



R3 NEWS

RECRUIT

RETAIN

REACTIVATE



New Jersey DEP Fish and Wildlife

Spring 2023

[Turkey Seminars Wow Constituents](#)

[2023 Women's Mentored Turkey Hunt](#)

[2022-2023 Deer Season Numbers](#)

[Featured Recipe: WG's Grilled Turkey Breast with Herbs](#)

[Did You Know? Raccoons!](#)

[Hunter Education Live Fire Range Sessions Through November](#)

[2023 Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament](#)



Two Turkey Seminars Wow Constituents

The trees are blooming, the days are longer, the temperatures are warmer, the roadside produce stands are opening for the season and the allergies are starting. Sounds just like springtime in New Jersey! Do you know what else happens this time of year? The winter turkey flocks have broken up and turkey hunters emerge. Going through gear and claiming permits are all part of preparing for the season. Hunters new to turkey hunting and veterans looking to add more knowledge to their already growing years of experience attended two turkey hunting and calling seminars held prior to the season this spring. New Jersey Fish & Wildlife partnered with the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) to share knowledge with 91 eager participants at either the Pequest Trout Hatchery or Batsto Village. Participants were met with an informative and welcoming environment to learn new outdoor skills while learning about one of New Jersey's favorite springtime game species, the wild turkey. We wish the best of luck to our turkey hunters this season!

Spring harvest results will be posted in the Summer R3 edition, so stay tuned for that!



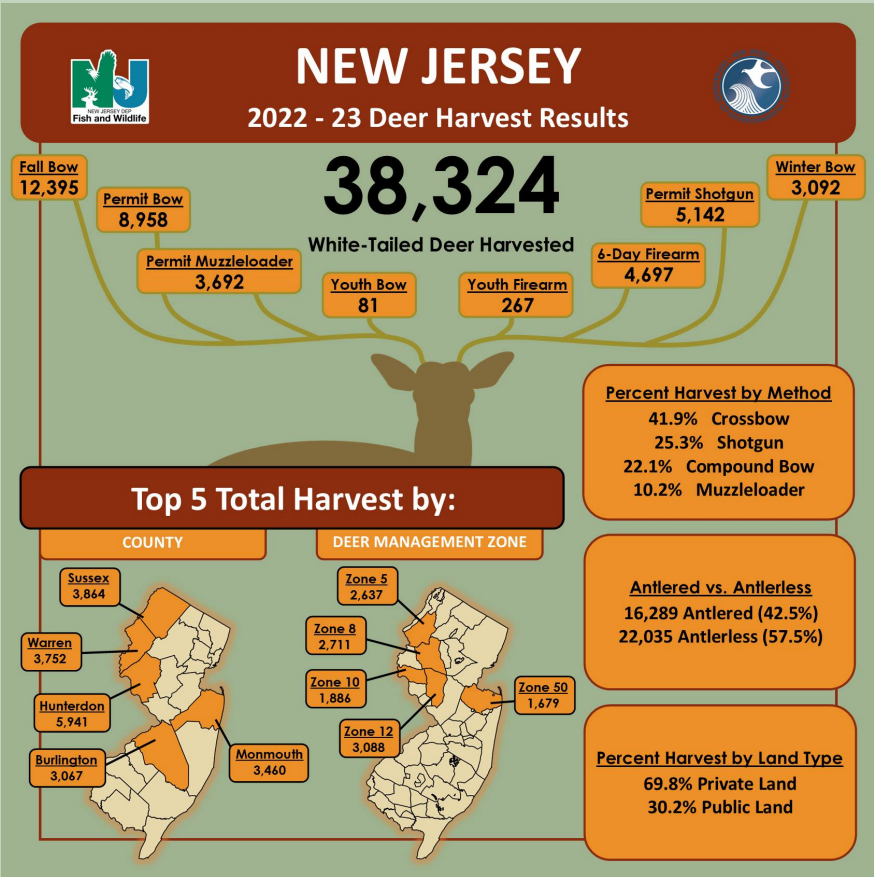
2023 R3 Women's Mentored Turkey Hunt

NJ Fish and Wildlife's 3rd annual Mentored Women's Turkey Hunting workshop took place this year from Sunday, April 30th to Tuesday May 2nd. This R3 event was in partnership with the Landis Sewerage Authority, the NWTf-NJ and NWTf

Women in the Outdoors program. Nine women, in the beginning of their wild turkey hunting journey, came from all over the state to learn from our Biologists, Conservation Police Officers, veteran hunters and each other. Once gathered at Good Sports Gun Club in Millville, Cumberland County, the participants had hands-on experience learning about turkey calls, gear and scouting. Presentations by R3 staff and volunteers gave all of the information the women would need right at their fingertips! A total of 4 turkeys were harvested this year by participants for the third consecutive year!

