

[mi.gov/cwd](http://mi.gov/cwd)

## What is CWD?

- Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal central nervous system disease found in cervids: deer, elk, and moose.
- It attacks the brain of infected animals creating small lesions in the brain, which result in death.
- It is transmitted through direct animal to animal contact, or by contact with saliva, urine, feces, blood, carcass parts of an infected animal, or infected soil.

## Signs of CWD in Deer

- Loss of body condition or emaciation.
- Change in behavior such as loss of fear of humans.
- Loss of bodily control or movements.
- Excessive drooling and salivating.

## Impacts of CWD

- No known health risk to humans; however, it is recommended that a positive CWD deer not be consumed.
- It can spread through the deer herd.
- There is no treatment or recovery.
- Established CWD could significantly reduce the number of deer in Michigan and/or significantly depress older age classes, especially mature older-aged bucks.
- A healthy deer herd is important for hunting traditions. Michigan has more than 600,000 deer hunters who harvest an average of 430,000 deer annually during the past decade.
- Hunting generates more than \$2.3 billion annually to Michigan's economy. A healthy deer herd is critical to the state's economy.
- Without appropriate management, the disease may spread to other areas of the state.

## Core Areas and Management Zones

- Deer Management Unit (DMU) 419 consists of Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, and Shiawassee counties and is referred to as a CWD Management Zone.
- A 20-township Core CWD Area (DMU 333) was created within DMU 419, and surrounds the CWD positive free-ranging deer.
- DMU 354 consists of Mecosta and Montcalm counties.
- A 9-township Core CWD Area (DMU 359) was created within DMU 354 in response to two CWD positive deer at a Privately-Owned Cervid (POC) facility.

## Mandatory Deer Check

- Deer registration at a DNR deer check station is mandatory for DMUs 333 and 359.
- All deer must be submitted to a DNR check station within 72 hours of harvest at which point hunters will be given a CWD tag to confirm deer were properly registered.
- If CWD is found in a submitted deer, the hunter will be notified by phone.
- If CWD is not found, test results will be posted online at [mi.gov/dnrlab](http://mi.gov/dnrlab) within five to seven business days of head or carcass submission.
- For check station locations, visit [mi.gov/cwd](http://mi.gov/cwd).

## Hunting out of Michigan?

- If you harvest a cervid (such as deer, elk, or moose) in any other state or province, you can only bring back the following parts into Michigan: hides, deboned meat, quarters or other parts of the cervid that do not have any part of the spinal column or head attached, finished taxidermy products, cleaned teeth, antlers, or antlers attached to a skullcap cleaned of brain and muscle tissue.





# Know the Facts!

**CWD**  
CHRONIC WASTING  
DISEASE

## What Should You Know?

- CWD has been detected in free-ranging deer in south central Michigan and in two deer heads submitted from a privately-owned cervid facility in Mecosta County.
- DNR and MDARD are following the steps outlined in the Michigan Surveillance and Response Plan for Chronic Wasting Disease in free-ranging deer and privately-owned cervid facilities.
- Disease Control Permits (DCPs) are available to specific landowners within the Core CWD Areas (DMU 333 or 359). Contact the Wildlife Disease Laboratory at (517) 336-5030 for more information.
- Possession of any live free-ranging deer is illegal unless you are a licensed rehabilitator. Taking an unhealthy deer from the environment and attempting to care for them has the potential to increase the spread of CWD. It is illegal to rehabilitate any deer in DMU 419.
- Baiting and feeding ban is in place for DMU 419 (includes DMU 333).

## Roadkill Deer within DMUs 333 and 359

- Roadkill deer found in DMUs 333 and 359 may be possessed and kept with a department issued salvage tag; however, the deer head from salvage animal must be submitted to DNR. To receive additional information and/or a salvage tag, contact DNR Wildlife Division at 517-284-9453 between 7:30 am to 4:00 pm on weekdays except state holidays.
- To report roadkills found in DMU 333 for the DNR to pick up, call **517-614-9602**. To report roadkills found in DMU 359 for the DNR to pick up, call **231-250-2537**. Leave a voicemail with location information and staff will pick up carcasses as soon as possible.

## We Need You!

- CWD has the potential to do great damage to Michigan's deer population.
- We need hunters like you to do what you do best...**HUNT!**
- Registering your deer helps us gather critical information to better understand CWD and its presence.
- We are calling on hunters to help preserve Michigan's hunting tradition for generations to come.

To learn more visit [mi.gov/cwd](http://mi.gov/cwd)



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