



R3 HUNTING AND SHOOTING SPORTS NEWS



Recruit | Retain | Reactivate

New Jersey DEP Fish and Wildlife

Winter 2025

[Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt at the Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area Wrap Up](#)
[Announcing the 2025 Women's Mentored Turkey Hunt](#)

[Talkin' Turkey Seminars](#)

[2024 Women's Mentored Coastal Waterfowl Hunt](#)

[Hunter Education Live Fire Range Sessions Beginning Mid-March](#)

[Spring Turkey Over the Counter Permits](#)

[Avian Influenza/Bird Flu/H5N1](#)

[Did You Know: Waterfowl Stamps](#)

[Recipe: Duck Fried Rice](#)

Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt at the Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area Wrap Up



Yet another successful year for our R3 Managed Waterfowl Hunt at the Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area! This season, our staff hosted 243 hunters over the 2024-2025 season. The January participants faced exceptionally cold temperatures resulting in a significant amount of ice throughout the impoundments. Our survey results reflect the impact this program has on our hunters. "Amazing, the location was perfect, and the access was easy. Everything is so well organized and maintained." was stated by one of our hunters and the same sentiment was seen across the board! Species harvested ranged from Pintails, Mallards, Black Ducks, Mergansers, Wood Ducks, and Teal. For the first time through the program Ruddy Ducks were harvested. Be ready, September 1, the lottery will open once again!

Announcing the 2025 Women's Mentored Turkey Hunt

Every spring the R3 Hunting and Shooting Sports program hosts our annual Women's Turkey Hunt. We are excited to announce this year's event to take place April 27-29. Participants will spend time with experienced mentors to guide them through a once-in-a-lifetime experience! Time will be spent on site at Good Sports Gunning Club located in Millville, NJ and the Landis Sewerage Authority in Vineland, NJ. Our mentors will teach various topics covering scouting, biology, equipment and calling. Range time will also be available and questions are always welcome! Two days of mentored hunting will be the experience you need to get out and hunt on your own! They will learn an immense amount of knowledge from our experienced mentors. Program requirements for applying for this program were that you must have a 2025 Firearms or All-Around Sportsman hunting license here in New Jersey, and a 21-B turkey permit as well as their own shotgun. The R3 Hunting and Shooting Program provides all ammunition, including the use of non-toxic shot in this mentored hunt.



We work in partnership with the National Wild Turkey Federation, Landis Sewerage Authority and Good Sports Gunning Club to make this happen every year and we greatly appreciate their enthusiasm and assistance!

Talkin' Turkey Seminars- Just in Time for Spring!



The R3 Hunting and Shooting Sports Program is happy to provide free turkey seminars again this year for new and inexperienced hunters aged 10 and up! Two seminars will take place, the first at Pequest Trout Hatchery in Warren County on March 1 and the second at Batsto Village in Burlington County on March 15. The seminars will cover information on the Eastern Wild Turkey. A presentation will take place covering biology, gender identification, behavior, gear, and more. A Conservation Police Officer, state representatives and NWTf (National Wild Turkey Federation) representatives will be available to answer questions related to turkey hunting in New Jersey. For more

background information and [Full details can be found on our website.](#)

2024 Women's Mentored Coastal Waterfowl Hunt

Our 2024 Women's Mentored Coastal Waterfowl Hunt faced some challenges, but our staff rose to meet those challenges with flying colors. Due to safety concerns pertaining to the weather forecast, our annual workshop was unable to be held at our Sedge Island Natural Resource Center as planned. As our participants were attending from across the state, the informational presentation was moved to a virtual session. Topics covered included coastal waterfowl hunting, waterfowl biology and identification, hunting regulations, equipment, hunting techniques and field dressing. The women were then invited to attend a mentored hunt at our Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area. Three women were able to attend this special hunt and had a wonderful time despite the freezing temperatures! All participants for 2024 have already been invited back to our Sedge Island Natural Resource Center for the next season and we cannot wait for them to experience this!



