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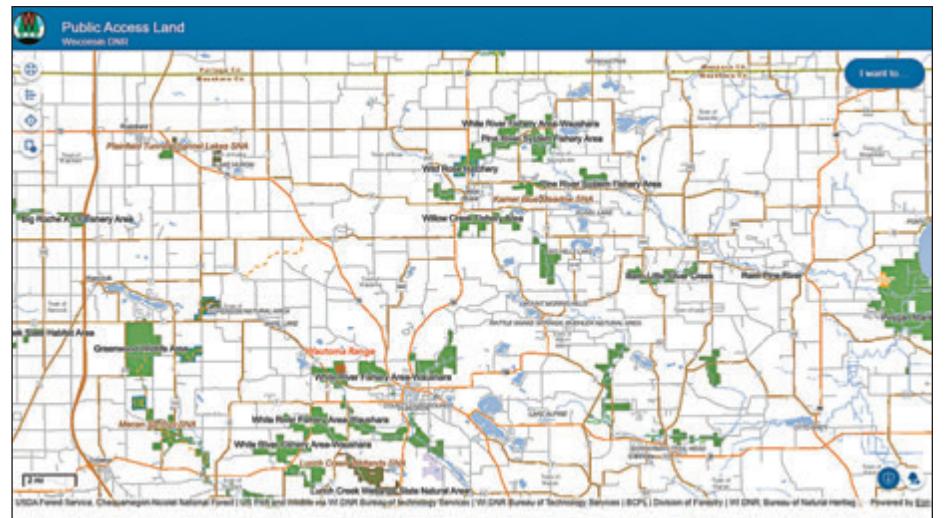
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Hunters and other public access land visitors can use a new application to view layers on properties open to public access.

New Public Access Land mapping resource for hunters

STATE – Wisconsin outdoor enthusiasts now have an additional resource readily available according to the Wisconsin State Department of Natural Resources.

The Public Access Lands (PAL) mapping application is a map-based system that allows users to locate and find information on properties open for public access.

PAL can be used on your desktop or handheld devices.

To go directly to the PAL application visit https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?Viewer=Public_Access_Lands or go through the DNR website at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/> and search “Public Access Lands”.

Simply click the blue tab that says, “Launch Public Access Lands Mapping Application.”

A state of Wisconsin map will appear. Zoom in, out using the scroll function on your mouse, or if you are using a notebook or handheld device use the screen’s fingertip feature.

Locate the area you wish to look at closer.

At any time, you can use the blue tab located on the upper right hand side of the map that says, “I want to...”, but before you do that, it definitely pays to go back to the home screen and scroll down to Documentation.

There are four highlighted blue bullet points you can click on (basically the instruction manual) with simple documents to provide guidance on web map navigation. They also identify web application tools and describe their use.

It is worth checking out before you are ready to make judgments on the usefulness of the application.

The application is a work in progress and there is an area to generate questions and feedback.

The Frequently Asked Questions FAQ tab is short and worth a read ahead of time for first time users.

The Wisconsin DNR purchases land



and conservation easements to manage and protect our natural resources and to provide recreational opportunities to everyone who lives, works and plays in the state. Through the real estate land acquisition program, wetlands, forests, scenic areas, prairies, savannas, wildlife and fish habitat, rare species habitat, glacial features, and other resources are protected and managed.

PAL also includes private lands open to public access, including the Managed Forest Law (MFL), Forest Crop Law (FCL), Voluntary Public Access (VPA) and the Turkey Hunter Access Program (THAP).

