MUSCATATUCK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
2013 SPECIAL HUNT INFORMATION

Muzzleloader hunts will be similar to 2012. Archery hunting is open on Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge starting Oct. 20, while drawn muzzleloader hunters will hunt their drawn date from Dec. 7 – Dec. 22. Every hunter must read, sign, & carry the Muscatatuck hunting leaflet, in addition to their valid hunting license and identification (ex: driver’s license). All deer hunters are required to pick up a hunter harvest report card and report their harvest at one of the deer registration boxes near the Refuge entrance gate, Hwy. 31, or County Road 900 West. Archery season will be open to the public beginning Oct. 20 through the remainder of archery season, excluding the state muzzleloader season (Dec. 7-22). You may **not** use a military/refuge license during the open archery hunts that occur during this time. All archery hunters at Muscatatuck must wear hunter orange.

The information on the Division of Fish and Wildlife’s website will indicate your hunt date and the equipment type for which you were selected. You have the option of hunting with or without a partner on the Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge.

You can participate in multiple hunts if chosen as a partner in addition to being selected in the drawing. However, on any given hunt day, you can not be both a partner and a selected hunter or be a partner with more than one selected hunter. There is no limit on how many times you can participate as a partner. By hunting on multiple days with multiple partners, a partner can take one deer per license, but you may not exceed the daily bag limit on Muscatatuck of 2 deer per day, only one of which may be an antlered buck. **You may not gain access and hunt as the partner of a drawn hunter unless the drawn hunter is also present and hunting while you are hunting.** Both you AND your partner MUST hunt with the equipment for which you were drawn (gun means muzzleloader for Muscatatuck!). If you were drawn for a muzzleloader hunt, you cannot use archery equipment or an archery license on that muzzleloader hunt.

If you were drawn for or are a partner for a muzzleloader hunt, you have the option of purchasing a military/refuge license for each day you hunt. You may use a muzzleloader license, a deer license bundle, or a military/refuge license to take one deer of either sex on the special hunt area (two deer per day may be taken, but only one may be an antlered buck). Hunters who choose not to purchase a military/refuge license (muzzleloader or archery) must use their regular muzzleloader, deer license bundle or bonus antlerless license. **Hunters must observe season, equipment, and sex restrictions associated with each deer license.** Military/refuge licenses are available on line and from any license agent who sells deer licenses. The use of a military/refuge license allows you to harvest an either sex deer on the refuge area and still use your other license(s) to hunt elsewhere in the state.

**NOTE:** One Bonus antlerless license may be used on Muscatatuck during the refuge archery season and one during the refuge muzzleloader season. Firearms must be unloaded when being transported on refuge property.
Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge Deer Hunting Regulations- 2013

State hunting regulations apply to Muscatatuck subject to the following special conditions:

All hunters must carry a signed Muscatatuck hunting leaflet & successful deer hunters are REQUIRED to report their harvest at the deer registration box located near Refuge entrance gates.

The refuge is open one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. Please check local listings for sunrise and sunset times. State legal shooting hours apply.

Hunting is allowed in designated areas only. Hunter parking is prohibited in “No Hunting Zones.”

Firearms must be unloaded during transport. Center-fire rifles, shotguns and all pistols may not be used for deer hunting at Muscatatuck (special rules in effect during the youth hunt). Equipment may not be carried in “No Hunting Zones.” The discharge of firearms is prohibited within 100 yards of any building.

The Refuge will be open for archery season for deer hunting from Oct. 20 – Dec. 6 and from Dec. 23 – Jan 5. Archery hunting during this period is open to the public, but hunters must have a regular archery license, crossbow license, or deer license bundle (military/refuge licenses will not be allowed during this time while archery hunting). Statewide regulations and restrictions will apply during this time. Hunters must sign in and report their harvest at a hunter registration box regardless of hunt date. Deer hunting is allowed by special permit only during the muzzleloader season (Dec. 7 – Dec. 22).

A limit of two deer per day may be taken from the Refuge, only one of which may be an antlered deer. One license is required for each deer harvested. One bonus antlerless deer permit may be used during the refuge archery season and one during the refuge muzzleloader season.

Hunters may retrieve deer from non-hunting areas of the Refuge if: (1) the hunter reports the location to Refuge staff and (2) the hunter enters the area without equipment.

All hunters must wear blaze orange except for spring turkey hunters. This includes hunters with early archery season permits.

Portable tree stands may be used during Refuge deer seasons. Stands may be left overnight and must be tagged with the hunter’s name, address, and phone number. Tree spikes are prohibited.

Using lights to locate animals on the Refuge is prohibited.

You may not use a military/refuge license during the open archery hunts that occurs between Oct. 20—Dec. 6 and Dec. 23 – Jan. 5, 2014.

If you have any questions, you may e-mail Muscatatuck@fws.gov or call the refuge at (812) 522-4352 – this is not toll free.
Hunters may retrieve deer from non-hunting areas of the refuge if: (1) the hunter reports the location to refuge staff; (2) the hunter enters the area without weapons.

Portable tree stands may be used during refuge deer and turkey seasons. Stands may be left overnight and must be tagged with the hunter’s name, address, and phone number. Leaving stands does not reserve the area for future hunts. The use or possession of tree spikes are prohibited.

Using lights to locate animals on the refuge is prohibited.

Dog training is not allowed.

A special permit youth firearms deer hunt will be held September 28-29. See State Hunting and Trapping guide for details.

The use or possession of alcohol while hunting is prohibited.

The use or possession of plastic flagging or reflective tacks is prohibited.

Cutting trails or trimming trees is prohibited.

Commercial guiding or participating in a paid guided hunt is prohibited.

Taking or harassing any animal species except those authorized by refuge hunting regulations is prohibited.

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All hunters must obtain and fill out a harvest report card (available at registration boxes in the refuge), post it on their vehicle dashboard (visible through the window) while on the refuge, then deposit the card in the registration box at the end of their refuge hunt. Harvest must be indicated on card. Possession of more than one harvest report card per hunter is prohibited.

All hunters are required to sign the front of this leaflet in the space provided indicating they have read and understand these regulations, and carry it with them at all times while hunting.

State hunting regulations apply to Muscatatuck subject to the following special conditions:

Hunting is allowed in designated areas only.

All hunters except spring turkey hunters (including archery hunters) must wear orange meeting state regulations.

Refuge hours are one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.

Shotguns must be unloaded during transport in a vehicle.

Hunting weapons may not be carried in “No Hunting Zones.” Hunter parking is prohibited in No Hunting Zones.

The discharge of firearms is prohibited within 100 yards of any building or public road.

The only firearm allowed for rabbit, quail and squirrel hunting is a shotgun.

Only non-toxic shot may be used in shotguns.

Hunting dogs may only be used for hunting rabbit, quail and squirrel, and must be under hunter control at all times.

Spring turkey hunting is only allowed by special permit the first 7 days of the season and ends at 1 p.m. Turkey hunting is permitted in the turkey hunting area the remainder of the spring season and ends at 1 p.m.

A special youth turkey hunt will be held April 19-20. See State Hunting and Trapping Guide for details.

The refuge muzzleloader deer season, which runs from December 7-22, is by special permit only. See State Hunting and Trapping Guide for details.

Archery deer hunting is permitted from October 20-December 6 and from December 23-January 5. No special permit is needed, but State regulations apply.

One bonus antlerless deer permit may be used during the refuge archery season and one may be used during the refuge muzzleloader season. Two deer per day may be taken from the refuge, but only one may be an antlered buck.