

1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing Section
5 2.26 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/2.26) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.26)

7 Sec. 2.26. Deer hunting permits. Any person attempting to
8 take deer shall first obtain a "Deer Hunting Permit" issued by
9 the Department in accordance with its administrative rules.
10 Those rules must provide for the issuance of the following
11 types of resident deer archery permits: (i) a combination
12 permit, consisting of one either-sex permit and one
13 antlerless-only permit, (ii) a single antlerless-only permit,
14 and (iii) a single either-sex permit. The fee for a Deer
15 Hunting Permit to take deer with either bow and arrow or gun
16 shall not exceed \$25.00 for residents of the State. The
17 Department may by administrative rule provide for non-resident
18 deer hunting permits for which the fee will not exceed \$300 in
19 2005, \$350 in 2006, and \$400 in 2007 and thereafter except as
20 provided below for non-resident landowners and non-resident
21 archery hunters. The Department may by administrative rule
22 provide for a non-resident archery deer permit consisting of
23 not more than 2 harvest tags at a total cost not to exceed \$325

1 in 2005, \$375 in 2006, and \$425 in 2007 and thereafter. The
2 fees for a youth resident and non-resident archery deer permit
3 shall be the same.

4 The Department shall create a pilot program for youth deer
5 hunters statewide. Under the pilot program, the Department
6 shall issue 1,500 youth deer licenses annually. The Department
7 shall adopt rules to implement the pilot program. The
8 provisions of this paragraph are inoperative on and after
9 January 1, 2023.

10 The standards and specifications for use of guns and bow
11 and arrow for deer hunting shall be established by
12 administrative rule.

13 No person may have in his or her possession any firearm not
14 authorized by administrative rule for a specific hunting season
15 when taking deer.

16 Persons having a firearm deer hunting permit shall be
17 permitted to take deer only during the period from 1/2 hour
18 before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset, and only during those
19 days for which an open season is established for the taking of
20 deer by use of shotgun, handgun, or muzzle loading rifle.

21 Persons having an archery deer hunting permit shall be
22 permitted to take deer only during the period from 1/2 hour
23 before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset, and only during those
24 days for which an open season is established for the taking of
25 deer by use of bow and arrow.

26 It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer by use of

1 dogs, horses, automobiles, aircraft or other vehicles, or by
2 the use or aid of bait or baiting of any kind. For the purposes
3 of this Section, "bait" means any material, whether liquid or
4 solid, including food, salt, minerals, and other products,
5 except pure water, that can be ingested, placed, or scattered
6 in such a manner as to attract or lure white-tailed deer.
7 "Baiting" means the placement or scattering of bait to attract
8 deer. An area is considered as baited during the presence of
9 and for 10 consecutive days following the removal of bait.
10 Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the use of a dog to
11 track wounded deer. Any person using a dog for tracking wounded
12 deer must maintain physical control of the dog at all times by
13 means of a maximum 50 foot lead attached to the dog's collar or
14 harness. Tracking wounded deer is permissible at night, but at
15 no time outside of legal deer hunting hours or seasons shall
16 any person handling or accompanying a dog being used for
17 tracking wounded deer be in possession of any firearm or
18 archery device. Persons tracking wounded deer with a dog during
19 the firearm deer seasons shall wear blaze orange or solid blaze
20 pink color as required. Dog handlers tracking wounded deer with
21 a dog are exempt from hunting license and deer permit
22 requirements so long as they are accompanied by the licensed
23 deer hunter who wounded the deer.

24 It shall be unlawful to possess or transport any wild deer
25 which has been injured or killed in any manner upon a public
26 highway or public right-of-way of this State unless exempted by

1 administrative rule.

2 Persons hunting deer must have gun unloaded and no bow and
3 arrow device shall be carried with the arrow in the nocked
4 position during hours when deer hunting is unlawful.

5 It shall be unlawful for any person, having taken the legal
6 limit of deer by gun, to further participate with gun in any
7 deer hunting party.

8 It shall be unlawful for any person, having taken the legal
9 limit of deer by bow and arrow, to further participate with bow
10 and arrow in any deer hunting party.

11 The Department may prohibit upland game hunting during the
12 gun deer season by administrative rule.

13 The Department shall not limit the number of non-resident,
14 either-sex archery deer hunting permits to less than 20,000.

15 Any person who violates any of the provisions of this
16 Section, including administrative rules, shall be guilty of a
17 Class B misdemeanor.

18 For the purposes of calculating acreage under this Section,
19 the Department shall, after determining the total acreage of
20 the applicable tract or tracts of land, round remaining
21 fractional portions of an acre greater than or equal to half of
22 an acre up to the next whole acre.

23 For the purposes of taking white-tailed deer, nothing in
24 this Section shall be construed to prevent the manipulation,
25 including mowing or cutting, of standing crops as a normal
26 agricultural or soil stabilization practice, food plots, or

1 normal agricultural practices, including planting, harvesting,
2 and maintenance such as cultivating or the use of products
3 designed for scent only and not capable of ingestion, solid or
4 liquid, placed or scattered, in such a manner as to attract or
5 lure deer. Such manipulation for the purpose of taking
6 white-tailed deer may be further modified by administrative
7 rule.

8 (Source: P.A. 99-642, eff. 7-28-16; 99-869, eff. 1-1-17;
9 100-691, eff. 1-1-19; 100-949, eff. 1-1-19; revised 10-9-18.)