



# Deer Trustee Report Rule Package

What it means for deer hunters in Wisconsin.

## Standard Season Structure – Statewide

### Archery and Gun License Tag Availability:

- Central and Southern Farmland Zones:** One buck and one antlerless tag per license. Starting in 2015, hunters will need to designate the unit and the land type (public or private) for the antlerless permit included with the license. Additional antlerless tags may be purchased if available.
- Northern and Central Forest Zones:** One buck tag issued with license. Additional antlerless tags may be purchased if available.
- Additional antlerless tags:** \$12 statewide and will be unit (county) and land type (public vs. private) specific. The number of public vs. private land tags will be based on the goal and the percent of deer range in each land type in the unit.



Deer Hunting Season	Season dates for 2014	
	CURRENT	Starting in 2014
Archery	Sept. 13 – Nov. 20 & Nov. 22 – Jan. 4, 2015	Sept. 13 – Jan. 4, 2015 Discontinue 1 day closure.
Archery - All Metro Zones	Sept. 13 – Nov. 20 & Nov. 22 – Jan. 31, 2015	Sept. 13 – Jan. 31, 2015 Discontinue 1 day closure.
Youth Hunt	October 4 & 5	NO CHANGE
Deer Hunt for Hunters with Disabilities	October 4 – 12	NO CHANGE
9-day Gun Deer	November 22 – 30	NO CHANGE
Gun Deer - All Metro Zones	Nov. 22 - December 10	NO CHANGE
Muzzleloader	December 1 – 10	NO CHANGE
December Antlerless Hunt	December 11 – 14 Statewide	NO CHANGE TO DATES Central Farmland Zone and Central Forest Zone only
Holiday Hunt*	Dec. 24 – Jan. 4, 2015 Either-sex	Dec. 24 – Jan. 1, 2015 Antlerless Only
*Not in State Parks	CWD-Management Zone ONLY	Southern Farmland Zone only

