



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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*Lt. Governor*

CATHERINE R. MCCABE  
*Commissioner*

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING POSSESSION/IMPORTATION OF LIVE CERVIDS**

- Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been detected in 26 states nationwide, including Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. It has been detected in both free-ranging and captive deer herds.
- As of August 10, 2018, New Jersey has tested 7,332 free-ranging white-tailed deer, 143 captive white-tailed deer, and 15 captive exotic deer. All samples to date have been negative for the CWD prion. The NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife will continue to monitor the health of our wild deer herd through sampling and testing.
- **The ban on the importation of cervid species put in place on April 15, 2002, REMAINS in effect and is strictly enforced. No live cervid species may come into the State of New Jersey, including white-tailed deer, black-tailed deer, mule deer, red deer, sika deer, fallow deer, muntjac, reindeer, elk and moose. This is due to the growing concern of the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease into wild and farmed herds of animals in the deer family throughout the United States.**

#### **NOTICE TO CURRENT CERVID PERMIT HOLDERS:**

- If you are currently permitted to possess captive deer species and are concerned about CWD, notice a decline in the health of your deer herd, and/or one or more of your deer die suspiciously with emaciation, please contact Jan Lovy at (908) 637-4173 ext. 120 as soon as possible to discuss the situation and arrange for the testing of the deer.
- If you are currently permitted to possess captive deer species and an unexplained death of a deer at least 1.5 years of age occurs, please prepare the deer head for testing. Taking proper sanitary precautions, remove the head of the deer below the second vertebrae, place the head in a plastic bag, and refrigerate the sample immediately. These steps should be completed as close to the time of death as possible. Please **DO NOT** freeze the specimen. The refrigerated sample should be transported to the Division's Office of Fish and Wildlife Health and Forensics. Contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife for more detailed information.

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