# Kentucky's biggest hunting season starts this weekend

Special to the News-Graphic

Modern gun deer hunting season opens Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026, and runs through Sunday, Nov. 29. Deer hunters have been afield since September with the opening of archery and crossbow seasons, but these 16 days comprise Kentucky's biggest hunting season annually.

Boasting strong deer populations across the state, Kentucky offers many hunting opportunities for new and experienced hunters to provide a sustainable source of lean protein for the table or for food banks. Hunters reported harvesting more than 145,000 deer last year, down slightly from nearly 150,000 in 2024-2025, with modern gun season accounting for the most deer harvested annually.

"The opening weekend of modern firearms deer season is one of the most anticipated times of the year for many hunters across Kentucky," said Ben Robinson, director of the Wildlife Division for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "The 2026 calendar has the season opening later than normal but we still anticipate a strong harvest statewide."

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife offers a wealth of resources to assist new and experienced hunters alike. Learn about public lands available for hunting, season dates, licenses needed and more by going online to fw.ky.gov and searching under the keywords, "Deer Hunting." View the 2026-2027 Fall Hunting and Trapping Guide online and download or print the guide as a resource to use in the field.

**Following are tips for making the most of a trip afield:**

## LICENSES AND PERMITS

Hunting licenses and permits may be purchased online at Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's website (fw.ky.gov) and at authorized license agents throughout the state. Licenses are available for residents and non-residents, youth and senior/disabled.

A statewide or youth deer permit is also required for all license types. For season dates, detailed license requirements and other hunting regulations, visit the Deer Hunting section of the department's website or view and download the 2026-2027 Fall Hunting and Trapping Guide.

## HARVEST LIMITS

Kentucky is divided into four deer zones, based predominantly on the deer density of the counties in each region. Each zone has different method of take restrictions and harvest limits for antlerless deer, however a hunter may take only one buck a year in the state, regardless of zone.

Consult the hunting guide for more information on the zone being hunted.

## HARVEST MORE DOES

Hunters are encouraged to harvest more does this season, particularly in Zone 1 and 2 counties, to help improve overall herd health. A hunter may harvest an unlimited number of antlerless deer in Zone 1 using the statewide permit and additional deer permits. A hunter may harvest up to four antlerless deer in Zone 2.

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> **Ben Robinson**
> KDFWR Director of Wildlife Division

Adequate doe harvests are critical for maintaining balanced, healthy deer populations. A balanced buck-to-doe ratio means a more intense rut chasing bucks that are more likely to reach their potential. Fawns are born in a more concentrated window improving recruitment.

A balanced deer population helps reduce overbrowsing, agricultural issues, and keeps roadways safer.

## CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

Special restrictions apply to deer harvested in the CWD Surveillance Zone. Ballard, Breckinridge, Calloway, Carlisle, Casey, Fulton, Graves, Hardin, Henderson, Hickman, Laurel, Lincoln, Marshall, McCracken, McCreary, Meade, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Union, Wayne, Webster and Whitley counties are under carcass transportation and baiting restrictions in an effort to monitor and contain CWD. Hunters in Henderson, McCreary, Pulaski and Wayne counties also must take their harvested deer to a staffed check station or use a CWD Sample Drop-Off Site the first three days of modern gun season, Nov. 14-16.

Deer hunters outside the CWD Surveillance Zone can aid Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's monitoring efforts by donating the heads of legally harvested and telechecked deer for free testing and aging through the voluntary CWD Sample Drop-Off Sites or CWD Sample Mail-In Kits.

## HARVEST REPORTING

Immediately upon recovery of a harvested deer, a hunter must fill out a harvest log consisting of game species, sex, county and date on the back of the hunting license or elsewhere and kept in their possession.

Before midnight, each harvest must be reported to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, even if the hunter is license exempt. Hunters can report their harvest by calling the department's telecheck number at 1-800-245-4263, or by using the online My Profile portal at fw.ky.gov.

## HUNTER EDUCATION

Valid proof of hunter education certification is required for hunters born in 1975 or later. For new hunters without hunter education certification, a free one-year exemption permit is available. This permit allows a person to hunt as long as they are accompanied in the field by an adult who is hunter education-certified or born before 1975. Learn more on the department's Hunter Education webpage.

