

Vermont's Archery Deer Season

October 3 - 25 and December 5 - 13, 2009



Wildlife Management Units and Deer that May Be Taken

- ◆ No more than **two deer** may be taken during archery season. Archery license tags must be used for all deer taken in archery season. **Only one legal buck** (a deer with at least one antler having two or more points one inch or longer) may be taken during archery season anywhere in the state. In Wildlife Management Units open to the taking of antlerless deer, both deer may be antlerless deer.
- ◆ **All Wildlife Management Units (WMUs)** are open to the taking of antlerless deer during archery season except **WMU E**.
- ◆ **"Antlerless deer"** is defined as a deer without antlers or with antlers less than three inches long.
- ◆ **"Point"** is defined as an antler projection of at least 1 inch measured from base to tip. A broken main beam shall count as a point regardless of length.

ANNUAL DEER LIMIT FOR ALL SEASONS:

No hunter may take more than **three deer** in a calendar year **in any combination of seasons** (Archery, Youth Weekend, Nov. Rifle, Dec. Muzzleloader).

Purchasing an Archery License

- ◆ In order to purchase an archery license, you must show a certificate of satisfactorily completing a bow hunter education course, or show a previous or current bow hunting license from any state or Canadian province, or sign an affidavit that you have previously held an archery license. Two archery licenses are allowed per hunter.
- ◆ You must have an archery deer hunting license in addition to a standard hunting license, except that nonresidents may purchase a "limited archery license" costing only \$60. Regular archery licenses are \$17 for residents and \$25 for nonresidents.

Other Deer Hunting Rules

- ◆ **Shooting hours** are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- ◆ No person taking deer with a bow and arrow or crossbow (special permit required) may possess a firearm and no deer may be taken by **firearms** during the archery season.
- ◆ It is illegal to take any wild animal by using **bait** during Vermont deer seasons. **Exempted from this prohibition are:**
 1. Incidental feeding of wildlife within active livestock operations.
 2. Standing crops planted and left standing as food plots for wildlife.
 3. Grain or other feed scattered or distributed as a result of

agricultural, gardening, or soil stabilization, and logging practices.

