

2020 Deer Hunting Regulations

2020 Season Dates

Archery	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020
Muzzleloader	Dec. 1 - 31, 2020
November Firearm	Nov. 14 - 22, 2020
Statewide Buck Only	Nov. 14 - 22, 2020
Mule Deer Conservation Area	* Nov. 14 - 22, Dec. 1 - 31, 2020
Whitetail Statewide Buck	* Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020
Youth and Landowner	* Sept. 1 - Jan. 15, 2021
Antlerless Only Season Choice	* Sept. 1 - Jan. 15, 2021
River Antlerless Private Land Only	Oct. 1 - 15, 2020 * Sept. 1 - Jan. 15, 2021

* weapons as specified for Archery, Muzzleloader, November Firearm and and Late Antlerless Firearm seasons

Legal Weapons for Firearm Season:

- .22-caliber or larger rifle that deliver at least 900 foot-pounds of energy at 100 yards
- .357 magnum rifle, .45 Colt rifle and hand-thrown spear are legal
- Handguns or muzzleloading handguns that deliver at least 400 foot-pounds of energy at 50 yards
- Muzzleloading rifles .44-caliber or larger
- Muzzleloading muskets .62-caliber or larger, firing a single slug
- Shotguns of 20-gauge or larger that fire a single slug
- Long bow, compound bow, recurve bow, shoulder-fired non-electronic crossbow (with a draw weight of at least 125 pounds), hand-thrown spear
- Ammunition with multiple projectiles is illegal
- Semi-automatic firearms capable of holding more than six cartridges are illegal
- Full-metal jacket or incendiary bullets are illegal
- Arrows or spears must have a sharpened hunting head with a blade of at least 7/16-inch cutting radius from the center of the arrow shaft. Arrows or spears containing poison, stupefying chemical or having an explosive tip are illegal.

Legal Weapons for Archery Season:

- Bows and spears as defined above.

Legal Weapons for Muzzleloader Season:

- Muzzleloading rifles, muzzleloading handguns and muskets as defined above.

Shooting Hours - It is legal to shoot 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

Sights - It is unlawful to use any electrical device to amplify natural light or to project a light beam or image to a target, including night-vision or infrared scopes and laser sights. Red-dot and illuminated reticle sights and scopes are permitted. Magnifying and variable-power scopes are allowed.

Permit - A permit must be signed by the permittee. It is unlawful to transfer a permit to another person.

Minimum Age - 10 years of age for deer hunting.

Youth Permit Requirements - Youths age 16 may hunt with youth deer permits provided they are age 15 when they apply and are not more than 15 on Sept. 1, 2019.

Habitat Stamp - Residents age 16 and older and all nonresidents must carry proof of a valid Nebraska habitat stamp while hunting big game. Individuals with valid, fee-exempt permits and landowners hunting their own land with a landowner permit are not required to purchase a habitat stamp to hunt big game. A 2019 stamp is valid for deer hunting in January 2020.

Unlawful Hunting Methods - It is unlawful to:

- chase, run, harass, kill or shoot any deer from a moving motor vehicle or vessel.
- shoot from the right-of-way of a public road.
- carry a firearm on a snowmobile, except when it is unloaded and in a case.
- hunt from or with a snowmobile.
- use a spotlight or other artificial light from a vehicle or vessel while having in possession or control any firearm, crossbow or bow and arrow.
- use two-way radios, cell phones or any other electronic devices to transmit information about the location of any game animal or game bird to or from a conveyance of any type (vehicles, aircraft, boats, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, etc.).

Permission - Permission is required to hunt on private land. It is unlawful to hunt with a rifle within 200 yards of an occupied dwelling or feedlot without specific permission for that purpose or within 100 yards using other methods.

Sale of Parts - It is lawful to sell the hide, hair, hooves, bones, and antlers of any deer which is taken legally. The sale or purchase of deer meat is unlawful.

