



R3 News

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New Jersey DEP Fish and Wildlife

Summer 2024

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Get Ready! The Lottery for Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt Opens September 1, 2024



So many hunters share stories of hunting with their parent or grandparent. Smiling through reliving the memory of the experience being passed down between generations and then being able to do the same for their children one day. Ava Nordstrom woke up on the morning of her 11th birthday ready to experience one of these moments, hoping to harvest her first duck. Her Father Richard Nordstrom had the same hope. Father and daughter were up before sunrise heading to the Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area ready for some sunny December waterfowl hunting as hunters who were awarded a blind for the Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt. Hunting takes place a half hour before sunrise until noon each hunt day. During the day, Ava achieved her goal of harvesting her first duck, a Pintail!

The 2024 Managed Waterfowl Hunt at Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area online lottery application will be opening on Sunday September 1, 2024. The application period will close on Wednesday September 25, 2024, no late applications are able to be

accepted and no paper applications. Winners will be notified by Wednesday October 2, 2024. More information will be posted soon on our R3 website found here: <https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/hunting/tuckahoe-wildlife-management-area-managed-waterfowl-hunt/>

Deer Butchering Workshops

The R3 Program, in partnership with Hunters Helping the Hungry (HHH) are offering two Deer Butchering Workshops in South Jersey this September. Learn from some of the region's most respected deer butchers. Our first event will be held Saturday September 21, 2024, at The Buck Stop located in Pittsgrove, NJ at 12:00 PM. Our second event will take place Friday September 27, 2024, at Bringhurst Meats in Berlin, NJ at 7:00 PM. Space for these high demand events are limited, and registration is required so sign up early! Two more workshops are coming to the North, so look for those postings soon. register, visit: <https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/education/r3-program/>



Womens Introduction to Sporting Clays Workshop-Shoot 'Em Up!

Join us on Sunday September 22, 2024, for a Women's Introduction to Shooting Clays Workshop! This event is for women 18 years and older who are beginners to shooting sports. The workshop will be taking place at Fin Fur & Feather Club of New Jersey located in Cream Ridge. Ammunition and ear protection will be provided but participants will need to provide their own shotgun (12 or 20 gauge only) and eye protection. Space will be limited for this event so please register early! Registration required. For more information and to register, visit: <https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/education/r3-program/>



Deer Hunters: Changes to Deer Management Regulations in Zones 45 and 46 for Upcoming Season



Attention Deer Hunters!

Please note that Deer Management Zones 45 and 46 (Located in parts of Atlantic and Cumberland County) are open for deer hunting for the 2024 Fall Bow, Youth Bow Day, 6-Day Firearm and Youth Firearm Day ONLY. All other deer seasons for DMZ 45 and 46 are CLOSED until further notice.

For more information on this important closure, please visit:

<https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/news-2024-07-09-important-information-regarding-deer-management-zones-45-and-46/>

Reminder-Early Fall Bow Starts Soon on Saturday, September 14, 2024



Hunter Education Live Fire Range Sessions Running Now Through Early November

Hunter Education is entering the last few months of live fire range sessions. If you wanted to complete your firearm or bow education for the 2024 season, NOW is the time to do it! Begin by completing our free [Online Course](#). Then, register for the brief 1-2 hour required live fire range session with us. We host these sessions through early November each year and classes are filling up FAST! Contact Hunter Education at njhuntered@dep.nj.gov with any questions!

Trapper Education classes are now available. Learn from the experts about trapping techniques and your role in managing wildlife populations to optimal, healthy levels, along with reducing human animal conflicts, reducing predation on both game and nongame species and helping maintain our wildlife resource.

Spots are going fast, so register today!

4 Fall Trapper Education classes will be held:

1. Tuckahoe WMA, Lenape Farms (Estell Manor, Atlantic County) September 14 & 15
2. Hackettstown Fish Hatchery (Hackettstown, Warren County) September 21 & 22
3. Hackettstown Fish Hatchery (Hackettstown, Warren County) October 19 & 20
4. Jamesburg Field & Stream Club (Manchester, Ocean County) October 24 & 26

Featured Recipe:

Moroccan Style Duck Hand Pies

INGREDIENTS

- Heart, Liver, Gizzards and Breast Meat from 2 medium sized ducks (i.e. mallards), ground
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- ¼ cup chopped dried apricots
- ¼ cup chopped dates
- ½ cup raisins
- ½ cup chopped & roasted almonds
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ¼ tsp Ground Allspice
- ¼ tsp Ground Ginger
- ¼ tsp Ground Cinnamon
- ¼ tsp Fresh Ground whole Nutmeg
- ¼ tsp Ground turmeric
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 1 tbsp apricot preserves
- 2.5 cups Duck or Chicken stock
- Juice and zest of one orange
- 2 packages of defrosted pre-made or homemade pie dough (approx 14 oz)
- 1 egg
- Flour for surface prep

NOTES FROM THE CHEF

This is a spin on a Moroccan dish known as a pastilla. There is a tradition of combining meat with dried fruits, nuts, and warm spices to create comforting dishes that are equal parts sweet and savory.



