



Illinois Department of **Natural Resources**

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Hunters in Illinois Take Preliminary Total of 68,037 Deer During Opening Weekend of Firearm Season

Firearm deer season resumes Dec. 2-5

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) reports that hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 68,037 deer during the opening weekend of the 2010 Illinois firearm deer season, Nov. 19-21. The seven-day firearm season will conclude on Dec. 2-5.

The preliminary total for the first three days of the 2010 firearm season compares with the first weekend harvest of 66,126 deer during the 2009 deer season and 71,894 deer during the opening weekend in 2008. The top county harvest totals last weekend were reported in Pike (1,957), Adams (1,741), Fulton (1,721), Jo Daviess (1,640) and Randolph (1,520).

Hunters harvested 99,493 deer during the entire seven-day firearm deer season last year. The preliminary first-season figures reported for each county include those deer taken on special hunt areas within that county as well as on private land.

“The opening season of firearm deer hunting offered hunters a combination of enjoyable weather and virtually-complete crop harvest,” said IDNR Forest Wildlife Program Manager Paul Shelton. “Rutting activity was still evident, so it all came together for a very successful season with a number of nice bucks harvested.”

The IDNR has issued more than 370,000 firearm deer hunting permits for the 2010 season. Most hunters register their deer harvest online through the IDNR web site or by phoning 1-866-ILCHECK (1-866-452-4325) by 10 p.m. on the day of harvest. Hunters in Boone, DeKalb, Grundy, Kane, LaSalle, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties take their deer to county check stations (by 8 p.m. on the day of harvest) where the IDNR registers the deer and conducts sampling for chronic wasting disease (CWD).

Approximately 60 percent of the deer taken during the first weekend of firearm hunting were

bucks, identical to the first weekend of the firearm season in 2009.

The Illinois firearm deer season concludes Dec. 2-5. The muzzleloader-only deer season is Dec. 10-12. The split late-winter antlerless-only firearm deer season and the special CWD deer season are Dec. 30, 2010-Jan. 2, 2011 and Jan. 14-16, 2011. The state's 2010-2011 archery deer season continues through Jan. 16 (except closed in firearm counties during the second firearm season Dec. 2-5).

The table below provides preliminary county harvest totals for the first weekend of the firearm deer season and comparable figures for the first season in 2009.

County	2010	2009
Adams	1741	1614
Alexander	296	328
Bond	535	566
Boone	90	102
Brown	892	938
Bureau	1024	820
Calhoun	668	858
Carroll	756	698
Cass	458	494
Champaign	219	171
Christian	459	400
Clark	940	908
Clay	947	942
Clinton	588	581
Coles	560	502
Crawford	819	798
Cumberland	641	617
DeKalb	157	126
DeWitt	283	250
Douglas	131	130
Edgar	565	528
Edwards	325	366
Effingham	774	765
Fayette	1264	1336
Ford	101	74
Franklin	820	779
Fulton	1721	1725
Gallatin	402	421
Greene	986	873
Grundy	300	274

Hamilton	812	872
Hancock	1291	1215
Hardin	696	747
Henderson	449	390
Henry	545	479
Iroquois	502	387
Jackson	1502	1416
Jasper	861	837
Jefferson	1475	1606
Jersey	625	585
JoDaviess	1640	1493
Johnson	1202	1304
Kane	37	38
Kankakee	151	121
Kendall	53	59
Knox	1021	866
Lake	5	9
LaSalle	878	756
Lawrence	399	457
Lee	531	436
Livingston	454	316
Logan	285	235
Macon	200	203
Macoupin	1192	1200
Madison	651	638
Marion	1276	1374
Marshall	569	548
Mason	439	443
Massac	402	425
McDonough	738	707
McHenry	191	215
McLean	550	450
Menard	334	310
Mercer	674	551
Monroe	722	792
Montgomery	820	841
Morgan	626	732
Moultrie	232	206
Ogle	742	645
Peoria	1074	1012
Perry	823	899

Piatt	127	115
Pike	1957	2012
Pope	1294	1275
Pulaski	466	471
Putnam	355	365
Randolph	1520	1576
Richland	545	614
Rock Island	591	578
Saline	720	644
Sangamon	569	541
Schuyler	1130	1114
Scott	377	368
Shelby	1012	996
St. Clair	662	656
Stark	261	186
Stephenson	789	547
Tazewell	514	505
Union	1162	1168
Vermilion	609	472
Wabash	194	211
Warren	429	388
Washington	799	839
Wayne	1210	1247
White	662	692
Whiteside	627	501
Will	208	214
Williamson	1110	1101
Winnebago	307	269
Woodford	700	662
Total	68037	66126

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