Hunter Orange - Any persons hunting deer under the authority of a firearm permit during an authorized firearm season must display on his or her head, chest and back at least 400 square inches of hunter orange material. Archery deer hunters must do the same while archery hunting during the November firearm deer season and during the Jan. 1 - 15 antlerless deer season.

Baiting - It is illegal to establish a baited area from 10 days before the opening of any big game or turkey season and throughout those entire seasons for the purposes of taking big game or turkey. An area within 200 yards of bait is considered baited for 10 days following the removal of all bait. The hunter and the animal must be outside a baited area.

Checking - Deer harvested during the November firearm season must be delivered to a check station before 1 p.m. on the day following the close of the season. Telecheck is not allowed during this season.

- Deer harvested during the November firearm season must be delivered to a check station before leaving the state.
- Deer harvested during seasons other than the November firearm season must be checked via Telecheck within 48 hours of kill, but no later than 1 p.m. on the day after the close of any part of the season.
- Each permit holder must accompany his or her deer to the check station.
- The permit/tag and check station seal must be retained while transporting the deer to a point of permanent storage or processing.
- The permit holder must record the seal number as provided by the check station on the permit of any deer checked via Telecheck.

Quartering - The carcass may be separated into loins and quarters with the femur and scapula naturally attached, provided that the head accompanies the carcass to the check station.

Telecheck - All deer harvested outside the November firearm seasons must be checked via Telecheck. This may be done online or by phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call the phone number on the permit or visit OutdoorNebraska.org/deercheck.

Tagging - Immediately after an deer is taken, the hunter must punch holes in the permit, showing species, sex and date of kill. The canceled permit must be kept with the deer at all times.

Hunting of Other Wildlife - During the November firearm deer season, only hunters with a valid unfilled deer permit may hunt wildlife other than deer with centerfire rifles or centerfire handguns, provided they are hunting in the deer management unit for which their deer permit is valid. Fall turkey permit holders – wearing hunter orange required only for hunting during the November firearm deer season – may hunt turkeys, with legal shotguns or archery weapons, during the November firearm deer season.

Possession - There is no restriction on the length of time game birds or game animals may be possessed.

Hunter Education - Hunter education is required for hunters ages 12 through 29 hunting with a firearm or air gun. Bow hunter education is required for those ages while hunting big game with a bow and arrow or crossbow. They must carry with them proof of certification.

Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate -

Available for two consecutive years for hunters who have not completed hunter education. The fee is \$5.

Accompaniment - All deer hunters age 10-15 and all hunters using the Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate must be accompanied by a licensed hunter age 19 or older when hunting. The accompanying person, if age 19-29, must be certified in firearm hunter education if hunting with a firearm or crossbow, or bow hunter education if hunting with bow and arrow. He or she must be at all times in unaided visual and verbal communication with the hunter. There may be no more than two hunters using the certificate accompanied by the experienced hunter at any time.

Public Land Closures -

- All federal and state public lands are closed to the use of River Antlerless deer permits.
- The Pine Ridge Unit is closed to antlerless mule deer harvest in all seasons except Landowner.
- Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forest, McKelvie National Forest, and the Valentine National Wildlife Refuge are closed to AO SCA deer permits, antlerless bonus tags and harvest of mule deer does on November Firearm permits.
- Harlan County Reservoir (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land) is closed to AO SCA Republican deer permits.
- Red Willow, Enders, Medicine Creek and Swanson SRA/WMA are closed to AO SCA Frenchman and Frenchman West deer permits.
- Crescent Lake NWR is closed to the harvest of antlerless mule deer.

County Refuge Closures -

- **Garden County Refuge:** Those portions of Garden County within 110 yards of the banks of the North Platte River are open to archery deer hunting from Sept. 1 – Oct. 31 with landowner permission, except that portion of the Clear Creek Refuge portion of the Clear Creek Wildlife Management Area west of the Garden County line is open to deer hunting during all established seasons from Sept. 1 though the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

The following refuges are open to all deer hunting, though landowner permission is required: Boyd-Holt County Refuge, Dodge-Saunders County Refuge and Lincoln County Refuge.

