

Mail this form along with the required fee to:

State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
Deer Farm Application LE/8
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Deer Farm Fence Inspection Certificate Application

Form 2300-296 (R 3/22)

Fees: \$50 if fenced area or addition is under 80 acres.
\$100 if fenced area or addition is 80 acres or more.

Notice: This application is required for any fence that encloses farm raised deer that are white-tailed deer pursuant to [s. 90.21, Wis. Stats.](#) An approved fence inspection certificate must be obtained before a person may apply for a deer farm registration with the Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Possession of captive white-tailed deer without first obtaining a fence inspection certificate from the Dept. of Natural Resources may result in a forfeiture of \$200 plus costs. Personally identifiable information collected will be used for program administration and may be provided to requesters as required by Wisconsin's Public Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.].

1. Applicant Information

Applicant Name – Last		First	MI	Certificate No. Issued (For DNR Use Only)	
Street Address		City		State	ZIP Code
Daytime Phone Number	Alternate Phone Number		Email Address / Business Website (if available)		
Business (Deer Farm) Name		County	Town	Range N E W	Section
Address of Deer Farm		City		State	ZIP Code

2. Application Type: Provide the following Information

This Fence Inspection Certificate Application is for (select and complete one):

- ☐ **An Initial certificate:** Total number of fenced acres: _____ (minimum of ½ acre) Total lineal feet of perimeter fence: _____ (see diagram, page 2) _____ ft.
- ☐ **Inspection of a fence addition or replacement.** My DATCP Deer Farm Registration Number is _____
Number of additional fenced acres _____ Lineal footage of additional or replaced fencing _____ ft.
Total number of all fenced acres _____ Total lineal feet of perimeter fence _____
- ☐ **Renewal of a valid certificate:** My DATCP Deer Farm Registration Number is _____

This is a Fence Certificate Application for a (select one):

- ☐ Single perimeter fence that meets the requirements established in s. NR 16.45, Wis. Adm. Code, for a perimeter fence.
- ☐ Double perimeter fence that meets the requirements established in s. NR 16.45, Wis. Adm. Code, for a double perimeter fence.
- ☐ Solid perimeter fence that meets the requirements established in s. NR 16.45, Wis. Adm. Code, for a solid perimeter fence.

List species of deer (cervidae) to be contained within this fenced area: _____

Complete a diagram of the fenced area on back of this form (or attach a diagram if it is electronically produced).

3. Fencing Specifications

Fence Type: (select all that apply)

☐ High Tensile

☐ Woven Wire

☐ Other, describe: _____

To use fencing materials other than those specified in s. NR 16.45, Wis. Adm. Code, written approval **must be obtained from the department BEFORE construction begins.** If applying for approval to use alternative materials, describe the materials and construction methods proposed for use.

Fence Height	Wire Gauge or Diameter (skip if high tensile)	Spacing between posts	Post Length	Type of Posts: (select all that apply)
ft. in.	gauge millimeters	ft.	ft.	<input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> Wood

If wood posts are used, complete the following:

- Corner and Gate Posts:** ☐ Round: Diameter at top: _____ (must be minimum of 5.5 in.)
☐ Rectangular: Dimensions at top: _____ in. x _____ in. (must be minimum of 5.5 in. at smallest dimension)
- Line Posts:** ☐ Round: Diameter at top: _____ in. (must be minimum of 3.5 in.)
☐ Rectangular: Dimensions at top: _____ in. x _____ in. (must be minimum of 3.5 in. at smallest dimension)

Are any wild white-tailed deer inside the fenced area?

☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes, how many? _____

Has a 4 ft. (minimum) wide corridor been established along fence perimeter?

☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: ☐ Inside of fence ☐ Outside of fence

Certification

I hereby certify the above information and the diagram on the back side of this application are true and correct. I also understand that providing incorrect information may result in revocation of my fence certificate and possible penalties.

Signature of Applicant

Date Signed

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1. Include location of all gates,
2. Indicate perimeter dimensions of each side of fence in feet (add all sides together to arrive at lineal footage),
3. Indicate distance in feet between any double fences, and
4. Distinguish original fence area from the expansion or addition (if applicable).
5. Draw your fence as it appears from above.

[illegible]

Leave Blank – DNR Use Only			
Certificate Issuance Approved <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Date	Fence Inspected By	DNR Title or Position
GPS Coordinates (degrees, minutes, seconds)			
Coord #1 _____	Coord #3 _____	Coord #5 _____	Coord #7 _____
Coord #2 _____	Coord #4 _____	Coord #6 _____	Coord #8 _____
Review:			
Bureau Administrator _____		Date _____	

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The following are the specifications required in [s. NR 16.45, Wis. Adm. Code](#):

1. Fencing Specification

Any person who keeps farm-raised deer that are white-tailed deer shall keep the deer enclosed by a fence that meets all of the following requirements:

(a) Fencing height and material.

The fence shall be at least 8 feet high, measured from the ground to the top horizontal wire and shall be a high tensile fence that satisfies (b), or a woven wire fence that satisfies (c) below or, if made of other materials, is of a design and level of strength that provides equivalent retentive capacity. Written approval is required before beginning construction for any fence not meeting (b) or (c) below. All fencing must extend all the way to the ground. Existing fences constructed and approved prior to January 1, 2003 need only be 7'10" in height.

(b) High tensile fence. A high tensile fence shall satisfy the requirements of this subsection if all of the following apply:

1. The horizontal line wires are not less than 2.5 millimeters in size and are heavily galvanized high tensile wire.
2. The vertical stay wires are not less than 2.5 millimeters in size and are heavily galvanized medium tensile wire.
3. The knot wire is not less than 2.24 millimeters in size and is heavily galvanized mild steel.
4. The distance between vertical stay wires is not more than 6 inches.
5. The distance between horizontal line wires is not more than 4 inches in the bottom foot of the fence, is not more than 6.5 inches in the next 2 feet of the fence and is not more than 8.5 inches in the rest of the fence.
6. The posts are not more than 20 feet apart.