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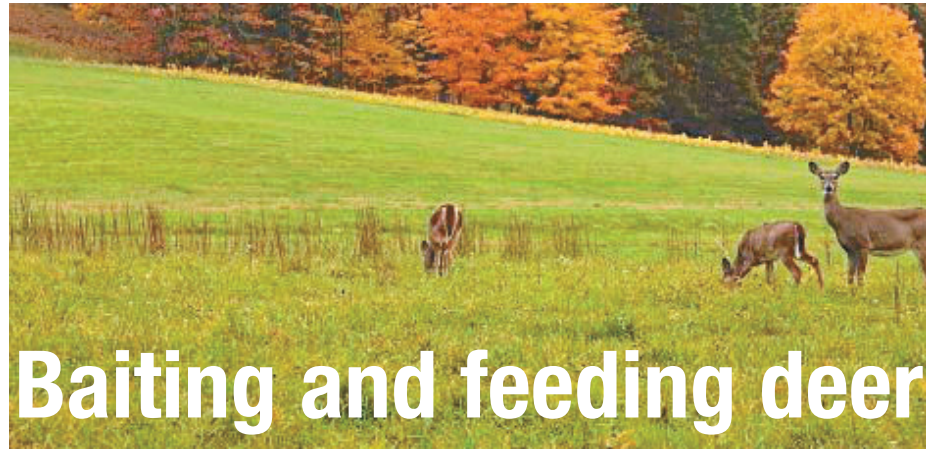
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Buyers' Guide MMC MULTI MEDIA CHANNELS LOCAL MEDIA+BETTER RESULTS



Baiting and feeding deer

Baiting and feeding encourage deer to congregate unnaturally around a specific location, creating an environment where infected deer can quickly spread CWD.

iStock/mountainberrypphoto

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds hunters and the public to help prevent the spread of chronic wasting disease (CWD) and other illnesses between deer by following all baiting and feeding bans and refraining from baiting and feeding in areas where no bans are in effect.

CWD is an always-fatal disease that affects the nervous system of deer, elk, moose and caribou caused by a misshapen prion protein. The disease can spread through contact with an infected animal's saliva, urine, feces or blood. It can also spread indirectly through exposure to a contaminated environment. CWD prions are extremely resilient, and they can stay in the soil for a long time, making containment of an affected area a challenge.

Baiting is the intentional placement of any material, including food, scented materials, salts, minerals and grains, to attract wild animals for hunting purposes. Feeding is the deliberate placement of material used to feed or attract wild animals for non-hunting purposes, including recreational and supplemental feeding, except as allowed for birds and small mammals.

Baiting and feeding encourage deer to congregate unnaturally around a specific location, creating an environment where infected deer can quickly spread diseases like CWD through direct contact with healthy deer or through indirect contact in the environment.

Infected deer can also leave infectious CWD prions behind in their saliva, blood, feces and urine, creating a risk to any healthy deer that may visit the site in the future. CWD can spread rapidly when these prions remain in an area where more deer are sure to congregate, such as a feed pile.

To mitigate these risks and slow the spread of CWD, state law directs the DNR to impose baiting and feeding bans within any county with a confirmed CWD-positive wild or captive deer or any county within 10 miles of the location of the positive deer.

Counties fall under a three-year baiting and feeding ban when a wild or farm-raised deer tests positive for CWD in the county. If the CWD-positive deer is found within 10 miles of a county line, the

adjoining county will fall under a two-year ban. If additional CWD cases are found during the lifetime of a baiting and feeding ban, the ban will reset for an additional two to three years. Therefore, the date when a baiting and feeding ban would be lifted on a given county may change due to new farm-raised and wild CWD positive detections.

In counties where baiting and feeding bans are in effect, individuals may still feed birds and small mammals provided feeding devices are within 50 yards of a human dwelling and at a sufficient height or design to prevent access by deer.

Find more information on baiting and feeding regulations and a map of counties with active bans on the DNR's Baiting and Feeding Regulations webpage.



I took the photo while helping a friend, Drew Fietzer retrieve an early season bow buck at his deer camp north west of Manawa. Game should be dressed, quartered and chilled as soon as possible during the early season.

John Faucher photo



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Retirement buck

Former City of New London Postal Carrier of 32-years. "Curly" Gary Buchholtz of West Bloomfield, harvested this hefty drop tine 12-point buck while bow hunting at 3:19 p.m. Nov. 2, 2023. The buck weighed in at 206 pounds, and is one of his best bucks ever. Buchholtz said he is thoroughly enjoying his retirement!



2024 Fall Hunting, Trapping Season Dates

Get your regulations up to one month before they're available in print at dnr.wisconsin.gov! Seasons may be subject to change. Consult the hunting regulations or dnr.wisconsin.gov before hunting.

