

Illinois 2018-19 Deer Hunting Seasons Results in Preliminary Harvest Update

Illinois 2018-19 Deer Hunting Seasons Result in Preliminary Harvest of 151,577 Deer

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 151,577 deer during all 2018-19 archery and firearm seasons, which concluded on Jan. 20. The total preliminary deer harvest for all seasons compares with a total harvest for all seasons of 147,695 deer in 2017-18.

During the 2018-19 deer seasons, hunters took 45 percent does and 55 percent males.

Archery: Archery deer hunters in Illinois took a preliminary total of 61,079 deer during the season which began on Oct. 1, 2018 and concluded on Jan. 20, 2019. That compares with the harvest of 57,929 deer during the 2017-18 archery season.

Youth: Youth deer hunters harvested a preliminary total of 1,650 deer during the three-day Illinois Youth Deer Season (Oct. 6-8, 2018), compared to 2,378 in 2017.

Traditional Firearm Sea-

2018-2019 Preliminary Deer Harvest						
County	Archery	Youth	Firearm	Muzzleloader	LW/CWD	Total
Douglas	187	1	153	3	0	344

2017-2018 Final Deer Harvest						
County	Archery	Youth	Firearm	Muzzleloader	LW/CWD	Total
Douglas	185	6	132	8	0	331

son: Hunters took a preliminary total of 80,896 deer during the Illinois Firearm Deer Season on Nov. 16-18, 2018 and Nov. 29-Dec. 2, 2018, compared with 80,117 deer taken during the 2017 firearm season.

Muzzleloader: Hunters using muzzleloading rifles harvested 3,863 deer during the Muzzleloader-Only Deer Season on Dec. 7-9, 2018, compared with harvest 3,765 in the 2017 muzzleloader season.

Late-Winter Seasons: The 2018-19 Late-Winter Antlerless-Only and Special CWD deer seasons concluded on Jan. 20, 2019, with a combined preliminary harvest total for both seasons of 4,089 deer, compared with a harvest of 3,506 deer taken during those seasons in

2017-18. Season dates for the seven-day Late-Winter and CWD seasons were Dec. 27-30, 2018 and Jan. 18-20, 2019.

There were 15 northern Illinois counties open to the Special CWD Season in both the 2018-19 and 2017-18 seasons. The Special CWD season is used to assist in slowing the spread of chronic wasting disease in the Illinois deer herd.

There were 20 counties open for the Late-Winter Antlerless Season in 2018-19, while 22 counties were open for the Late-Winter season in 2017-18. Counties that are at or below their individual deer population goal for two consecutive years may be removed from the Late-Winter season.

Always Teaching, in the Classroom and on the Court cont'd from pg. 1

keep that passion going.

How long do you see yourself doing all these things?

I'm not sure. I've talked about maybe giving it up when my boy gets to high school, but I've had people telling me that I can go longer than that. We'll see, I'm just taking it year by year, at least at this point. The next three or four years here, I'm planning on doing it all, but I know at some point I'll have to look at giving it up and giving time to the family that I've not given in the past. Right now, I'm still able to make it to their games.

How big a hero is Shawn Hill White? <laughing>

She's dynamic! She gets our boys to wherever they need to be. When I can, I'll try to take them so she can maybe have a little break and have the house to herself without the two boys fighting! She's a big hero to us! <smiles> She keeps things running in our house.

We've talked a little about the future, but do you think that future will be at Heritage?

I hope so. We're pretty well settled in our house there in Homer and are kids have their friends, not only in the Heritage building, but they've gotten to know a lot of Villa Grove kids through JFL and

now through the 5th grade basketball program here in Villa Grove. Hopefully we can stay where we're at.

What do you think about the idea of districts for football? That could potentially be a dark subject.

I don't know. It's kind of a toss-up. I can see where it can be beneficial for some districts but not for others. It can make for some murky water for a lot of the co-ops around the state. I also see our numbers at Heritage, and we've got some big classes getting ready to graduate and some smaller ones coming behind them. I'm just not familiar enough with Villa Grove to know what theirs look like. I'd like to see it all stick together. I think that with those numbers coming in, we might change classes, even with the co-op. If other schools decide to break up and go with the 8-man football, like a lot of them have discussed, that could bring the number up, as well. You never know what's going to happen. I think the kids have bought in to friendships that have come from this co-op. I still have buddies from the old East Central days. It made the rivalries a bit more heated when it came to the sports that we didn't co-op in, but we've remained buddies.

