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Nov. 12 Iowa Outdoors

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Press Releases from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Tue, Nov 12, 2013 at 11:28

<DNR.Media@dnr.iowa.gov>

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Reply-To: DNR.Media@dnr.iowa.gov

To: Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards <IACCB@mycountyparks.com>



IOWA OUTDOORS

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES | CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NOVEMBER 12, 2013

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DEER HUNTERS HAVING ANOTHER GOOD SEASON

This week is the heart of the rut and deer hunters are having good results, although they are reporting seeing many fewer deer. The number of licenses sold and the number of deer taken are similar to last year, but lower than its peak in 2006.

However, there is still time to take advantage of the 2013 bow season. Iowa's deer are among the most sought after big game in the country and the season runs through Jan. 10, 2014.

"The reported harvest for the early muzzleloader season and the deer season for youth and disabled hunters were very similar to last year," said Willie Suchy, wildlife research supervisor for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

As of Tuesday morning, more than 20,000 deer have been reported through the harvest reporting system which is nearly identical to this time last year. Hunters are required to report any deer taken with 24 hours after the deer is recovered.

"Harvest information is a very important management tool for Iowa's deer herd," said Suchy.

The DNR uses the harvest and deer population trend surveys to evaluate the results after all seasons end in January. Iowa's upcoming shotgun seasons in December are when most deer are taken.

Hunters can report the harvest on line at www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting/DeerHunting/ReportYourHarvest.aspx or by phone at 1-800-771-4692.

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) has been reported in Iowa again this fall but at a lower level than in 2012. If hunters find dead or decomposing deer near water, they should report the finding to either their local conservation officer or wildlife biologist.

Hunters who are seeing fewer deer may want to refrain from shooting does even if there are antlerless licenses available in their county.

MEDIA CONTACT: Willie Suchy, Wildlife Research Supervisor, Wildlife Bureau, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 515-281-8660.

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ASK A DNR CONSERVATION OFFICER QUESTIONS LIVE ON FACEBOOK

DES MOINES — DNR Conservation Officer Aron Arthur will answer Iowans' questions live on the DNR's Facebook page Nov. 20.

Arthur will be available via Facebook from noon to 2:30 p.m. To ask a question, post it as a comment on the "Live Q&A" post that the DNR will post at noon that day. You can also post questions ahead of time on the DNR's Facebook Timeline at www.facebook.com/iowadnr. Questions received after 2:30 may be answered at a later time.

To make sure you see the Live Q&A when it is posted, make sure you "like" the DNR's page on Facebook. Go to www.facebook.com/iowadnr and click on "like" and make sure "get notifications" and "show

in news feed" are selected.

Commenters should also view the DNR's Facebook posting policy ahead of time at <https://www.facebook.com/iowadnr/info>.

MEDIA CONTACT: Jessie Brown, DNR, at 515-281-5131 or Jessie.Brown@dnr.iowa.gov

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BREMER COUNTY WOMAN WINS HEALTHY AND HAPPY OUTDOORS OCTOBER PRIZE DRAWING

Diane Leeman, from Bremer County, won the Healthy and Happy Outdoors (H2O) October prize package of a bird feeder and one bag of seed from Des Moines Feed and Garden Shoppe, Alpen Optics compact binoculars, an H2O t-shirt, a Hug-It t-shirt and a Trek-it long sleeved t-shirt.

November's prize is a \$50 gift card from Cabela's. All outdoor activities logged November 1-30 will be automatically entered for the prize drawing.

Healthy and Happy Outdoors is an initiative geared to connect Iowans with outdoor resources as a way to reduce stress and improve health. Iowans can go online to www.iowadnr.gov/h2o and find over 30 types of outdoor activities at more than 1,600 parks and recreation areas across the state.

Participants who register for H2O and log activities will automatically be entered for prize drawings. Each activity logged counts as an entry. H2O will continue awarding monthly prizes through the year. Complete rules and promotional details are available on the H2O web page.

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SIOUX CENTER WOMAN WINS ADVENTURE READY GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

Connie Van Voorst, from Sioux Center, is this week's winner of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Adventure Ready Gift Card Giveaway. Van Voorst won a \$50 gift card generously donated by Bass Pro Shops.

Hunters and anglers who purchase one of four new licenses in 2013 will be automatically entered into a weekly drawing for a \$50 gift card.

To participate in the drawing, Iowans can simply purchase one of the four qualifying licenses at any license retailer or on the DNR's website at www.iowadnr.gov. The four qualifying licenses are:

- **Bonus Line License** – resident and nonresident anglers can fish with one additional line (with the purchase of the annual fishing license, which allows two lines), for \$12.
- **Outdoor Combo License** – annual resident hunting/fishing/habitat combo license for \$47.
- **Angler's Special** – a three-year resident fishing license for \$53.
- **Hunter's Special** – a three-year resident hunting license with habitat included for \$86.

The DNR will draw every Monday at noon and announce the weekly winner on its website and through Twitter on Tuesday afternoon. The promotion will run through December 23, 2013.

Scheel's All Sports is sponsoring the Nov. 18 gift card drawing. Weekly winner announcements, gift card sponsors and complete drawing details can be found at www.iowadnr.gov/giveaway.

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