Deer

- **Archery and crossbow:** Sept. 14, 2024 to Jan. 5, 2025*
- **Gun hunt for hunters with disabilities:#** Oct. 5-13.
- **Youth hunt:** Oct. 5-6.
- **Gun:** Nov. 23-Dec. 1.
- **Muzzleloader:** Dec. 2-11.
- **State-wide antlerless-only hunt:** Dec. 12-15.
- **Antlerless-only holiday hunt:** Dec. 24 to Jan. 1, 2025**

* Archery & Crossbow season closes on Jan. 31, 2025 in metro subunits and select DMUs. See page 11 of the hunting regulations for participating counties.

Not a statewide season. More information is available at dnr.wisconsin.gov, search "disabled deer hunt."

** Open only in select Farmland (zone 2) counties; see regulations for open counties.

Turkey

Youth Turkey Hunt: Apr. 13 & 14

Open Zones

Spring	Period A	Apr. 17-23
	Period B	Apr. 24-30
	Period C	May 1-7
	Period D	May 8-14
	Period E	May 15-21
	Period F	May 22-28
Fall	Statewide	Sept. 14-Nov. 22
	Zones 1-5	Nov. 23, 2024-Jan. 5 2025

Bear

- **Zones C, E, F:** Sept. 4 to Oct. 8
 - with aid of bait
 - with all other legal methods not using dogs
- **Zones A, B, D:** Sept. 4-10
 - with aid of bait
 - with all other legal methods not using dogs
- Sept. 11-Oct. 1
 - with aid of dogs • with aid of bait
 - with all other legal methods
- Oct. 2-8
 - with aid of dogs only

Migratory birds

- **Early Canada Goose-Statewide:** Sept. 1-15
- **Early Teal-Statewide:** Sept. 1-9
- **Duck-Youth:** Sept. 14-15
 - Northern Zone:** Sept. 21-Nov. 19
 - Southern Zone:** Sept. 28-Oct. 6 and Oct. 12-Dec. 1
 - Open Water Zone:** Oct. 12- Dec. 10
- **Regular Goose-Northern Zone:** Sept. 16-Dec. 16
- **Southern and Mississippi:** Sept. 16-Oct. 6,
- **River Zones:** Oct. 12-Dec 1, and Dec. 21-Jan. 9, 2025
- **Woodcock-Statewide:** Sept. 21-Nov. 4
- **Morning Dove-Statewide:** Sept. 1-Nov. 29

Game birds

- **Pheasant-Statewide:** Oct. 19 (9 AM)-Jan. 5, 2025
- **Ruffed grouse:** Zone A: Sept. 14-Jan. 5, 2025; Zone B: Oct. 19-Dec. 8
- **Crow-Statewide:** Nov. 23-Mar. 26, 2025
- **Hungarian partridge-Statewide*:** Oct. 19 (9 AM)-Jan. 5, 2025 (*closed in Clark, Marathon and Taylor counties)
- **Sharp-tailed grouse:** 2024 season under review
- **Bobwhite quail-Statewide:** Oct. 19 (9 a.m.) to Dec. 11

Small game

- **Cottontail rabbit:** Northern Zone: Sept. 14-Feb. 28, 2025; Southern Zone: Oct. 19 (9 AM)-Feb. 28, 2025
- **Squirrels (gray and fox):** Statewide Sept. 14-Feb. 28, 2025

Elk

- **Clam Lake Elk Management Zone (archery, crossbow, firearm):** Oct. 12 - Nov. 10; Dec. 12-20.

NOTE: Licenses awarded by drawing. Only bulls can be harvested.

Falconry

- **Rail (Virginia, Sora), snipe, common gallinule, woodcock:** Sept. 1 to Dec. 4 (half an hour before sunrise to sunset).
 - **Early teal:** Sept. 1-9 (sunrise to sunset).
 - **Ducks, mergansers, coots:** All zones: Sept. 17-18; Jan. 13 to Feb. 17, 2024; South Zone: Sept. 30 to Oct. 8; Oct. 14 to Dec. 3: Open Water Zone: Oct. 14 to Dec. 12; North Zone: Sept. 23 to Nov. 21 (half an hour before sunrise to sunset).
 - **Geese:** Same as regular goose season dates (half an hour before sunrise to sunset).
- NOTE: The total daily bag limit is three birds, singly or in aggregate, to include not more than the legal limit for Canada geese in the zone/season being hunted. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit.