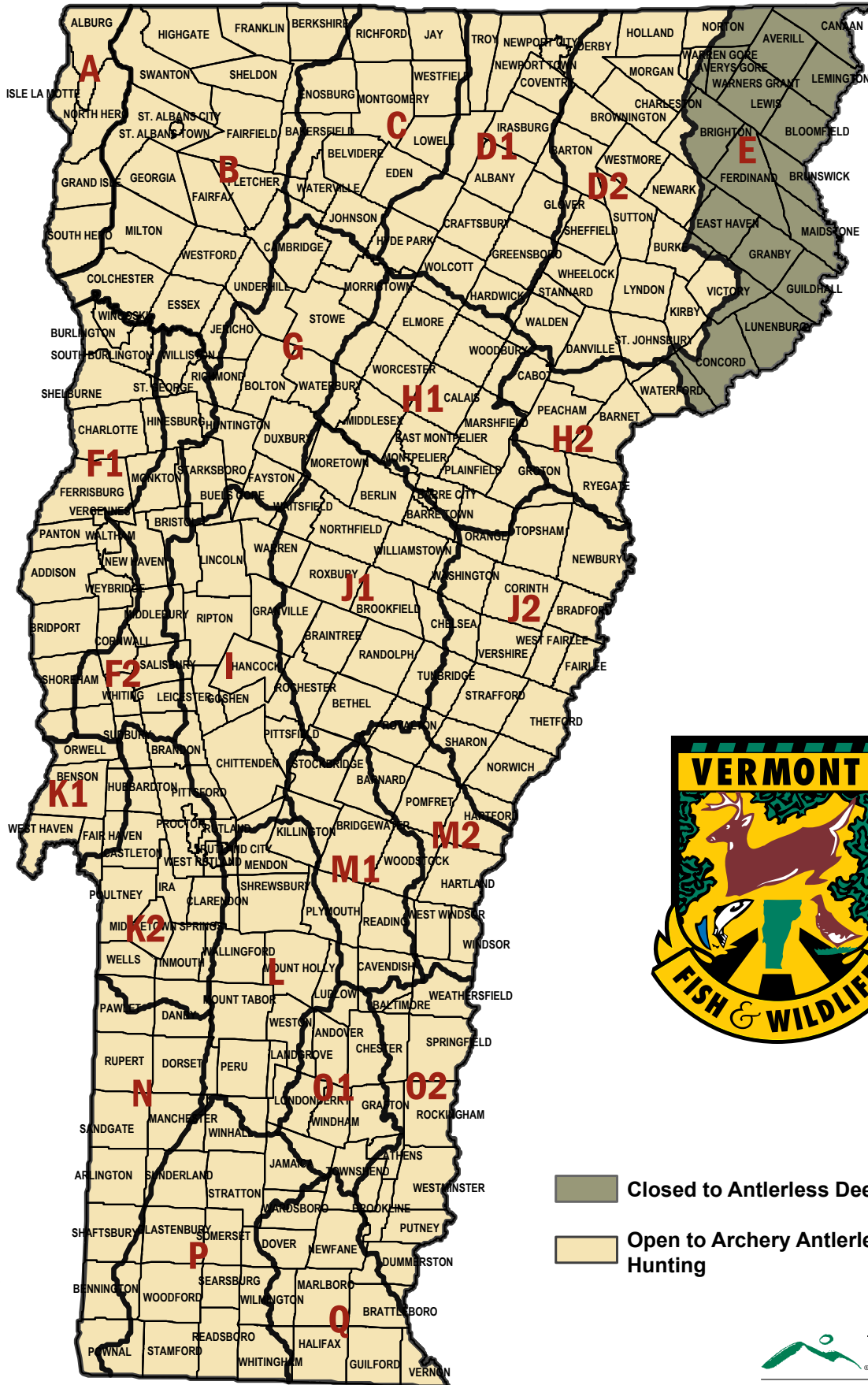
4. Vegetation or food/seed naturally deposited.
 5. Persons taking furbearers may use bait in conjunction with traps being set to take furbearers.
- ◆ **Tree stands and ground blinds** may only be built or used if the hunter has landowner permission. This includes portable as well as permanent stands and blinds. A hunter constructing or using a stand or blind must permanently mark his or her name and address on it so that it may be conveniently and easily read. Landowners are exempted from this requirement.
 - On **Vermont State Wildlife Management Areas**, no nails, bolts or screws, including screw-in climbing steps, or wire, chain or other material that penetrates through the bark may be used.
 - Because additional restrictions apply, hunters are urged to read the entire law governing the use of stands and blinds on page 17 of the **"2009 Vermont Guide to Hunting, Fishing and Trapping,"** available where licenses are sold.

- ◆ **Road Hunting:** It is illegal to take or attempt to take any wild animal by shooting a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow while on or within 10 feet of the traveled portion of a public highway. Violators are subject to a \$1,000 fine.
- ◆ **Shooting from a Vehicle:** It is illegal to take any wild animal by shooting with a firearm or bow and arrow or crossbow from any motor vehicle, including an ATV, regardless of its location.
- ◆ **Recovery of Bow & Arrow Deer After Hours:** Department policy allows a hunter who has wounded a deer with an arrow to look for the deer after the close of legal shooting time under the following conditions:
 1. The hunter must request permission from the State Game Warden. Call the nearest State Police office, giving exact location and circumstances.
 2. The hunter may not take a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow on the search, only a knife to dress the deer.
 3. The hunter must notify the landowner of his/her intentions before starting out to recover the deer.

- ◆ **Crossbows are Illegal for Hunting.** Exception: A crossbow may be used by special permit to take any game that may be taken by bow and arrow. This special permit, issued to a person so physically impaired that he or she cannot operate a standard bow, allows that person to hunt with a crossbow. A permit applicant must produce a licensed physician's certificate certifying that the disability requires the use of a crossbow. Obtain an application from Fish & Wildlife in Waterbury before visiting your doctor. Applicant must also appear before a state game warden. Be sure to make an appointment ahead of time.

Unless it is uncocked, it is illegal to possess or transport a crossbow in or on a motor vehicle, motor boat, airplane, snowmobile, or other motor-propelled craft or any vehicle drawn by a motor-propelled vehicle.

2009 VERMONT ARCHERY SEASON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS



- Closed to Antlerless Deer Hunting
- Open to Archery Antlerless Deer Hunting

VERMONT

FISH & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
802-241-3700/vtfishandwildlife.com