

DEER AND BEAR Mountaineer Heritage Seasons

Season Limit: 1 Deer and 1 Bear

Opening Date: January 14, 2021

Closing Date: January 17, 2021

Deer

One either sex deer may be taken with a percussion side lock rifle or pistol, flintlock rifle or pistol, long bow or recurve bow during the Mountaineer Heritage season.

One deer may be taken on one of the following valid base licenses or license combinations: resident license (Class X, Class XJ, Class AHJ, Class AB-L, Class A-L, Class XS, Classes A+CS+BG or Classes AH+CS+BG); or a free license (Military, Disabled Veteran, former POW, Senior Citizen or Class DT); or nonresident license (Classes E+CS/LE, Classes AAH+CS/LE, Classes XXJ+CS/LE, Classes AAHJ+CS/LE or Class DT). Underage residents and resident landowners hunting on their own land (see page 10) may take a deer during the Mountaineer Heritage Season without a license. Class DT license holders must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or with written consent of the parent or guardian or any other competent licensed adult 21 years of age or older.

A hunter may take no more than three antlered deer during the regular deer seasons and the following Mountaineer Heritage Season combined. Only one antlered deer may be taken during the Archery and Mountaineer Heritage Seasons combined in Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming counties.

Deer and Bear

The Mountaineer Heritage Season is open statewide, but only long and recurve bows are legal in Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming counties during this season.

- Nonresident hunters must purchase a Class I stamp to hunt on National Forest land.

Only single-shot side lock or flintlock muzzleloading rifles of .38 caliber or larger, single-shot side lock or flintlock muzzleloading pistols of .38 caliber or larger, long bows and recurve bows are legal during the Mountaineer Heritage season. Telescopic sights are not permitted. In-line muzzleloaders and a firearm that has been converted into a muzzleloader by use of a plug, or a double-barreled or swivel-barreled muzzleloader is illegal for hunting deer and bear during this season.

When being transported in or on a vehicle, muzzleloaders will be considered unloaded: when uncapped or when the priming charge is removed from the pan.

It is illegal to:

- hunt with a crossbow or compound bow during the Mountaineer Heritage Season.
- hunt bears with the use of dogs during the Mountaineer Heritage Season. See page 7 for exception when tracking a mortally wounded deer or bear.

See pages 5, 12 and 26-27 for additional prohibitions on deer hunting.

See page 35 for additional prohibitions on bear hunting.

Hunters harvesting a bear during the Mountaineer Heritage Season are required to submit a first premolar tooth. See page 37.

Bear

One black bear may be taken with a percussion side lock rifle or pistol, flintlock rifle or pistol, long bow or recurve bow during the Mountaineer Heritage Season. The bag limit of one bear will not count towards the hunter's annual Bear Season bag limit.

To hunt black bear, hunters must possess one of the following valid license combinations: resident license (Classes X+DS, Classes XJ+DS, Classes AHJ+DS, Class XS, Classes AB-L+DS, Classes A-L+DS, Classes A+CS+DS+BG or Classes AH+CS+DS+BG); or a free license (Military, Disabled Veteran, former POW, Senior Citizen or Class DT); or nonresident license (Classes EE+DS+CS/LE or Class DT). Underage residents and resident landowners (see page 10) hunting on their own land may hunt bear during the Mountaineer Heritage Season without a license. Class DT license holders must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or, with written consent of the parent or guardian, any other competent licensed adult 21 years of age or older.

Field Tagging, Checking and Transporting

See page 13 for the field tagging, checking and transporting of deer.

See page 36 for the field tagging, checking and transporting of bear.

CWD Containment Area

See page 13 for special regulations regarding deer carcass transport and baiting and feeding of wildlife within the West Virginia CWD Containment Area.

Special Seasons and Restrictions

Older-aged Deer Management Areas

All antlered deer taken on Beech Fork Lake, Bluestone Lake, Burnsville Lake, Little Kanawha River and McClintic WMAs, and Coopers Rock and Calvin Price State Forests must have a minimum outside antler spread of 14 inches (ear tip to ear tip). The annual antlered deer bag limit is one deer for all deer seasons combined. It is illegal to bait or feed wildlife on public land at any time (see page 11).

Blaze Orange Requirement

Persons hunting during the Mountaineer Heritage Season shall wear a blaze orange outer garment of at least 400 square inches, with the exception of Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming counties. This does not apply to waterfowl hunters and persons engaged in farming activities on their own land.

REMINDER: You must have a 2021 hunting license to hunt during the Mountaineer Heritage Season in 2021. To purchase your license, go to a local license agent, area DNR office or www.wvhunt.com.