

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

- Keep hunting. Hunters are essential for deer management and help biologists stay informed of herd health. Participate in surveillance efforts in your area during hunting seasons.
- Report sick deer to your local conservation officer or area wildlife office. For contact information check the Hunting and Trapping Regulations Book, mndnr.gov, or call 888-MINNDNR (646-6367).
- Be aware of feeding and attractant bans in your county (includes salt and mineral licks).
- Abide by carcass movement restrictions. Whole carcasses of deer, elk, moose, reindeer, and caribou are prohibited from entering Minnesota from anywhere. Within the state, whole carcasses must stay within disease management zones until a “not detected” test result is received. For exceptions to this rule, see the Hunting and Trapping Regulations Book.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF CWD IN DEER?

Throughout most of the infection, the animal appears healthy. Clinical signs may not appear for several years after initial exposure and may include:

- Weight loss or emaciation
- Excessive drooling and salivation
- Confusion or loss of fear of humans
- Tremors, staggering or loss of body control
- Drooping head or ears

LEARN MORE ABOUT CWD

mndnr.gov/cwd

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
cdc.gov/chronic-wasting/about/index.html

U.S. Geological Survey: usgs.gov/centers/nwhc/science/chronic-wasting-disease

CWD Alliance: cwd-info.org

CALL US

**Interpreters are available to answer
all of your questions**

888-MINNDNR (646-6367) or 651-296-6157

License, titling and registration:
M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

General information: M-F 8 a.m.-6 p.m.,
Sat. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



Fish and Wildlife Division
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR (646-6367)
mndnr.gov

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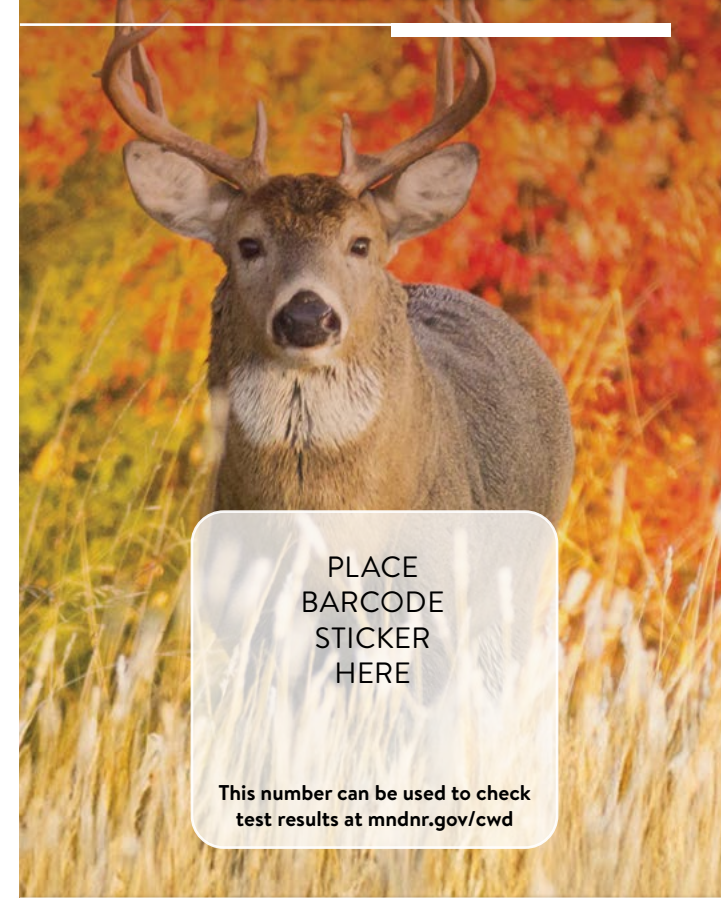
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CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

WHAT HUNTERS NEED TO KNOW



PLACE
BARCODE
STICKER
HERE

This number can be used to check
test results at mndnr.gov/cwd



mndnr.gov/cwd

SHARE
THE
PASSION
#huntmn

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CWD

- CWD is a central nervous system disease found in cervids (deer, elk, moose, reindeer, and caribou).
- It is caused by prions (abnormal proteins) that are highly resistant to disinfectants, heat or freezing; cooking the meat will not destroy this disease.
- It is spread among animals through contact with prions from an infected individual or environment. Prions are shed through saliva, urine, blood, feces, antler velvet, and carcass parts of an infected animal.
- It affects the brain of the infected animal and is always fatal. There is no vaccine or treatment for CWD.
- It is a slow-moving disease with an incubation period of 1½ to 3 years, which means animals infected with CWD may not show symptoms.
- Restrictions on carcass movements, limitations on deer feeding and surveillance in areas of concern can help keep Minnesota's deer herd healthy.

IS VENISON SAFE TO EAT?

There is currently no evidence that humans can get CWD; however, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that you do not eat meat from a known positive animal. For more information, visit cdc.gov/chronic-wasting/about/index.html

HOW TO PROPERLY HANDLE YOUR HARVESTED DEER

Follow these recommendations:

- Wear rubber gloves while field dressing or butchering your deer.
- Bone out meat from your animal.
- Minimize handling of brain and spinal tissue.
- Wash hands thoroughly after handling the carcass.
- Clean stainless steel knives and equipment with a 40% bleach and 60% water solution.
- Avoid consuming brain, spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils, and lymph nodes.
- Consider having your deer processed and wrapped individually.
- To prevent wanton waste, process and store your deer as you normally would, but keep it separate and identifiable from other deer until test results are received.

It is the hunter's choice to consume venison prior to receiving test results. If CWD is found in a submitted deer, the hunter will be notified by the DNR.

HOW-TO VIDEOS

Watch videos to learn how to collect your own lymph node samples, quarter a deer before transporting, or cape a trophy deer to legally transport the carcass at mndnr.gov/cwd/videos.html

CWD SAMPLING DOES NOT REGISTER YOUR DEER

Register your deer before getting it sampled for CWD.

HOW DO I GET MY TEST RESULTS?

Visit mndnr.gov/cwdcheck and use your nine-digit MNDNR license number or barcode number on front if present, to look up your individual results.

No internet access? Call 888-MINNDNR (646-6367) from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays or 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Saturday.

The time it takes to receive test results will vary depending on the number of samples collected.

HOW DO I GET A TROPHY DEER TESTED?

OPTION A: FIND A PARTICIPATING TAXIDERMIST

After registering your deer, bring it to a participant in the partner sampling program who will submit the lymph nodes for you. See a list of participating taxidermists in your area at mndnr.gov/cwd.

OPTION B: PROVIDE A CAPED-OUT HEAD FOR SAMPLING

You can bring your deer to any taxidermist or cape the deer yourself. After the deer is caped, see the Hunting and Trapping Regulations Book for testing options.

