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## Take-A-Kid Pheasant Hunt An Annual Tradition

The annual Take-A-Kid mentored pheasant hunt, held on Saturday November 4, 2023, is an event designed to give our youth hunters the opportunity to be introduced to upland hunting alongside experienced dog handlers and mentors prior to the regular season opener. Youths, under the direct supervision of a licensed adult, are permitted to take advantage of an opportunity to go out on

November 6 – November 10 with the regular season for all opening on November 11. During our mentored Take-A-Kid event, youths and volunteers sign up for 8 Wildlife Management Area (WMA) locations (Assunpink, Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Millville, Peaslee, Whittingham and Winslow). Pheasants will be stocked the morning of the event while youths meet their mentors, dogs and handlers they will be working with. Youths will need a 2023 hunting license, solid hunter orange vest and solid hunter orange hat. Registration for this event is now closed, as we expect over 200 youths to participate!



## Managed Waterfowl Hunt at the Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area

The R3 Program's lottery registration for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt program has now concluded. Almost 600 applications were received this year. Congratulations to those who won a blind! The season began with the youth day for the south on Saturday, October 14th and a great way to kick off the waterfowl season.

Eight youth hunters participated, harvesting 3 Wood Ducks, and 2 Green Winged Teal. The following weekend on October 21st the regular season kicked off! A total of 17 hunters participated harvesting 36 ducks including: Wood Ducks, Teal and Pintails.

This program was designed to allow pressure to be taken off wildlife by allowing scheduled waterfowl hunting only 3 days per week. 6 floatable blinds have been installed in the Tuckahoe WMA impoundments for winners of the lottery to hunt from. Each blind holds 4 participants comfortably (or 3 with 1 dog). The hunts take place across 32 dates during the waterfowl season. If you have any questions, you can reach out to [R3MentoredHunt@dep.nj.gov](mailto:R3MentoredHunt@dep.nj.gov)

# Featured Recipe: Mav's Herb and Butter Goose

## Ingredients:

- 1 whole skin on goose
- 1 M quartered onion
- 2 M cored and quartered apples
- 2 T each fresh chopped herbs:
  - Thyme
  - Tarragon
  - Rosemary
  - Sage
  - Chives

Salt and pepper to taste

1 cup butter

## Directions

Preheat the oven to 275°F.

Place onion and apple in cavity.

Place a saucepan over low heat, melt the butter and add herbs/seasonings.

Place the goose in a roasting pan, pat the skin dry, and brush on the butter and herb mixture.

Wrap the roasting pan with aluminum foil, place lid over top to seal. Place in the oven for 8 hours or until the internal temperature reaches 165 degrees.



# 2023-2024 Hunting & Trapping Digest Available Online



Make sure to [head to our website](#) or one of our [licensing agents](#) to get all the information you need for the upcoming hunting seasons. The Hunting & Trapping Digest is released annually containing information on season dates, youth hunts, license pricing, bag limits and so much more. This is the information you need to know before you head out this season!

## Where Can I Hunt?

Remember to use NJ Fish & Wildlife's Hunting and Trapping Explorer App to locate hunting spots, by species. Visit our site [HERE](#) and get out there today!



# Nuts for Squirrels? Squirrel Hunting Workshop

Small game season is now open for Gray Squirrel here in New Jersey. Seven hunters recently joined our R3 staff and mentors for a mentored squirrel hunt located at the Pequest Wildlife Management Area. Topics covered included: identifying the best trees to locate squirrels, recognizing the signs of squirrel activity, as well as an onsite demonstration on how to clean and process squirrel meat! Three (3) squirrels were harvested during the hunt, with all hunters learning a lot as they now prepare to head out to the woods on their own.



2022 Mentee hunter during the Mentored hunt.



# Species Fun Facts: Canada Goose



- Can travel 1,500 miles in a day
- Bills have serrated edges
- Goslings can swim within 1 day of hatching
- 1 goose can have between 20,000 and 25,000 feathers, protecting them from drastic temperatures
- The maximum flight ceiling of Canada geese is unknown, but some reports have them spotted at (29,000 feet)
- Can fly 40-70 mph

## Keep an Eye Out- Deer Disease Sighting Form

Have you spotted a deer that may be sick? Drooling, lethargic, not acting normal or deceased? You can make a report and attach photos or videos to be submitted to our deer biologists by [clicking here](#). If you have any other questions or comments, you can contact the deer biologists at [NJDEER@dep.nj.com](mailto:NJDEER@dep.nj.com).



## Contact Us

Looking for information on something we didn't cover this month? Reach out to us! Email: [R3mentoredhunt@dep.nj.gov](mailto:R3mentoredhunt@dep.nj.gov)

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