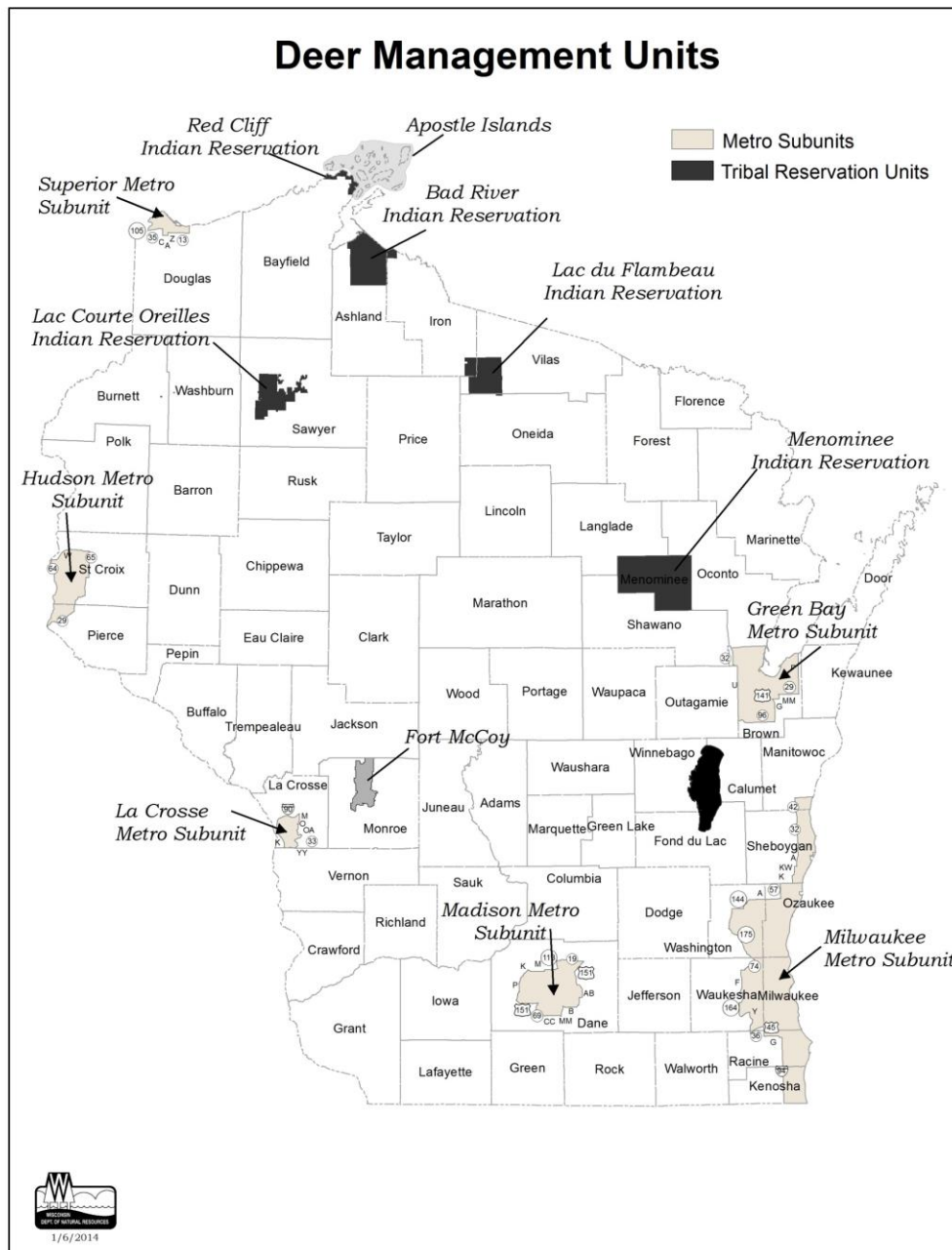


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## Deer Management Units

- Consolidate the number of DMUs using county boundaries as DMU boundaries.
- Eliminate State Park Zones statewide
- CWD-affected area – Identified by county boundaries consistent with the state statutes that identify the baiting & feeding regulations





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## Deer Management Advisory Committee

- Establish a Deer Management Advisory Committee in each county in 2014 that would hold “herd status” meetings to evaluate local data regarding the deer herd. The Committee will begin making recommendations to the Department for the 2015 Deer Seasons.
- Membership may vary by county based on interest with potential membership to include:
  - Conservation Congress
  - Agricultural
  - Forestry
  - Tourism
  - Transportation
  - Urban (City/Village) Representative
  - Tribal Representative (Ceded Territory)
- The DMU population goal for each DMU is proposed to switch from a specific overwinter population goal of deer per square mile (e.g. 25 deer/mi<sup>2</sup>) to an objective of increase, stabilize or decrease that would be evaluated every 3 years. All Northern and Central Forest DMU’s will have an increase objective for 2014 and all Central and Southern Farmland DMU’s will have a stabilize objective for 2014.
- The recommendation for the DMUs objective would be based on a variety of metrics or categories of data that could include:
  - Deer Health indicators
  - Deer Impacts on other natural resources
  - Societal impacts
  - Information provided from hunters (deer seen/hour of effort)
  - Population model estimates
- Three members of the county deer management advisory committee are required to have held a license authorizing deer hunting in 7 of the previous 10 years.

## Deer Management Unit Herd Management Options

- Bonus Buck available as an option starting with the 2015 season in the Southern Farmland only. (“Bonus Buck” regulations allow a hunter to harvest an additional or “bonus” buck if they have harvested an antlerless deer prior to harvesting the bonus buck.)
  - Harvest 1 antlerless/1 bonus buck
  - 3 buck max total
- Issue extra antlerless permits for sale above the historic number sold for the unit.
- Increase the number of antlerless permits with deer license purchase
- Implement 4-day October antlerless gun hunt in disease-affected areas only by emergency rule process
- Allow the addition of the holiday hunt by any county that doesn’t already have it.



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Deer Management Assistance Program			
Tier	Acreage Requirements	Enrollment Fee*	Components
1	0	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DMAP educational resources</li> <li>• Annual DMAP reports</li> <li>• Annual workshop and meetings</li> <li>• Assistance with “citizen science” opportunities</li> <li>• Information on forming DMAP cooperatives</li> </ul>
2	160	\$25/yr.	Tier 1 Components plus the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collection of biological harvest data,</li> <li>• On-site visit by biologist and forester</li> <li>• Management plan with habitat and harvest recommendations</li> <li>• Cooperative-specific aerial photo</li> <li>• Half price (\$6) antlerless tags</li> <li>• Cooperative-specific harvest reports</li> </ul>
3	640	\$50/year	Tier 2 Components plus the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management recommendations for wildlife other than deer,</li> <li>• Assistance with deer population monitoring,</li> <li>• Annual habitat evaluations,</li> <li>• Assistance with other conservation programs (i.e. CRP),</li> <li>• Property design/layout recommendations,</li> <li>• More site-visits &amp; in-depth management recommendations</li> </ul>
Public Land Option			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrollment would be on an “as needed” basis following Wildlife Biologist and Forester input.</li> <li>• Property specific antlerless tags would be issued and required to harvest antlerless deer on DMAP-enrolled public properties.</li> </ul>
* DMAP is proposed to have a three year minimum enrollment requirement			

## Other Proposed Program Changes

- Transition to an automated deer registration system in the 2015 deer season with a pilot occurring in 2014.
- Restore a statewide restriction on the harvest of white/albino deer.