

IDNR Reminds Hunters Chronic Wasting Disease Check Stations Will Be Open For 2021 Firearm Deer Season

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SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) reminds hunters in counties where chronic wasting disease (CWD) has been detected that Firearm Deer Check Stations will be open this year in CWD-testing counties. Check stations were not open in 2020 due to health and safety protocols in place at that time.

Check stations are used by the IDNR to monitor CWD in Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will, and Winnebago counties.

A list of check station locations for CWD testing can be found on the IDNR [website](#) [Firearm Deer Hunting Information for CWD Counties](#) page. The list this year includes a Carroll County check station at Mississippi Palisades State Park. Hunters harvesting deer in Kane County should take their deer to a check station in an adjacent county.

In those counties, hunter-harvested deer must be taken to a designated firearm deer check station by 8 p.m. on the day the deer is killed. All persons at the check stations will be required to follow guidance from the CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health in place at the time of the hunt regarding the use of face masks and social distancing.

Successful firearm deer hunters in all other counties must report their harvest by 10 p.m. on the same calendar day the deer is taken by using the online check-in system at <https://www.exploremoreil.com/wildlife/harvest> or by phone at 866-452-4325.

Successful deer hunters in all other counties may have their deer tested for CWD. Hunters can visit participating vendors (taxidermists and meat processors) or drop deer heads at self-serve drop-off sites. A list of locations is available on the IDNR website at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/programs/CWD/Documents/CWDSamplingLocations.pdf>

The Illinois Firearm Deer Season dates are Nov. 19-21, 2021, and Dec. 2-5, 2021.