Use of Drones

It shall be unlawful for any person one day before or throughout any open season to spot, locate, or place under surveillance any game animal or game bird with the aid of any aircraft (to include drones) and convey information about such animal's or bird's location to any person or group of persons by radio or other electronic device (which includes photography taken from unmanned aircraft). The use of aircraft (which includes drones) any time to hunt, drive, molest, chase, or harass game birds or game animals is illegal.

November Firearm Deer Season Check Stations

- Read the checking instructions on the regulations sheet to ensure deer are checked on time.
- Check station business hours are 8 a.m.-8 p.m., unless noted.
- Check station operators may change the hours listed. Call the station to verify hours.
- * Nebraska Game and Parks Commission offices are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, except during the November Firearm season, when checking hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Offices are closed on holidays. The Schramm Education Center is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. seven days a week, except during November Firearm season, when hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- View Nebraska Game and Parks' map of big game check stations at: [Maps.OutdoorNebraska.gov/CheckStations](https://www.maps.outdoornebraska.gov/CheckStations)

City	Check Station	Address	Phone Number	Business Hours
AINSWORTH	Road Runner	822 E. 4th	402-387-1992	
ALBION	White Star Oil Co.	305 N. 6th St.	402-395-2507	
ALDA	Alda Grill and Grocery	106 E. Front St.	308-381-1701	
ALLIANCE	Neb. Game and Parks Commission	299 Husker Road	308-763-2940	* See above note
ALMA	Short Stop of Alma LLC	1008 7th St.	308-928-2558	
ARAPAHOE	Tornado Alley	1212 W. Chestnut St.	308-962-5500	
ARNOLD	Sandhills Classic Arms	503 E. Cedar St.	308-520-6475	
ARTHUR	Sandhills Auto	105 N. Neb. Hwy. 61	308-764-2367	
AUBURN	Hogie's Gun Shop	U.S. Hwy. 136 & L St.	402-274-4426	
AURORA	T&L's Convenience Liquor	213 S. 16th St.	402-694-4153	
BARTLETT	WeeMart	U.S. Hwy. 281	308-654-3259	
BASSETT	Neb. Game and Parks Commission	524 Panzer St.	402-684-2921	* See above note
BASSETT	Rock County Sheriff's Office	Courthouse, 400 S. State	402-684-3811	Monday-Friday, 5-8 p.m.
BEATRICE	Cenex	1615 N. 6th St.	402-223-3221	
BEATRICE	One Stop Country Store	11684 E. U.S. Hwy. 136	402-662-3606	
BEAVER CITY	Furnas Co. Inconvenience Corner	921 N. St.	308-268-7705	8 a.m.-7 p.m.
BENKELMAN	Dundy County Sheriff's Office	701 Chief St.	308-423-2393	
BENNINGTON	R&L Meat Processing	15309 Harvest Lane	402-884-6445	
BLAIR	Taylor Quik-Pik	1904 S St.	402-426-2511	
BRIDGEPORT	Cenex Ampride C Store	102 W. 5th St.	308-262-0827	
BROKEN BOW	Pump and Pantry	1037 E. South E St.	308-872-6842	
BURWELL	PK Meat Company	190 N. Neb. Hwy. 11	308-346-4244	
BUTTE	Firehouse Cafe	610 Thayer St.	402-775-2643	
CAMBRIDGE	BC Original Graphics	620 Patterson St.	308-737-1496	
CLARKS	Clarks Locker	208 N. Green St.	308-548-2468	
CHADRON	Chadron Ace Hardware	760 W 3rd St	308-432-3914	
CHAPPELL	Hansen's Petroleum	1082 2nd St.	308-874-2733	
CLAY CENTER	Ampride	404 N. Center	402-762-3775	
CODY	Cody Oil	420 W. U.S. Hwy. 20	402-823-4303	7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
COLUMBUS	T-Bones Truck Stop	4018 W. U.S. Hwy. 30	402-563-2933	
CRAWFORD	Crossroads Mini Mart (Citgo)	1120 7th St.	308-665-2000	
CREIGHTON	CMart	910 Main St.	402-358-3711	
CRETE	Lester's Shop	1575 Blue Acres St.	402-826-5206	
CURTIS	Frontier County Sheriff's Office	308 Center Ave.	308-367-4411	
DAKOTA CITY	Dakota Food and Fuel	515 N. 14th St.	402-987-0300	
DAVID CITY	Butler County Sheriff's Office	451 5th St.	402-367-7400	
ELWOOD	The Li'l Red Barn	N. U.S. Hwy. 283	308-785-2174	
EMERALD	Emerald Mini Mart	8401 W. O St.	402-474-4254	
ENDERS	Laker's Delight	520 Pioneer St.	308-882-4011	
FAIRBURY	Wildlife Obsessions Taxidermy	2505 H St.	402-587-0274	Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-1 p.m, 5-8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
FALLS CITY	F&F Firearms, LLC	1724 Harlan St.	402-245-1977	Sat.-Sun., 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
FRANKLIN	Pitstop & Shop	102 16th Ave.	308-425-6556	
FREMONT	Fremont Lakes SRA, Park Office	4349 W. State Lakes Road	402-727-3291	* See above note
FULLERTON	Nance County Sheriff's Office	209 Esther	308-536-2452	
GENEVA	Fillmore County Sheriff's Office	Courthouse, 900 G St.	402-759-4441	
GOTHENBURG	OK Bottle Shop	318 8th St., Hwy. 30	308-537-7220	
GRETNA	Schramm Education Center	21502 W. Hwy. 31	402-332-3901	* See above note
HALSEY	Double T	103 Main	308-533-2208	
HARRISON	Harrison House Hotel	115 Main St.	308-665-5199	

