

Dove Draw Information Deer Creek Fish & Wildlife Area

This page includes information and instructions for those interested in or selected to participate in an Indiana Dove Hunt Draw. It is important to note that areas participating in reserved hunts are managed by various agencies and may have unique restrictions that each hunter must follow. Please read each area's information packet carefully before pursuing a hunt.

Restrictions:

- You must obtain a valid small game hunting license and a game bird habitat stamp prior to applying.
- Non-toxic shot is required at Deer Creek FWA for all dove hunting.
- Any shotgun used must not be capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler that cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.
- All dove hunters are limited to a maximum of 50 shells per day.
- All trash should be removed from the field after the hunt. Spent hulls are considered trash.
- Do not shoot up, down, or behind the shooting strips. Only shoot in front over the mowed field.
- Dove hunting during draw days is from the managed dove fields only.
- Each hunter is only allowed to hunt from their drawn flag.
- Parking is in designated parking areas only.
- An HIP number is required to hunt doves. Hunters must register [online](#) or by calling 260-323-5378. There is no cost to register.

Bag Limit:

- The daily bag limit is 15 mourning doves. The possession limit is 45 mourning doves.

Hunting Hours:

- Hunting hours are from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. ET the first three (3) days of season.

Hunt Information:

The first three days of the dove season at Deer Creek FWA are by draw only. When applying to the 2025 Deer Creek FWA dove hunt, you may choose from three hunt periods:

- Monday, Sept. 1, 2025

- Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025
- Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2025

To claim your reservation, you must check in at the property office before 6:30 a.m. ET (5:30 a.m. CT) on the day of your hunt. If you do not claim your reservation by the time indicated above, your spot will be given to another hunter or forfeited entirely. At 6:30 a.m. ET, hunters who have been awarded a reservation may pick their preferred field in order of their given draw number. Each managed dove field at Deer Creek FWA will be marked with evenly spaced flags. Flags in each field are on a first-come, first-served basis and spaced approximately 35 - 40 yards apart. You may bring one (1) hunting partner with you during your hunt. You and your hunting partner will draw individual hunting stakes and sit at separate flags. If there are any unclaimed hunting spots, a no-show or standby draw will be conducted at 7 a.m. ET to give away any remaining spots.

You must carry with you and return a one-day hunter access permit card that you will receive upon check-in at the office. Please fill out this permit card after your hunt to indicate the number of doves you harvested and any other additional information. Permit cards can be returned at the property office or any of the drop boxes locations listed on the Deer Creek FWA map.

Hunters must stop hunting by 1 p.m. ET and be out of the field by 2 p.m. ET on Sept. 1-3.

Area Information:

Possession of Deer Creek FWA began in 2010 with the transfer of 1,962 acres from Putnamville Correctional Facility. After 2010, several more parcels were added to Deer Creek, bringing the current total to 2,175 acres.

The property consists of rolling interspersed agriculture land and mature oak-hickory woods. Deer Creek winds through the south portion of the property, with a low-head dam, iron bridge, and a concrete creek crossing. A smaller, unnamed creek crosses the north portion of the property.

The property has several managed dove fields available to hunters during the first three days of the season. Most of the fields can be accessed by a brief walk from a parking lot. We always attempt to leave standing cover near each flag for hunter concealment. The dove fields will differ in size and quality due to many factors that may affect the outcome of the planting. Accurate field maps will be posted to the property webpage when we can determine the success of each field. Maps can be found around one month before the season opens here: [DNR: Fish & Wildlife: Deer Creek Fish & Wildlife Area](#).

The first three days of dove season are very popular at Deer Creek FWA. We ask that each hunter do their part to keep litter contained and showcase ethical hunting to help preserve our natural resources for generations to come.

Contact:

If you have further questions, please contact the Deer Creek FWA property office at (765) 653-0453 or DeerCreekFWA@dnr.IN.gov.

DEER CREEK FISH & WILDLIFE AREA

2001 W. County Rd. 600 S. | Greencastle, IN 46135 | 765-653-0453
2,175 Acres | Established 2010

DNR
Indiana Department
of Natural Resources

© 08/2024

