



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FISH AND WILDLIFE

WILDLIFE PERMITS UNIT

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Commissioner

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING POSSESSION/IMPORTATION OF LIVE CERVIDS

- Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been detected in both free-ranging and captive deer herds in 30 states nationwide, including Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- As of December 2021, New Jersey has tested 10,583 free-ranging white-tailed deer, 157 captive white-tailed deer, and 20 captive exotic deer. All samples to date have been negative for the CWD prion. New Jersey Fish and Wildlife (NJFW) will continue to monitor the health of our wild deer herd through sampling and testing.
- **The ban on the importation of cervid species put in place on April 15, 2002 REMAINS in effect and is strictly enforced. No live cervid species may come into the State of New Jersey, including but not limited to white-tailed deer, black-tailed deer, mule deer, red deer, sika deer, fallow deer, muntjac, reindeer, elk, and moose. This is due to the growing concern of the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease into wild and farmed herds of animals in the deer family throughout the United States.**

NOTICE TO CURRENT CERVID PERMIT HOLDERS:

- **The NJ Deer Project must be notified of each individual cervid's death as soon as it is discovered.** NJFW may test each cervid for CWD, regardless of its age or body condition. Utilizing PPE, please prepare the deer head for testing by removing the head of the deer below the second vertebrae, placing the head in a plastic bag, and refrigerating the sample immediately. These steps should be completed within 48 hours of death. Please DO NOT freeze the specimen. The refrigerated sample should be transported to the NJFW's Office of Fish and Wildlife Health and Forensics. Contact the NJ Deer Project at NJDEER@dep.nj.gov or (609) 223-6072 for more detailed information.
- If you are currently permitted to possess captive deer species and are concerned about CWD or notice a decline in the health of your deer herd, please contact the NJ Deer Project as soon as possible to discuss the situation and arrange for appropriate testing.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of this Notice and shall comply with all terms and conditions. I understand that if I do not sign this Notice, I will not receive a permit.

Signature: _____ Date: _____