City	Check Station	Address	Phone Number	Business Hours
HARTINGTON	Stop-N-Go Mini Mart	605 N. Robinson	402-254-3249	
HASTINGS	Ampride South	1410 W. J St.	402-461-3714	
HAYES CENTER	Farkleberrys	100 Troth St.	308-386-3365	
HEBRON	Shell Food Mart	243 S. 13th St.	402-768-6140	
HOLDREGE	Holdrege Police Department	815 5th St.	308-995-4407	Sat.-Sun., 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 5-8 p.m.
HOLDREGE	Triple J&D Lumber	820 W. 4th St.	308-995-5934	Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
HYANNIS	Sandhill Oil Co., Inc.	101 Dellinger Road	308-458-2237	
KEARNEY	Neb. Game and Parks Commission	1617 First Ave.	308-865-5310	* See above note
KIMBALL	Sportsman's Liquor	111 W. 2nd St.	308-235-3752	
LEWELLEN	DP's Service Station	506 W. Hwy. 26	308-778-5611	
LEXINGTON	Tom's Midwest Liquor	710 S. Washington	308-324-3566	
LINCOLN	Neb. Game and Parks Commission	2200 N. 33rd St.	402-471-0641	* See above note
LOUP CITY	Fisherman's Lounge	743 O St.	308-293-0715	
LYNCH	Bubba's 4th Street Tavern	123 N. 4th St.	402-569-2926	
McCOOK	Hi Times Liquor Mart	502 East B St.	308-344-9170	
MERRIMAN	Bowring Ranch SHP	90468 Neb. Hwy. 61	308-684-3428	
MULLEN	Sandhills Motel and Canoe Rental	507 SW First	308-546-2206	
NEBRASKA CITY	Pap's Sport Shop	1315 S. 11th	402-873-7040	7 a.m.-7 p.m., 7 days a week
NELIGH	Cubby's	210 L St.	402-887-4649	
NELSON	OxBow Motel	422 N. Main St.	402-225-2651	
NIOBRARA	Niobrara State Park	1 W of Niobrara	402-857-3373	
NORFOLK	Neb. Game and Parks Commission	2201 N. 13th	402-370-3374	* See above note
NORTH PLATTE	Neb. Game and Parks Commission	301 E. State Farm Road	308-535-8025	* See above note
OGALLALA	Neb. Game and Parks Commission	1501 Hwy. 61	308-284-8800	* See above note
OMAHA	B.I.G. Meats	4867 S. 137th St.	402-895-9525	
OMAHA	Wildlife Creations Taxidermy	13506 B St.	402-896-6887	
OMAHA	Neb. Game and Parks Commission	8495 Frederick St.	402-595-2144	Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
O'NEILL	O'Neill Tire & Supply	114 W. Douglas	402-336-2665	
O'NEILL	Torpin's Rodeo Market	506 E. Douglas	402-336-1550	Monday-Friday, 6-8 p.m.