(c) Woven wire fence. A woven wire fence shall satisfy the requirements of this subsection if all of the following apply:

1. The wire is 14½ gauge or heavier. (Note: The smaller the number, the heavier the gauge.)
2. If the wire is 14½ gauge, the mesh is not larger than 36 square inches.
3. If the wire is heavier than 14½ gauge, the mesh is not larger than 48 square inches.
4. The distance between horizontal line wires is not more than 4 inches in the bottom foot of the fence; not more than 6.5 inches in the next 2 feet of the fence; and not more than 8.5 inches in the rest of the fence.
5. The posts are not more than 12 feet apart.

(d) Wooden posts. If the fence is made of wood posts, all of the following shall apply:

1. Length: The post shall be at least 12 feet long.
2. Line post smallest dimension: If line posts are rectangular, the top of the posts shall be at least 3.5 inches in the smallest dimension. If line posts are round, the top of the posts shall be at least 3.5 inches in diameter.
3. Corner and Gate posts smallest dimension: If corner and gate posts are rectangular, the top shall be at least 5.5 inches in the smallest dimension. If round, the top of posts shall be at least 5.5 inches in diameter.
4. The wires shall be held securely to the inside of the posts, allowing for free movement of the horizontal line wires, using 9-gauge staples of at least 1.5 inch size.

(e) Steel or iron posts. If the fence is made with steel or iron posts, the posts shall be at least 12 feet long.

(f) Installation of wire. The wires are installed on the side of the fence toward the farm-raised white-tailed deer except at corners.

(g) Additions or expansion to fences. Additions to or expansions of perimeter fencing that increase the size of the fenced area shall meet the 8' height requirement.

(h) Gates. All gates shall remain closed and secured except when persons or equipment are traveling through the gates.

(i) Corridors. A corridor at least 4 feet wide shall be maintained along the inside or outside of all perimeter fences to allow regular inspections of the fence by the deer farm operator or the department with the use of a vehicle.

2. Fence Requirements. No person may maintain a perimeter fence that contains farm-raised white-tailed deer unless one of the following applies:

(a) The farm-raised white-tailed deer are enclosed by a perimeter fence that meets the requirements established in 1 (a) to (i) above.

(b) The farm-raised white-tailed deer are enclosed by double perimeter fences or by one solid perimeter fence meeting the following standards:

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Fence Requirements - Continued

- 2.(b)1. If a double perimeter fence is used, both shall meet the requirements established in 1 (a) to (i) above and the 2 fences shall be at least 8 feet but not more than 16 feet apart.
2. Solid perimeter fences shall meet the requirements established in 1 (a) to (i) above and the lower 7 feet of the fence shall be covered with solid material that prevents animals on opposite sides of the fence from making visual or physical contact. The solid perimeter fence shall contain at least one single strand electrified wire on the inside or the outside of the entire length of the perimeter fence at a height of 3 feet and shall be at a distance of 2 feet from the main fence.

3. Minimum Size

A farm-raised white-tailed deer farm fence may not enclose less than ½ acre or 21,780 square feet.

4. Exceptions

The use of materials, other than those specified in this section for deer farm perimeter fence construction may be permitted by the department if the materials are found to exceed minimum specifications and the fence is sufficient to hold the deer inside the enclosure. Permission must be written and obtained before work begins on the fence.

5. Fencing with respect to wetlands and navigable waters

Contact should be made to the DNR before initiating any construction of fencing material across, through or in any wetlands or navigable waters. Wetlands and navigable waters have separate regulations that must coincide with fencing regulations. Development without prior contact could result in significant costs to the farmer or even denied fencing certification, if fencing conflicts with regulatory protections measures for wetlands and navigable waters.

6. Notice of Fence Expansion or Replacement

Before farm-raised white-tailed deer may be enclosed within a fence expansion or replacement, a Deer Farm Fencing Certificate Application must be filed and approved. Notice does not have to be given to the department before construction begins.

Note: Routine maintenance and minor repairs to existing wire, posts and gates that do not result in the total replacement of a section of perimeter fence do not need to be reported to the department.

7. Reporting of Fence Failures and Escapes

The person issued the fence certificate shall notify the department anytime either of the following occurs:

1. a farm-raised white-tailed deer escapes from a fence required by s. 90.21, Stats.,
2. a fence required by s. 90.21 fails to meet the requirements listed above.

The notification shall take place immediately if possible but not later than 24 hours after the person is aware the fence failure or escape has occurred and shall include what action will be taken. Notification may be made by calling the DNR Hotline at 1-800-847-9367.

REMOVAL OF WILD WHITE-TAILED DEER

1. Removal of Wild Deer

Prior to the issuance of a fence inspection certificate, all wild white-tailed deer remaining in a fenced area which could not be chased out prior to the fence surrounding the area being completely enclosed shall be killed in one of the following ways:

- A. Permit. A written permit issued to the landowner or persons designated by the department to shoot the wild white-tailed deer within the fence.
- B. Department employees. By department employees.

Note: DATCP rules do not permit the DNR to sell or transfer any live wild white-tailed deer for deer farming purposes.

2. Disposal of Wild White-tailed Deer

All deer killed shall be disposed of as directed by the department at the expense of the applicant.

3. **DNR staff shall verify that all wild deer have been removed before a fence certificate will be issued. Note:** This may require time and seasonal conditions dependent upon fence size and habitat of the enclosed acreage.