



R3 NEWS

RECRUIT RETAIN REACTIVATE



New Jersey DEP Fish and Wildlife

Summer 2023

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NEW JERSEY TURKEY SEASON SPRING HUNTING STATS 2023

2,545

TOTAL SPRING HARVEST

2,411 Shotgun

51 Compound Bow

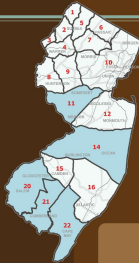
77 Crossbow

6 Longbow-Recurve



179 Youth Harvest

658 Public Land
1,887 Private Land



New Jersey's Top Turkey Hunting Areas:

THA 20 - 688

THA 21 - 343

THA 14 - 229

THA 22 - 226

THA 11 - 160



TOMS - 2,023

JAKES - 521

Turkey Harvest Data

The 2023 Spring Turkey season brought an increase in harvests with 228 additional birds were harvested in comparison to 2022. 14 Turkey Hunting Areas (THA's) saw an increase in harvests this year. Were you able to harvest a bird this year? Did you come home with some great stories from your hunts? Did you bring out a new hunter this year? No matter what your season brought, we hope you had an experience that locked in memories for a lifetime! We hope you will get out there again next season! You can view more information on our harvest and population data from previous years by [heading to our website](#). The countdown to the 2024 lottery is on!



Hunter Education: Help Grow NJ Hunters!

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

1st [Register for our FREE online course](#). This is the most up to date curriculum. The workbooks and DVD's used previously are no longer valid for a live-fire range session.

2nd 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. Live-fire range sessions will resume in late July/early August and run until November. Classes in October and November fill up quickly so please sign up early.

3rd 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

Free Use of NJ Ranges with Active License



Purchasing your annual hunting license allows you to use 11 of our ranges located throughout the state. Bow license holders can utilize our archery ranges and firearms license holders can utilize the firearms ranges. One person per group must have a valid current license on their person during the use of the ranges. Users must supply their own firearms, ammunition, bows, arrows, targets, clay birds, and launchers. Backstops are available for use.

These ranges are maintained by our Lands Management team, through license sales revenue, dedicated conservation dollars and revenue from [the Federal Wildlife Restoration Act](#) generated from purchase of hunting and target shooting equipment.

All Wildlife Management Areas (WMA's) are “carry in, carry out”. Make sure to check our website for the WMA regulations, current closure announcements and location addresses. Hours for use are 8:00 AM until sunset year-round. Please check the website for special hours for Black River WMA located in Morris County.

Wildlife Management Area (WMA) information contact: (609) 984-0547

WMA regulation questions should be sent to regional Law Enforcement:

North: (908) 735-8240
Central: (609) 259-2120
South: (856) 629-0555

Range locations:

North
Hunterdon County: Clinton WMA
Morris County: Black River WMA
Sussex County: Flatbrook-Roy WMA
Warren County: Pequest WMA

Central
Monmouth County: Assunpink WMA
Ocean County: Colliers Mills WMA and Stafford Forge WMA

South
Atlantic County: Makepeace WMA
Gloucester County: Winslow WMA
Cape May County: Tuckahoe WMA
Cumberland County: Millville WMA

BBQ Sauce for Grilling Season



- 2 C ketchup
- 1 1/2 T Worcestershire sauce
- 1/3 C ACV
- 2 T honey (Try a local NJ honey!)
- 5 T brown sugar
- 2 1/2 t smoked paprika
- 1 t dry mustard
- 1/2 t garlic powder
- 1/2 t salt
- 1/2 t pepper

Place a pan over medium-low heat, add all ingredients and stir. Once simmering, set heat to low and simmer for 10 minutes until you reach desired thickness. Use on any of your bbq game meats!

Hunters Best Friend: Are you Ready for Fall?

As hunting season approaches, it is a good idea to make sure that your four-legged best friend is ready to go. Though it is the off season and these dogs have earned a well-deserved break, that doesn't mean there aren't certain points to focus on. Here are some things to start thinking about and ramping up in preparation for the best time of year!

- Exercise appropriate for your type of hunting
- Annual Vet check up
- Monitor healthy diet
- Check all your canine related gear
 - Including a dog first aid kit (super clot, ace bandages, gauze, saline, etc.)
- Know the location of the veterinary office closest to your hunting area
- Reinforce basic commands
- Drills
 - Waterfowl dogs:
 - Practice retrieving (On land and in water)
 - Hand signals (Casting)
 - Upland dogs:
 - Increase or maintain cardio
 - Pointing dogs: steady on points
 - Flushing dogs:
 - Exposure to various bird scents (Hide wings or frozen birds)



If you are interested in training your dog on one of our Wildlife Management Areas (WMA's), we have 13 Dog Training Areas that are maintained on 12 of our WMA's for public use. Check out which WMA's, the dates for training, locations and hours by [heading to our website](#).

Deer Season Dates: Plan Your Hunts!



Dates and regulations for the 2023-2024 deer season have been released! Learn everything you need to know while sitting on your back deck with a cold drink this summer so you are ready for the season to begin.

You can find the information online here:

[Archery](#)
[Firearm](#)

This information will also be available in our Hunting and Trapping digest to be released before the end of this summer.

September Goose Dates

Get ready, September 1st brings the opening of the season for Canada Goose! The season runs statewide from September 1st – 30th. For more information, please [head to our website](#).



Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt Program



Attention waterfowl hunters, we are only a few short months away from the Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt Program Lottery. Whether you are a new or experienced waterfowl hunter or you haven't waterfowl hunted in a while, the Tuckahoe WMA Managed Waterfowl Hunt offered by New Jersey Fish & Wildlife's R3 Program provides a quality hunting experience for all. Specific days, times and dates will be available for the lottery to ensure a better opportunity for a quality experience.

Interested hunters will be able to apply for one of the six blinds on the three impoundments located on the Cape May side of the Tuckahoe River (South Zone)

We hope you give it a shot and apply! Stay tuned for 2023-24 Program dates and more information on the program which will be posted on our Social Media and R3 Website.

Feel free to visit [NJDEP | Fish & Wildlife | Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area Managed Waterfowl Hunt](#) for more information on the program!

Questions can be directed to: tuckahoewmafowl@dep.nj.gov or **609-947-5824**.

Contact Us

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

Email: R3mentoredhunt@dep.nj.gov

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