Furbearers

- **Coyote:** Hunting: Year-round; Trapping: Oct. 19-Feb. 15, 2025
- **Fox (red and gray):** Hunting & Trapping: Oct. 19-Feb. 15, 2025
- **Beaver:** Trapping ONLY: Zones A, B (Northwest): Nov. 2-Apr. 30, 2025; Zone C (South): Nov. 2-Mar. 31, 2025; Zone D (Mississippi River): Day after the duck season closes-Mar. 15, 2025
- **Mink, muskrat:** Trapping ONLY: Northern Zone: Oct. 19-Apr. 15, 2025; Central Zone: Oct. 26-Mar. 22, 2025; Southern Zone: Nov. 2-Mar. 15, 2025; Mississippi River Zone: Nov. 11-Mar. 9, 2025
- **Bobcat:** Hunting & Trapping - Permits Required: Period 1: Oct. 19-Dec. 25; Period 2: Dec. 26-Jan. 31, 2025
- **Fisher:** Trapping ONLY- Permits Required: Various Zones: Oct. 19-Jan. 5, 2025

See DATES page 7



2024 season underway

Isaac Kanaman harvested this healthy 8-point buck on opening day of the Wisconsin Archery/Crossbow Deer season Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024. The buck carried a 17 1/2-inch inside spread and weighed in at 185 pounds. **Contributed photo**



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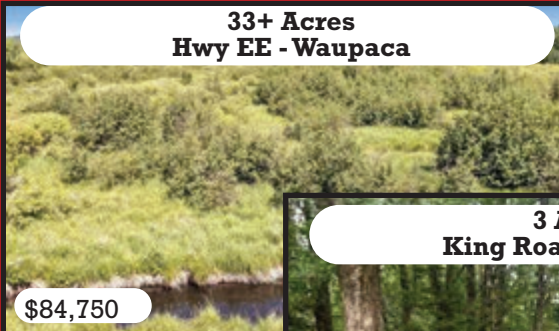
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DATES from page 4

- **Otter:** Trapping ONLY - Permits Required: North Zone: Nov. 2-Apr. 30, 2025; South Zone: Nov. 2-Mar. 31, 2025
- **Raccoon:** Hunting, Trapping: Resident: Oct. 19-Feb. 15, 2025; Non-resident: Nov. 2-Feb. 15, 2025
- **Opossum, skunk, weasel, porcupine, woodchuck, snowshoe hare:** No season limits, bag limits, size limits or possession limits, but a license is required.

PROTECTED SPECIES

Hunting protected species-such as badger, jackrabbit, moose and flying squirrel-is prohibited. See Ch. NR 10.02 for more details.

GET IN THE GAME!

Mentored Hunting Licenses: Adults and youth who have not completed hunter education may hunt through the Mentored Hunting Program. Visit dnr.wisconsin.gov and search "mentored hunting" for more information.

Mentored Trapping Licenses: Youth ages 16-17 and adults who have not completed trapper education may

trap through the Mentored Trapping program. Youth under the age of 16 may trap without a license when supervised by a licensed trapper, even if the youth has not completed trapper education. Visit dnr.wisconsin.gov and search "mentored trapping" for more information.

Reduced License Fees: Youth ages 11 and younger, first-time hunters and those who have not hunted in the preceding 10 years are eligible to purchase hunting licenses at a reduced fee. Resident hunters who recruit three first-time hunters, trappers or anglers are also eligible for reduced fees.

Find More Information

Visit dnr.wisconsin.gov and search "Hunt" and "Trap" for season dates, regulations, license and permit requirements, finding a place to hunt or trap and more. Additional questions? Call the DNR Call Center toll-free: 1-888-WDNR INFO (1-888-936-7463) • local 608-266-2621 TTY Access via relay - 711

Permit Application Deadlines

Elk	May 31
Bobcat	Aug. 1
Fisher	Aug. 1
Sharp-tailed Grouse*	Aug. 31*
Spring Turkey	Dec. 10
Bear	Dec. 10

Timing of Drawings

Elk	Early Jun.
Bobcat	Mid-Sept.
Fisher	Mid-Sept.
Sharp-tailed Grouse*	Sept.*
Spring Turkey	Late Jan.
Bear	Early Feb.

*If season is open and permits are offered.

To check your drawing status, go to:
gowild.wi.gov



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