2022-2023 Deer Season Numbers

The 2022-23 deer season seems so long ago, and the 2023 season so far away but that doesn't mean deer aren't on your mind! To hold you over until fall arrives, here are our final deer numbers from the 2022-23 season. We hope you were able to fill your tags and freezers this past season!



WG's Grilled Turkey Breast with Herbs

- Ingredients:
- 1 whole bone in, cavity attached, skin on turkey breast
 - 1 softened stick of unsalted butter
 - 2 chopped garlic cloves (Tip: smash first to release the allicin!)
 - 1 handful of chopped fresh parsley
 - 1 handful of chopped fresh sage
 - a smaller handful of fresh chopped thyme and rosemary, chopped
 - salt and pepper to taste
 - 1 box of stock
 - 2 deep sided foil pans
 - Heavy duty foil



Wash and pat turkey, allow to sit out for 1 hour if coming right from refrigerator to come up in temperature a bit.

Next, add butter, garlic, herbs, salt and pepper together in a bowl. Set aside. The mixture will need to be slightly melted further in the recipe.

Season the turkey meat then roll foil into a ball and place in the turkey cavity.

Brush the butter and herbs over and under the turkey breast

Place a deep sided foil pan onto the preheated grill then add some of the stock to it, about 1/4" deep. You will want to keep that level throughout the cooking process. Add the turkey breast to the pan and begin cooking. It is done when the meat reaches 165 degrees in the thickest part of the meat.

Our tip: make sure to grab some fresh Jersey asparagus this season from your favorite produce stand and grill alongside!

Have you cooked game meat from one of our recipes? Do you have a recipe to share? Send along to our team at r3mentoredhunt@dep.nj.gov

Did You Know?

It may be turkey season, and our Did You Know portion of our newsletter is connected to them, we promise! Part of being a great hunter is knowing all you can about the species you are hunting. Do you know the natural predators of our Wild Turkeys? Coyotes, Great Horned Owls, Opossums, Striped Skunks, and Gray Foxes are among the list. Let's take a look at one of these species that all New Jersey residents are familiar with...Raccoons!



- Nest predator for turkey eggs
- Scientific name: Procyon lotor
- Male is called a boar, female is called a sow, young are called kits
- Life expectancy is 2-3 year



Hunter Education Live Fire Range Sessions Through November

Do you know someone who has been asking to come hunting with you? Have you been putting off taking the online course or scheduling your live fire range session? Let's go through a run down of how to get your firearm or bow Hunter Education Card!

1. [Register for our FREE online course.](#) This is the most up to date curriculum we have. The workbooks and DVD's we used previously are no longer valid for a live fire range session.
2. Upon completion of the online course, [register for one of our live fire range sessions.](#) You can register for firearm, bow or both! If you register for both, please register in separate time slots for each.
3. Once you pass, you will be given your Hunter Education card. You can take this to any of our agents to purchase your license in person or you can purchase online the following week.

If you have any questions about our Hunter Education program, reach out to njhuntered@dep.nj.gov

2023 Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament

The annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament was held on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at Island Beach State Park. A great day of surf fishing with family and friends were had by all. The purpose is to bring awareness of the importance of saltwater recreational fishing and marine resources in New Jersey to the Governor, State Legislators and New Jersey residents. The largest fish wins the "Governor's Award" and will have their name engraved on cup. This year a 37 1/8" striper took the Cup. For more information, visit: [HERE](#)



The tournament is sponsored by NJDEP's Fish & Wildlife and Division of Parks, Forestry and Historic Places, New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Jersey Coast Anglers Association and New Jersey Beach Buggy Association.

Contact Us

Looking for information on something we didn't cover this month? Reach out to us!

Email: R3mentoredhunt@dep.nj.gov

THIS PROJECT WAS SUPPORTED BY: State Wildlife Grants administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fishing Restoration Program: Partnering to fund conservation and connect people with nature

