanding of wildlife conservation.
Mentored Hunting

SHARE THE KNOWLEDGE

Become an R3 Mentor!

R3 stands for Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation.

This nationwide initiative is generating new participation in hunting and the shooting sports, welcoming new and former hunters and shooters while addressing the declining numbers as many older participants leave these activities. The R3 effort will help create the next generation of conservationists while stabilizing critical wildlife conservation funding.

Will you be part of the solution?

R3 Mentor Program

Fish and Wildlife’s R3 Program is actively seeking volunteer hunting and target shooting mentors. Mentors must show safe, ethical and responsible use of archery and firearm equipment in the pursuit of game species and/or recreational shooting programs.

Mentor roles include:
• Assisting one-on-one with prospective novice hunters and target shooters.
• Sharing knowledge and experience at skill-based clinics, seminars, and workshops.
• Participating at field-to-fork style programming.

Questions about the R3 Mentor Program and application requests can be directed to r3mentoredhunt@dep.nj.gov.

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About This Guide

This high-quality guide is offered to you by the NJDEP Fish and Wildlife through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

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