Hunter Education Live Fire Range Sessions Beginning Mid-March



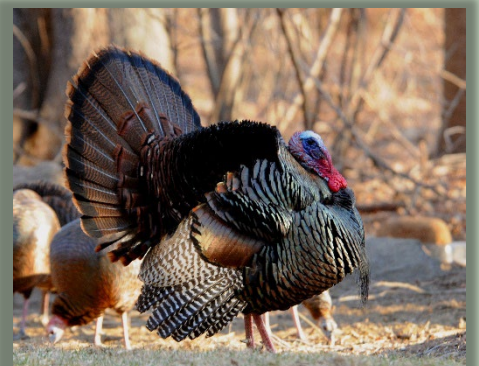
Hunter Education Live Fire Range sessions are back! Our 2025 education season is here! Registration for spring live fire range sessions opened on February 18th on our [Registration Page](#). You MUST first have completed our free [Online Course](#) before registering. Range sessions will run through mid-November, though as September approaches the sessions fill up VERY quickly so NOW is the perfect time of year to complete your Hunter Education!

For specific information on the live fire range session please visit our [Hunter Education webpage](#).

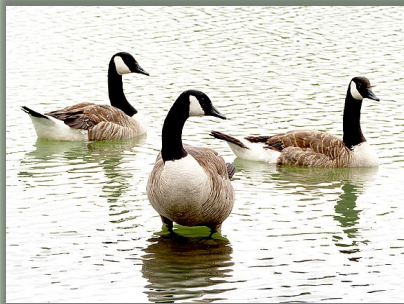
All students must bring their Home Study voucher with them from completing the online course. Any questions can be directed to Hunter Education at njhuntered@dep.nj.gov.

Spring Turkey Over the Counter Permits

Award notifications for those that applied for the turkey lottery will begin on February 25 and can begin being claimed on February 26. Awarded permits must be claimed by no later than 11:59 PM March 19. Any unclaimed permits will be available for over-the-counter sales beginning at 10AM on March 24. Lottery applications cost \$2.00 per permit. Additional cost will be applied when claiming permits making the total costs \$12.00 per permit for youth hunters (ages 10 – 16) and \$21.00 per permit for adult hunters (17 years old and up).



Avian Influenza/Bird Flu/H5N1 What You Should Know



New Jersey has been experiencing a resurgence of avian influenza since late December 2024. Preliminary in-state testing has indicated presumptive positive results for H5 avian influenza from 14/14 tested birds with additional samples pending. Confirmatory testing by the National Veterinary Services Laboratory is pending, but highly pathogenic avian influenza is expected to be the cause of death for these animals. As of January 28th, New Jersey Fish & Wildlife has received reports of over 430 sick or dead wild birds during this time. The resurgence has primarily been driven by snow geese and clustered primarily in the counties along the Delaware River and Delaware Bay (particularly Warren, Salem and Cumberland counties). Beginning in mid-January suspect cases in Canada geese began to rise, and suspect cases are now distributed state-wide. Numerous suspect cases have also involved raptors, vultures and corvids.

Did You Know? Waterfowl Stamps

To hunt waterfowl in New Jersey, the required documentation includes your current year firearms license, HIP certification and 2 different stamps, the “Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp”, also known as the Federal Duck Stamp, along with your “New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp”. The Federal Duck Stamp has been in use since the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act took place in 1934. Ninety-eight cents of every dollar spent on the federal stamp go towards providing wildlife habitats through either purchase or leasing options. This land is then included in the National Wildlife Refuge System. Anyone that has purchased a stamp gains access to national wildlife refuges. For New Jersey hunters, these stamps need to be obtained through participating United States Postal offices or National Wildlife Refuges.



The New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp Program began in 1984. Since this time, \$3.5 million have been used to purchase over 17,000 acres of land. New Jersey stamps can be obtained through the online licensing systems or from our licensing agents.

Both stamps are required for waterfowl hunters 16 years and older.

Recipe: Duck Fried Rice



- 4T canola oil
- 1 sm onion
- 1t garlic, minced
- 2 diced duck breasts
- 1C peas and carrots, frozen
- 3C Jasmine rice, cooked but chilled
- 2 eggs
- 1/8C soy sauce
- 1t sesame oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

- Use about 1T of the oil on a preheated griddle set to medium/high heat
- Place onion (diced), carrots and peas on the griddle to heat through
- Add the duck, cook for 2-3 minutes
- Move everything to a warm spot on the griddle while you work on warming the rice
- Add more oil and the rice and make sure it all is combined together
- Add the duck, vegetables and rice together
- Add the soy sauce and sesame oil and combine everything together
- Add more oil to a hole in the middle of the rice that you create. Add the lightly beaten eggs
- Combine everything together
- Serve warm and enjoy!

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

