



WHITE-TAILED DEER SUMMARY 2024-2025: STEPHENSON COUNTY

Forest Wildlife Program, Illinois Department of Natural Resources



County Size: 565 square miles

Year Opened to Deer Hunting: 1957

Record Harvest: 1,829 (2007)

Average Harvest (previous 10 years): 1,243

Total 2024-2025 Harvest (all seasons): 1,044

Permits issued/quota 2024-2025 (excludes landowner; archery and youth are statewide):

Firearm: 2129/3250 **Muzzle:** 165/525

CWD: 94

Chronic Wasting Disease Detected: Yes

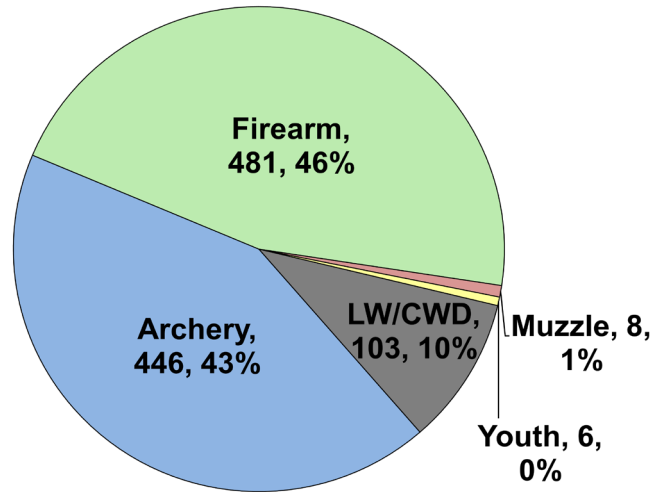
Check Station Loc: Stephenson Co. Fairgrounds

CWD Season in 2025-2026: Yes. CWD has and continues to be detected in this county. CWD season allows for extra hunter harvest to reduce deer density and disease transmission.

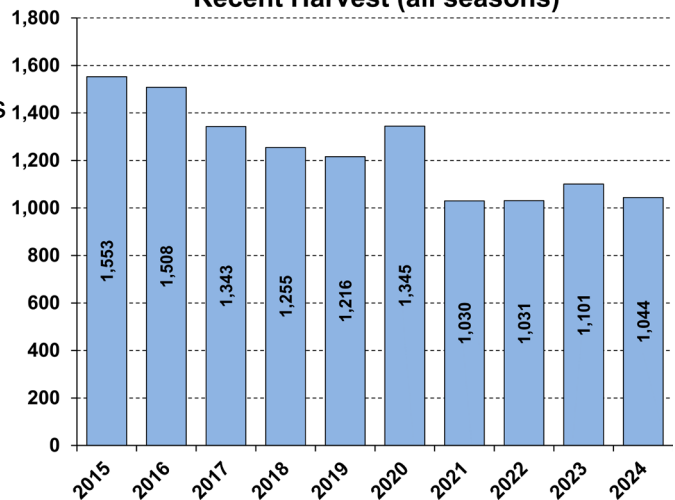
Number tested for CWD in 2024-25: 275

CWD positive deer in 2024-25: 23

IDNR sharpshooting: 0 deer were removed via sharpshooting. IDNR has modified its CWD management strategy and will not be sharpshooting in Stephenson County anymore.



Recent Harvest (all seasons)



Recent Archery Harvest by Bow Type

Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Compound	251	166	170	163	147
Crossbow	296	237	238	284	297
Traditional	5	4	5	5	2
Total	552	407	413	452	446

Age/Sex Composition of Recent Harvest (%)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
M - Adult	27.4	26.8	28.5	32.1	24.1
M - Yearling	17.9	19.9	18.0	19.5	20.7
M - Fawn	9.7	8.8	10.7	8.6	8.1
F - Adult	39.8	36.8	35.6	34.2	39.7
F - Fawn	5.1	7.6	7.2	5.6	7.4

M - Adult = 2.5 and older; F - Adult = 1.5 and older

