Chronic Wasting Disease

The Iowa DNR is committed to fighting the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease. Harvesting infected deer is the best way to slow its spread. For deer that become infected, it is 100 percent fatal. Infected deer may not display signs, and testing is the only way to know if a deer is infected.
Partnering to Fight Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic wasting disease is an always fatal disease impacting deer, elk, moose and caribou, and has been confirmed in every state bordering Iowa. First detected in Allamakee County in 2013, chronic wasting disease has been slowly increasing its footprint to include 10 counties and 111 positive wild deer.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) had been monitoring for the disease since 2002, then increased its effort in the immediate area surrounding the positive deer to help determine the presence and prevalence of the disease. A dynamic quota system has been used to focus increased sample collection in areas near where deer have tested positive, while still securing samples state-wide. In general, the DNR has a goal each year of collecting more than 4,600 deer tissue samples statewide and the majority of those samples come from the two shotgun deer seasons. To date, Iowa has tested more than 82,000 wild deer.

Hunters play a key role in the surveillance by supplying tissue samples to be tested. Lymph nodes near the tonsils from deer at least 1-1/2 years of age are needed. A video showing the collection is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DS1GcDHotsI. Hunters willing to provide a sample are encouraged to contact their local wildlife biologist to arrange for the collection.

The Iowa DNR has created a number of special deer management zones that offer opportunities for hunters who are willing to harvest deer in specific areas.

These deer management zones (right) allow hunters to hunt in a priority area during any season. Licenses purchased from the quota issued to each of these zones do not count against any other statewide or season-specific license.

These deer management zone licenses are bonus tags, meaning they are in addition to any other deer season the hunter participates in.

A few areas within these management zones have January incentive hunts. Hunters must pre-certify to participate and purchase tags (see pages 4, 6 & 9). Certified hunters who harvest a minimum of three female deer during one of January Incentive Zone Hunts earn an any sex tag for their 2022 regular deer season of choice. Shed bucks, button bucks and spike bucks with no visible fork are legal quarry but will not count towards an incentive license. Hunters must provide tissue samples.

Hunters interested in having their deer tested after the sample quotas are met or have a fawn or other lower priority deer have the opportunity to get it tested on their own. There is a form at the end of this guide with step by step instruction for how to submit a sample. The DNR will collect and submit the sample on their behalf. There is a $25 fee for the laboratory to run the test. Results should be available within 10-14 days. Hunters will need to contact their local wildlife staff and
ask how they can get their deer tested through the new hunter submission option.

Though testing for chronic wasting disease is not a food safety test, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends when hunting in areas with chronic wasting disease to strongly consider having the deer tested before eating the meat. If the animal tests positive, do not eat that animal.

For further recommendations, refer to information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Hunters are encouraged to hold the deer meat separately until the test results are back.

**Other ways hunters can help**

Chronic wasting disease spreads from deer to deer through a misshapen protein in the saliva, feces, urine and blood from an infected deer that can last in the environment for years, spreading the disease long after the source deer is dead. To help prevent the spread, hunters are encouraged to not set out mineral licks or bait that will congregate deer, thus potentially increasing disease transmission.

As a temporary measure, hunters can cover old mineral licks with pallets and surround them with fences to exclude deer. Permanent mitigation requires excavation and soil replacement.

Hunters who harvest deer in counties where chronic wasting disease has been confirmed can avoid unintentionally spreading disease to new areas, by not moving carcasses out of those counties, and disposing of them at landfills when possible or burying them on the land where they were taken.

**Working with taxidermists**

Prevalence rates of the disease are higher in adult males because of their behavior, which makes sampling these deer a priority for Iowa’s chronic wasting disease surveillance program.

It is possible to collect a sample from a deer that has been caped and skull capped by the taxidermist. Be sure to let the taxidermist know you are willing to provide a sample.

An important part of the monitoring effort and quota system is recording the location of the harvest. Hunters are encouraged to provide to the best of their ability the township and section number where the deer was harvested. The taxidermist can label the skull capped head with hunter name, phone number, county, township and section. Either the hunter or taxidermist can call the local biologist to arrange for sampling.

For questions or more information on chronic wasting disease, contact the Iowa DNR. More information is available online at [www.iowadnr.gov/cwd](http://www.iowadnr.gov/cwd).

2021-2022 Winneshiek County Deer Management Zone

CLAYTON DEER MANAGEMENT ZONE - 1,050 Antlerless Licenses - 2021-22 Regular Deer Seasons Licenses: GEAR Elkader 563-245-2521, the Clayton County Recorder 563-245-2710 or at the Wallace State Office Building in Des Moines. Successful hunters must call 563-929-6001 regarding tissue sample collection.

FAYETTE DEER MANAGEMENT ZONE - 300 Antlerless Licenses - 2021-22 Regular Deer Seasons Licenses: West Union Hardware 563-422-5646, the Fayette County Recorder 563-422-3687 or at the Wallace State Office Building in Des Moines. Successful hunters must call 319-213-2815 regarding tissue sample collection.

