



# Inside Illinois DNR

November 2017

Volume 5, Number 11

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## IDNR Careers

**The Illinois Department of Natural Resources offers a wide array of professional careers in the conservation and natural resource arena. Click [here](#) to see what jobs openings are available.**

## A Message from Director Wayne Rosenthal



Welcome to November – one of the busiest months of the year for outdoor recreation in Illinois.

I hope you've made plans to spend some time outdoors before the winter winds blow, perhaps for a scenic drive or trail ride to enjoy the remaining fall colors, for an autumn fishing trip, a visit to a state park or state historic site, or to enjoy a variety of hunting opportunities.

November really is prime time for hunting in Illinois, with deer, waterfowl, upland game and furbearer seasons all open or opening this month.

If you're targeting ducks and geese, hunting is already underway in the North and Central zones. Youth Waterfowl Hunts are Nov. 4-5 in the South Central Zone and Nov. 11-12 in the South Zone. The regular duck and goose seasons will open in the South Central Zone on Veterans Day and in the South Zone on Thanksgiving Day. Hunters are reminded that there is no Canada goose hunting in the Central Zone on Nov. 6-11, with the Canada goose season resuming on Nov. 12.

If you favor upland hunting, the pheasant, quail and rabbit seasons open Nov. 4. Check the prospects for the seasons on the IDNR website at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/uplandgame/Pages/PheasantQuailAndRabbitAnnualStatusReports.aspx>

Hunters can also find information on the IDNR website about Controlled Pheasant hunting opportunities at 20 sites around the state this fall and winter.

Archery deer and archery wild turkey hunting seasons have been underway since Oct. 1 and continue into the middle of January. Permits are available over-the-counter.

Archery hunters can take a break on Nov. 17-19, and again on Nov. 30-Dec. 3, for the seven-day Illinois Firearm Deer Season, when archery hunting is closed in counties open for the firearm seasons. Firearm deer permits that remain available can be purchased over-the-counter.

No matter your hunting interest, the busy month of November reminds us to remind all hunters to make safety their first priority before, during, and after their hunts. IDNR Safety Education staff reports there were 29 hunting incidents reported in Illinois last year. Of those, 23 involved falls from elevated tree stands, or climbing into or out of tree stands.

Please keep safety in mind at all times, and enjoy everything the outdoors has to offer in Illinois.

## DNR in the news

**White Pines  
Resort Expansion**

**High School Bass  
Fishing**

**Cache River  
drainage work  
underway**

**Starved Rock SP  
geared to break  
attendance  
records**

**Statewide Offices**

**Springfield, IL**  
217-782-6302

**Bartlett, IL**  
847-608-3100

**Benton, IL**  
618-435-8138

**Chicago, IL**  
312-814-2070

**Clinton, IL**  
217-935-6860

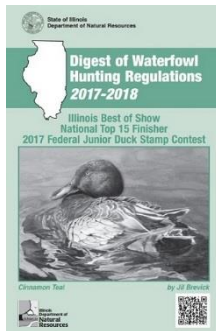
## Highlights



### **Mt. Pulaski Courthouse Prepares for the Holidays**

Visit the Mt. Pulaski Courthouse State Historic Site on Sat., Nov. 18 during the 29th "Christmas on Vinegar Hill" celebration in Mt. Pulaski. There will be crafts and food all over town. The Mt. Pulaski Courthouse will be decorated for holidays. Hot cider and coffee will be served. The Mt. Pulaski Courthouse Foundation will display all the small Christmas trees which have been decorated by different community members. Visitors will be able to vote for their favorite tree. Some trees will be offered in a silent auction.

[For more information click here](#)



### **Digest of Waterfowl Hunting Regulations**

Review this season's Illinois waterfowl regulations with the Digest of Waterfowl Hunting Regulations 2017-2018, available online on the IDNR website. The digest includes information on Illinois waterfowl season dates, hunting hours, bag limits, federal regulations and other facts. [For more information click here](#)



### **Schoolyard Habitat Action Grants**

Applications will be accepted by the IDNR Division of Education through Nov. 30 for the Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant program. Applicants can select to develop a pollinator garden

or a wildlife habitat of their choice. The program is funded by generous contributions to the Illinois Conservation Foundation from the Jadel Youth Fund and the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation. [For more information click here](#)



### **Fall Shotgun Wild Turkey Season Harvest Totals 350 Birds**

Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary statewide total of 350 wild turkeys during the 2017 Fall Shotgun Turkey Season. The 2017 total compares with the statewide fall gun turkey harvest of 385 in 2016. The 2017 season dates were October 21-29. [For more information click here](#)

[Check out these amazing time-lapse videos of Illinois' Great State Parks](#)



Register today  
for the 2017  
Director's Hunt  
Fundraiser.

Held at Wayne  
Fitzgerrell State  
Recreation Area  
on  
November  
20 & 21

Price includes  
two guided  
hunts, two boxes  
of steel shot  
shells, guide &  
dog. Lunch on  
Monday,  
banquet Monday  
night, breakfast  
Tuesday  
morning.

Visit ICF

Or

(217) 785-2003

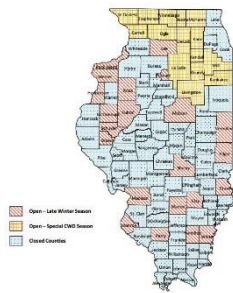
## Highlights



### Public Hunting Areas Report

The latest edition of the IDNR Illinois Public Hunting Areas Report – with details on public lands hunting effort and harvest – is available online on the IDNR website. This report provides both hunting and trapping information on IDNR owned, leased or managed public hunting sites. [For more information click here](#)

Dec 2017 - Jan 2018 Late Winter/CWD Deer Seasons



### Archery, Firearm, Muzzleloader, and Late-Winter/CWD Seasons CWD Sampling

Deer hunters statewide are encouraged to allow samples to be taken for chronic wasting disease (CWD) sampling from adult deer they harvest. Check the IDNR website at this link for locations that are serving as CWD sampling stations, taking samples from entire deer or deer heads through the end of the season (Jan. 14, 2018). [For more information click here](#)



### Spring Turkey Applications

Resident hunters may now apply for the first lottery for 2018 Illinois Spring Wild Turkey Season permits online. The application deadline for the first lottery for 2017 resident spring turkey permits is Dec. 1, 2017.

[For more information click here.](#)



### Digest of Hunting & Trapping Regulations is online

For information on Illinois hunting and trapping seasons and regulations, see the Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations 2017-18. Copies are available where IDNR license and permits are sold. [For more information click here](#)

## **2018 Fishing Tournament Applications Now Being Accepted**



Fishing tournament organizers can apply now for 2018 tournament permits. Applications can be submitted to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources through the IDNR fishing tournament online accounts on the I Fish

Illinois website. [For more information click here](#)

**For more information check out our [monthly calendar of events!](#)**

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**Visit the IDNR on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)**