

NEW HUNTING OPPORTUNITY IN TOMPKINS COUNTY

DEC ESTABLISHES DEER MANAGEMENT FOCUS AREA

DEC has established a special Deer Management Focus Area (DMFA) in a 60,000 acre area in and around the city of Ithaca.

It will allow hunters with a valid NYS hunting license who register with the DMFA program to take two antlerless deer per day during the bow hunting, regular, and late muzzle-loader seasons. In addition, a special season running from January 12, 2013 through January 31, 2013 has also been created during which hunters with a valid DMFA permit may also take two antlerless deer per day in the DMFA with any lawful hunting implement.



Photo courtesy of Dave Spier

The 60,000 acre area includes the city and town of Ithaca, the villages of Cayuga Heights and Lansing, and parts of the towns of Danby, Caroline, Dryden, Lansing, Enfield, Newfield and Ulysses. A general map of the area is included here.

An official map and a legal description of the area is posted on the DEC's website at: www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/82382.html to assist hunters who want to hunt in the DMFA. A general map is provided on the reverse side of this handout.

This program will provide better management of the deer population in an area with extremely high deer densities and limited hunting-related management tools.

How it Works

- Any person who has a big game hunting license may register with the DMFA program and obtain a free DMFA permit via the DEC's website www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/82382.html, allowing them to take two antlerless deer per day in the DMFA during the seasons mentioned above.
- With the permit will come carcass tags issued by the Department. Both the DMFA permit and carcass tags must be carried while hunting in the DMFA. The permit and carcass tags are valid **only within the DMFA**
- Hunters must submit a hunting activity log and report all deer harvested in the DMFA no later than seven days following the close of the DMFA season. The procedures for reporting a harvested deer are described on the DMFA permit.

Lands Available for Hunting in DMFA

Lands available for hunting within the DMFA include:

- Buttermilk Falls State Park (<http://nysparks.com/parks/151/details.aspx>) bow hunting only
- Robert H. Treman State Park (<http://www.nysparks.com/parks/135/details.aspx/>) bow hunting only
- Cornell Campus Lands Deer Hunting Program (<http://wildlifecontrol.info/DEER/Pages/DeerHunting>)
- Cornell Plantations Deer Management Program (<http://cornellplantations.org/our-gardens/natural-areas/stewardship/deer>)

In addition, hunters with legal access to private lands may also hunt in the DMFA following the regulations noted above.



Central Tompkins County Deer Management Focus Area



Within the 60,000 acre Central Tompkins County Deer Management Focus Area registered hunters will be allowed to take two antlerless deer per day, in addition to any deer taken on tags acquired through normal licensing procedures, during the bowhunting, regular, and late muzzleloader seasons, and during an additional season in January. The establishment of this focus area does not change the legal requirement that hunters must still comply with all state trespassing laws, as well as all applicable local ordinances governing the discharge of firearms.

