

2023/2024 Readington Township Deer Management Program

The NJ deer hunting season starts **Saturday, September 9th**. For years, Readington has leased tracts of Township owned land to hunting clubs and has issued permits to individual hunters in an effort to manage Readington’s excessive deer population. A 2019 study conducted by RVCC showed deer densities (132-136 deer/sq. mile) to be far higher than historical levels, statewide averages, and those needed to maintain ecosystem health. It was noted that this data was collected during the most conservative time of year and population numbers could be much higher. A follow up study was conducted in March 2023, and results indicated an updated average deer density of 103.5 deer/sq. mile. Impacts to forest regeneration, bird communities, invertebrates, and a host of other ecosystem variables tend to occur above deer densities of 15-20 deer/sq. mile.

This past year, 295 deer were harvested as part of Readington’s Deer Management Program, accounting for nearly 33% of all deer harvested in the Township. As in the past, all hunting is conducted in accordance with all NJ Fish & Wildlife regulations. The Open Space trails and properties remain open during this time; however, it is recommended that residents wear blaze orange and are **required to keep dogs leashed in accordance with Readington Ordinance §168-9.**

Properties leased to clubs:

- Cole Rd. / Block 52.01, Lot 14.06
- Cole Rd. / Block 66, Lot 2 & 3
- Dreahook Rd. / Block 25, Lot 50
- Pine Bank Rd. / Block 55, Lot 13.51
- Pleasant Run Rd. / Block 96, Lot 18.03
- Pleasant Run Rd. / Block 66, Lot 13
- Pleasant Run Rd. / Block 75, Lot 19.01
- Woodschurch Rd. / Block 63, Lot 19 & 64

Properties in the individual permit program:

- Chambers Brook Rd. / Block 39, Lot 14.02
- Coddington Rd. / Block 38, Lot 38.01
- Dreahook Rd. / Block 44, Lot 4.03
- Dreahook Rd. / Block 44, Lot 4.04
- Dreahook Rd. / Block 45, Lot 26.06
- Hwy. 22 East / Block 21, Lot 30
- Old Hwy. 28 / Block 13, Lot 54, 34.0, 31
- Old Hwy. 28 / Block 13, Lot 21
- Ridge Rd. / Block 39, Lot 10
- Rockafellow’s Mill Rd. / Block 74, Lot 4.05
- Route 202 South / Block 76, Lot 3 & 3.01
- Route 202 / Block 81, Lot 1
- Bloy Tract / Block 50, Lot 13
- Chamberlain Rd / Block 52.01, Lot 13.90

2023/2024 Deer Hunting Seasons	
Zones 8, 10, 12	
Fall Bow:	9/9/23 - 10/27/23
Youth Bow Hunt:	9/23/23
Permit Bow:	10/28/23 - 12/31/23
Winter Bow:	1/1/24 - 2/17/24
Youth Firearm Hunt:	11/18/23
Permit Firearms:	11/20/23 - 2/10/24
Six-day Firearm:	12/4/23 - 12/9/23

- Route 523 / Block 25, Lot 19 & 20
- Summer Rd. / Block 75, Lot 15.01 & 16.02
- Summer Rd. / Block 94, Lot 8
- Taylor’s Mill Rd. / Block 3, Lot 3 & 3.01
- Thor Solberg Rd. / Block 57, Lot 2
- Van Neste Dr. / Block 75, Lot 17.90
- Holland Brook Rd. / Block 46, Lot 10.99
- Holland Brook Rd. / Block 53, Lot 7.90
- Route 523 / Block 46, Lot 5.07
- 626 Route 523 (DPW lot) / Block 46, Lot 5.07
- Round Mountain / Block: 63, Lot: 24, 27, 66, 68
- River Trail / Block 72, Lot 36.99
- Route 523 / Block 9, Lot 1
- Roosevelt Road / Block 55, Lot 1.91 & 1.9

For additional information, please refer to the NJ Fish & Wildlife 2023-2024 Hunting & Trapping Digest:

<https://dep.nj.gov/wp-content/uploads/njfw/digest-hunting-and-trapping-2023-2024-complete.pdf>