Does Dad help you out?

He's usually the first phone call I make after a game, especially if he's been at the game and we've lost. I always ask him for things he thinks we could have done differently. He's very good at coaching fundamentals and development, that's the main thing I had him teaching when he was a volunteer assistant at Shiloh. He came in and really helped kids with their shot.

Your win in the BSN tournament was the first time I've ever covered a basketball team that won a title. Am finally going to get to cover a regional champ?

I hope so! It could be a tough regional. We'll see who falls in. The good news is that we get to host it. It was a big deal winning the Christmas tournament on our home floor. I didn't realize until Mr. Davis said it at the trophy presentation that we had never won it at home before.

Is there anything I've left out? Anything you would like to add?

I don't think so. Our kids have done real well, so far. We're going to keep trying to improve and see where it goes, from the conference tournament on.

Outdoor Expo returns to Otto Center in Arthur February 2019

What has become one of the area's top winter events, the 8th Annual Central Illinois Outdoor Expo will be held Friday, February 8 and Saturday, February 9. The venue for the show will once again be the Otto Center located on County Line Road one quarter mile south of downtown Arthur.

New hours this year are Friday 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 am to 3:00 p.m. and admission is \$5.00 for adults and kids 12 and under are free.

The Expo will have a full slate of vendors offering gear and supplies ranging from hunting, fishing, archery and taxidermy to hiking, boating, bird calls, lures, generators, and chainsaws as well as information on conservation of our natural resources. The list of vendors has grown each year and 2019 is no exception. If you and your family like to spend time in the great outdoors, then the Outdoor Expo will be a fantastic way to preview all the latest equipment and information to help you do just that.

New to the 2019 CIOE is the addition of a Quantum Sport fishing simulator. The fish fight on the fishing simulator screen is completely synchronized with the feel on your rod and reel. Experience virtual fishing...as the fish strikes, the rod bends, the reel screams and the fight is on!

Also new to the Expo this year will be a hit with kids of all ages. Wildlife on Wheels brought to you by Aikman Wildlife Adventure will feature small animals with which you can get an up close and personal experience! This special exhibit will be open on Friday, February 8 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and kids 12 and under are free.

For the kids there will be a gaming area that includes bow/bb gun target shooting provided by Cross Trail Outfitters Illinois. Over the next few weeks organizers are working on finalizing even more new things to do at this family friendly event.

Seminars will be held both days of the event by area outdoor experts. The seminar schedule is as follows:

Friday, February 8 - 6:00 pm Shane Zach (School's Out Sport Fishing Charters)

Saturday, February 9 - 10:00 am John Carr (Shelbyville Fishing) 11:00 am Mike Roux, (Advanced Turkey Hunting) 12:30 pm Shane Zach (School's Out Sport Fishing Charters)

The Central Illinois Outdoor Expo is particularly pleased to welcome Mike Roux who is an award-winning outdoor writer. Roux is a freelance writer for more than 100 outdoor magazine and newspapers. Adding to his list of talents, he is also an accomplished speaker who annually books several speaking engagements nationwide including banquets, game dinners and other outdoor events.

Roux has been a professional guide and game caller for over two decades. He has worked with the Pro Staffs of several outdoor products manufacturers. He is a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, as well as the Missouri Outdoor Communicators.

As a book author, Roux has recently released his new turkey-hunting book called, If You Call Them... They Will Come. This award-winning outdoor writer has spent over 35-years in the turkey woods and has published hundreds of articles on the topic of chasing gobblers. This book is a collection of his very best works and is sure to please novice and veteran turkey hunters alike.

Each day there will be numerous giveaways as well as door prizes supplied by event vendors and others. There will also be FOUR \$100 gift cards to area merchants given away over the two day event sponsored by the Central Illinois Outdoor Expo committee.

You are all invited to come out and experience the great outdoors in the Arthur area for a weekend of winter fun for the entire family.

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