JONATHAN WILKINS

Jonathan is a writer, hunter, cook, educator and owner of Black Duck Revival. Jonathan examines the American sustenance and its themes of human migration, practical agrarianism, and craft. His writing, essays and recipes have been featured in Outdoor Life, Garden & Gun, Bear Hunting Magazine, Backcountry Journal, SITKA gear, Nature Swagger and Colorado Wild.

Moroccan Style Duck Hand Pies

GRIND MEAT



Preheat oven to 400°F. Begin by running the duck hearts, livers, gizzards and breast meat through a grinder. This step can be done ahead of time when processing birds and labeled for storage in the freezer until ready to prepare.

SAUTÉ ONIONS, THEN ADD MEAT



In a large pan, sauté chopped onion over medium-high heat for 3-5 minutes once they have begun to soften add ground meat and season with salt, pepper, and other spices. Cook until thoroughly browned.

NUTS & DRIED FRUIT



Next, add dried fruit and nuts to pan, stirring to incorporate.

STIR IN STOCK



Once incorporated, stir in the stock. Simmer on low for five minutes to allow the fruit to hydrate and absorb the liquid. (You're looking for the mixture to be a loose sloppy joe consistency; it will thicken as it cools so stop it when it's a bit looser than you think you want it.

PRESERVES & ZEST



Next, add the apricot preserves and the orange juice and zest. Mix well and turn off the heat.

ROLL, FILL, & SEAL



Roll out pie dough onto a lightly floured surface. Cut dough into approx 4"-5" circles and fill the center of circles with approx ¼ cup of cooked filling. Once filled, fold the circles in half and seal the edges by running a finger dipped in water along the inside edge and crimping with a fork.

COAT PIES



Lay out your pies on a parchment paper lined cookie sheet. Make a quick egg wash by thoroughly mixing one large egg and a tbsp or two of water. Brush pies with egg wash and cut a vent or two in the top of each pie with a pair of kitchen shears or a small knife.

BAKE



Bake at 400°F for 15-20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve and enjoy.

Did You Know: Ring-necked Pheasants

We have some time until Pheasant stocking begins here in New Jersey, but that doesn't mean we can't start the excitement now! Here are some facts about Ring-necked Pheasants!

- Females are referred to as hens, while males are referred to as cockbirds
- Diet consists of grains, roots, berries and small insects
- Can go up to 2 weeks without food during bad weather
- Length can be 20"-36"
- Tails can be up to 20" of the full body length
- Can run up to speeds of 10 mph
- When flushed can fly up to 60 mph
- Can cover about 600' at a time in flight
- First were brought to the United States in 1881



Happy Hunter with one of our 55,000 stocked R3 pheasants

R3, Wallkill NWR and DU Waterfowl Hunting Seminar



New Jersey Fish & Wildlife's R3 Hunting & Shooting Program, in partnership with the Wallkill River Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, and Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge hosted a waterfowl hunting workshop on Saturday, August 24, 2024. This workshop was designed to educate hunters and to recruit, retain, and reactivate waterfowl hunters to preserve this storied tradition. This workshop was open to new or inexperienced hunters. There were over 100 participants registered for this workshop though there were only 50 spots available. Participants gained knowledge through in-depth mixture of classroom and field demonstrations. They are ready for the upcoming waterfowl season!

2024 Final Spring Turkey Harvest Numbers



THA	2024	2023	Change
1	43	41	+2
2	50	46	+4
3	18	17	+1
4	70	65	+5
5	59	72	-13
6	68	57	+11
7	54	45	+9
8	105	126	-21
9	79	87	-8
10	42	50	-8
11	141	160	-19
12	118	113	-5
14	198	229	-31
15	41	58	-17
16	101	122	-21
20	607	688	-81
21	329	343	-14
22	198	226	-28
Total	2321	2545	

Take a Kid Pheasant Hunt Applications: September 5th



Registration for the 2024 Take A Kid Pheasant Hunt will open on Thursday September 5, 2024, and close on Tuesday October 15, 2024, for both youth and mentors/dog handlers. The annual event will take place on Saturday, November 2nd. This guided hunt is available exclusively for our youth hunters across the state. Registration will fill up very quickly so register as soon as possible as we are unable to accept late registrations for this popular event!

2024-2025 Hunting & Trapping Digest

The 2024-2025 Hunting & Trapping Digest is now available online and physical copies are now available at your local licensing agent.

[View the online version by clicking here!](#)

[View a listing of our Licensing agents here!](#)

Grab Your Copy Today !



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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