ORD	Pump and Pantry	2308 L St. (Hwy. 11)	308-728-7996	
OXFORD	Ampride Convenience Store	202 E. Cornwall	308-824-3850	
PAWNEE CITY	Brown Jug	715 F St.	402-852-2980	
PENDER	Frazey's Food and Fuel	317 Whitney St.	402-385-3023	
PLATTSMOUTH	Professional Heating & Air Company	506 Chicago Ave.	531-228-0096	
PONCA	Ponca State Park	2 N of Ponca	402-755-2284	* See above note
RED CLOUD	Webster County Sheriff	641 N. Cedar St.	402-746-2722	
ROCA	On the Way Bait & Tackle	15801 S. 68th St.	402-480-9462	
RUSHVILLE	Bosselman Pump and Pantry	220 W. U.S. Hwy. 20	308-327-2461	
SARGENT	Trotter Whoa-N-Go	100 S. U.S. Hwy. 183	308-527-3723	
SCHUYLER	Deano's Drive In Liquor	310 W. 16th St.	402-352-5911	
SCOTTSBLUFF	Western Travel Terminal	822 S. Beltline Hwy.	308-635-7374	
SEWARD	Hackbart Farms	½ mi. N of I-80 on Hwy. 15	402-641-2364	
SIDNEY	See OutdoorNebraska.gov for details			
SO. YANKTON	Yankton Shop EZ	89823 U.S. 81	402-667-9855	
SPRINGVIEW	Turbine Mart	Main Street	402-497-3000	
ST. PAUL	Pump and Pantry	514 2nd St.	308-754-4439	
STAPLETON	Sharon Pipal residence	507 C St.	308-636-8748	
STROMSBURG	Elgin's Taxidermy	811 Main St.	402-764-8181/402-366-3412	Mon.-Sat, 8-8, Sun., noon-8
SUTHERLAND	Sportsman's Cove	W. U.S. Hwy. 30	308-386-2185	
SYRACUSE	B & B	535 Park St.	402-269-2717	
TECUMSEH	M & M Supply Inc.	Hwy. 50 & Clay St.	402-335-4020	
TEKAMAH	Cubby's	603 S. 13th St.	402-374-2413	
TRENTON	Hitchcock County Sheriff	Courthouse, 229 E. D St.	308-334-5444	
TRYON	Stanley Munson residence	701 Grimes St.	308-530-2705/308-587-2385	
VALENTINE	Valentine Fish Hatchery	N of Hwy 12, Green St.	402-376-2244	
WAHOO	Wahoo Police Department	605 N. Broadway	402-443-4155	
WALLACE	Mac's Super Foods	314 E. Neb. Hwy. 23	308-387-4317	
WAUNETA	Wauneta Crossroads	481 S. Tecumseh	308-394-5444	
WAYNE	Wayne East Texaco	1330 E. Neb. Hwy. 35	402-375-1449	
WEST POINT	AC Lightning Protection	309 Plaza Drive	402-659-0243	
WYMORE	R & D Bottle Shop	403 S. 14th (Hwy. 77)	402-645-3718	Mon.-Thur., 10-9; Fri.-Sat., 10-noon; Sun., noon-9
YORK	York Fire Department	815 Grant	402-363-2610	