Dubuque/Jackson/Jones County Deer Management Zone

DUBUQUE/JACKSON/JONES DEER MANAGEMENT ZONE - 700 Antlerless Licenses - 2021-22

Regular Deer Seasons.
Licenses: Bait Shack 563-582-9395, Tri State Outdoors, 563-582-8514, Silker’s Store 563-876-5575, Kueter True Value 563-872-4459; or at the Wallace State Office Building in Des Moines.
Successful hunters must call 563-929-6001 regarding tissue sample collection.
Decatur County Deer Management Zone

DECATUR DEER MANAGEMENT ZONE - 500 Antlerless Licenses - 2021-22 Regular Deer Seasons Licenses: Leon Hy-Vee 641-446-6132, Decatur County Recorder 641-446-4322 or at Wallace State Office Building in Des Moines.
Successful hunters must call 515-975-8318 or email andrew.kellner@dnr.iowa.gov regarding tissue sample collection.
WAYNE DEER MANAGEMENT ZONE - 500 Antlerless Licenses - 2021-22 Regular Deer Seasons Licenses: Corydon Hy-Vee 641-872-1564, the Wayne County Recorder’s Office 641-872-1676; or Wallace State Office Building in Des Moines. Successful hunters must call 641-203-2970 or email helga.offenburger@dnr.iowa.gov regarding tissue sample collection.

CORYDON CWD INCENTIVE ZONE - 350 Antlerless Licenses - January 11-23, 2022 Hunter precertification required prior to license purchase. Call 641-203-2970 with inquiries. Licenses: Corydon Hy-Vee 641-872-1564, or the Wayne County Recorder’s Office, 641-872-1676 Successful hunters must call 641-203-2970 or email helga.offenburger@dnr.iowa.gov to arrange for tissue sample collection.
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BIOLOGISTS

1. BLACK HAWK UNIT .................. 712-661-9726
2. CEDAR-WAPSI UNIT ............... 319-213-2815
3. CLEAR LAKE UNIT .................. 641-425-2814
4. GRAND RIVER UNIT .................. 515-238-5708
5. GREAT LAKES UNIT .................. 712-330-543
6. IOWA RIVER UNIT .................. 319-330-7013
7. MAQUOKETA UNIT .................. 563-357-2035
8. MISSOURI RIVER UNIT ............. 712-420-2437
9. NISHNABOTNA UNIT ............... 712-350-0147
10. ODESSA UNIT ....................... 319-551-8459
11. PRAIRIE LAKES UNIT .............. 712-330-2563
12. RATHBUN UNIT ..................... 641-535-6765
13. RED ROCK UNIT .................... 515-238-6936
14. SAYLORVILLE UNIT ............... 712-330-6685
15. SUGEMA UNIT ...................... 641-799-0793
16. UPPER IOWA UNIT .................. 563-380-3422
WILDLIFE DEPREDATION STAFF

For questions concerning wildlife damage to private property, contact the depredation staff for your county, listed on the map below.

1. Darrin Jones - 515-777-8079
2. Inga Roen - 515-518-7788
3. Andy Kellner - 515-975-8318
4. Ross Ellingson - 563-929-6001
5. Greg Harris - 319-330-5578
6. Helga Offenburger - 641-203-2970
For an updated status of CWD testing & results, visit us on our website at [www.iowadnr.gov/cwd](http://www.iowadnr.gov/cwd).
### REQUIRED FIELDS

**SUBMITTER**

Organization

Address

City, State & Zip

Phone   Fax

Email

Report Results via:  Email  Mail

Third-Party Billing

### IF DIFFERENT AND APPLICABLE COMPLETE BELOW

**OWNER**

SITE NAME

Address

City, State & Zip

Premises ID# (attach premises ID bar code sticker if available)

### SAMPLES

**Species:**  White Tail Deer  Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample ID #</th>
<th>Registration # (below barcode on bottom left of tag)</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Date of Harvest (month/year)</th>
<th>Sex (M, F)</th>
<th>Age (fawn, yearling, adult)</th>
<th>GPS Coords (Lat, Long)</th>
<th>Location (choose 1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By submission of this sample, you acknowledge that test results will be released to you, the submitter, and shared with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to assist in Chronic Wasting Disease monitoring efforts. All samples become the property of the Iowa DNR and will not be returned to submitter.

For location of harvest: Please refer to the Iowa DNR’s Public Hunting Atlas online, pan over map for GPS coordinates (lower left) or turn on the Section Lines layer to retrieve TRS information.

---

*The ISU VDL is a fully accredited laboratory by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians and a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network. A complete description of ISU VDL's diagnostic services, submission guidelines, client confidentiality policy, and the contractual terms associated with the requests and performance of diagnostic services at the ISU VDL are available at the ISU VDL website (www.vetmed.iastate.edu/). Diagnostic specimens submitted for serological or molecular diagnostic testing are generally retained for 2 (serology) to 4 (molecular) weeks from the date received should the need for additional testing arise.*
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
Federal and State law prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, mental and/or physical disability, gender identity, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation in employment and public accommodation. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 1-800-457-4416, or write to:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management, MS: ODIWM, Attention: Public Civil Rights
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, Virginia 22041
(or via email at publiccivilrights@fws.gov)

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS & ALTERNATIVE FORMATS
If you need accommodations to access the DNR’s programs or services because of a disability, requests may be made by contacting your local field office or the department’s ADA coordinator at 515-725-8200.

This information is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting the DNR at 515-725- 8200. TTY users - Contact Relay Iowa at 800-735-2942.

Iowa Dept of Natural Resources
502 E 9th St
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034
515-725-8200

www.iowadnr.gov