

Archery Season - Deer

Daily Bag Limit: 1

Opening Date: October 15

Closing Date: December 31

Three deer may be taken with a bow during the archery season - the first deer must be taken on one of the following valid base licenses or license combinations: resident (Class X, Class XJ, Class AB-L, Class A-L, Classes A+CS+U, or Classes Q+CS+U); or a free license: Military, Disabled Veteran, former POW, or Senior Citizen; or nonresident (Classes XXJ+CS/LE or Classes E+CS/LE+UU). Underage residents and resident landowners (see page 7) may take a first archery deer without a license. Two additional deer may also be taken with Class RB or Class RRB licenses (one per license) or by resident landowners hunting on their own property. One of the deer taken on a Class RB or RRB license must be an antlerless deer.

A hunter may take no more than three antlered deer per year in all seasons combined.

Deer of either sex may be hunted statewide with a bow during the archery season. A bow may be substituted for a firearm during any deer firearms season except muzzleloader season.

It is illegal:

- to be afield with both gun and bow, or with a gun and any arrows, except that persons who have a concealed weapons permit may carry a concealed handgun for self-defense only.
- to hunt with a crossbow and/or have a crossbow afield.
- to hunt deer with arrows having less than two sharp cutting edges, measuring less than 3/4 of an inch in width.
- to use a bow-locking device, except with a modified bow permit issued by the Director.
- to use an arrow with an explosive, drug-laced or poisoned head or shaft.
- to use an electronic call to hunt deer.

Special Seasons and Restrictions

Special Urban Deer Archery Season

A special archery deer hunting season is available between October 1 - December 31, 2005 to incorporated cities, towns, villages and homeowner associations. To implement the hunt, homeowner associations must submit a written request to the Director by March 1 of the hunt year. During this special season two deer may be taken which shall not apply to the regular archery season bag limit. For information regarding this special archery deer hunt contact your local municipal government, homeowner association or the appropriate DNR office.

McClintic Wildlife Management Area

All antlered deer taken during archery season on McClintic WMA must have a minimum outside antler spread of 14 inches (ear tip to ear tip).

Additional Deer Archery Licenses

Class RB and Class RRB

During a calendar year a resident may purchase only **two** Class RB licenses and a nonresident may purchase only **two** Class RRB licenses. The Class RB or Class RRB archery licenses must be purchased before October 15, 2005, prior to the opening of archery season.

Only **one** deer may be taken with each Class RB or RRB license. Hunting on the Class RB or Class RRB licenses can begin on the day after legally checking the first deer. Class RB or RRB licenses cannot be used for taking deer with a firearm.

Two additional deer may be taken with Class RB or Class RRB licenses or by a landowner hunting on their own land during the archery season. One Class RB or Class RRB license or landowner license privilege must be used to take an antlerless deer.

There is an annual limit of two archery deer, one of which must be antlerless, for the four-county area of Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming counties. One Class RB or RRB license is valid in these counties, except if the first archery deer was taken in a county open to firearms deer hunting, then two deer (one must be antlerless) may be taken on Class RB or RRB licenses. The taking of antlerless deer during the bucks-only season is legal in these counties.

To take additional archery deer, all residents except resident landowners (see page 7) hunting on their land are required to purchase Class RB licenses. All nonresidents are required to purchase Class RRB archery licenses to take additional archery deer. (See license requirements on page 8.)

Concurrent hunting during Deer Archery Season

A bow hunter may take small game at any time the small game season is open, except the first three days of bucks-only season.

Archery hunting is legal during muzzleloader deer season but must be done under archery deer hunting regulations.

Archery hunters must wear a blaze orange outer garment of at least 400 square inches during any deer firearms seasons.