## KENTUCKY DEER & ELK APP

Introduced to Kentucky's deer and elk hunters last year, the Kentucky Deer & Elk App allows users to see public land property boundaries, locate local processors and taxidermists, keep a digital copy of their license and get more information about the county they are hunting.

This app is available for free download from the Apple App and Google Play stores.

## SHOOT FOR SAMPLES

Until Jan. 18, 2027, every hunter who submits samples for CWD testing through a CWD Sample Drop-off Site or through a CWD Sample Mail-in Kit will be entered into the Shoot for Samples Giveaway. Hunters can enter the giveaway as many times as the bag limits allow.

Prizes range from gift cards to gear thanks to the following sponsors – Copperhead Guns and Range, FirstChoice Firearms, and the Kentucky Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers.

## VENISON DONATION SERVICES

Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry and Boone Brothers are excellent options for hunters who want to contribute to conservation and harvest additional does, but don't need the meat themselves.

Both organizations process and distribute venison to people in need in the communities where the deer were harvested.

## FIGHT POACHING

Suspected illegal activity may be anonymously reported to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement by using the "KFWLaw" smartphone app available for free download from the Apple App and Google Play stores. Tips can also be submitted by texting the keyword "KFWLaw" along with a message to 847411 (tip 411) or by calling 800-25-ALERT.

More information on any of these subjects may be found by visiting the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife website (fw.ky.gov). For questions, contact the department's Information Center at 800-858-1549, or at info.center@ky.gov, weekdays 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (ET), except holidays.

# Public Notice

## County estate and guardian settlements

NOTICE TO CREDITOR

Charles J Finley Jr of 178 Stephen Drive, Georgetown, Ky 40324, and Christoper D Finley of 320 Double Culvert Road, Georgetown, Ky 40324 were appointed Co-Executors of the estate of Charles Joseph Finley on November 03, 2026. The attorney of record is Alexander C Cantrill of 142 East Main Street, Georgetown, Ky 40324. All claims are to be filed by May 03, 2027, or forever barred.

Cara Watkins Crowley of 102 Laurel Falls Drive, Georgetown, Ky 40324 and Ryan Art of 2080 Williamsburg Road, Lexington, Ky 40504 were appointed Co-Administrators of the estate of Carla Susan Armstrong on November 04, 2026. The attorneys of record are Melissa Gayheard of 1072 Wellington Way, Lexington, Ky 40513 and William Nicholas Wallingford of 1050 Monarch Street, Lexington, Ky 40513. All claims are to be filed by May 04, 2027, or forever barred.

Bonita Marie Rice of 3860 Long Lick Pike, Stamping Ground, Ky 40379 was appointed Executor of the estate of Patricia Ann Wasson on November 05, 2026. The attorney of record is Neil E Duncliffe of 107 North Hamilton Street, Georgetown, Ky 40324. All claims are to be filed by May 05, 2027, or forever barred.

James Judy of 114 Bradbury Lane, Georgetown, Ky 40324 was appointed Administrator of the estate of Mariko Elizabeth Jumper on November 05, 2026. All claims are to be filed by May 05, 2027, or forever barred.

Sarah Murphy of 3809 Owenton Road, Stamping Ground, Ky 40379 was appointed Guardian on November 09, 2026, in Re Alma Lea Murphy. The attorney of record is Richard Wayne Smith of 126 East Main Street, Suite 8, Georgetown, Ky 40324. All claims are to be filed by May 09, 2027, or forever barred.

Merri Brooke Kelley of 2864 Gateway Park Lane, Lexington, Ky 40511 was appointed Executor of the estate of Patricia Marie Marshall on November 09, 2026. The attorney of record is Derek D Humfleet of PO Box 54654, Lexington, Ky 40555. All claims are to be filed by May 09, 2027, or forever barred.

**CITY OF GEORGETOWN**

## Public hearing to obtain comments regarding proposed use of funds

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF GEORGETOWN

The City of Georgetown will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 23, 2026, at 5:30 PM for the purpose of obtaining written or oral comments regarding the proposed use of the Municipal Aid Program and Local Government Economic Assistance Funds for the current fiscal year. The meeting will be held at Georgetown City Hall 100 North Court Street, Georgetown, KY 40324.

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| Municipal Aid Fund | | |
| MAP Funds currently available | $ | 549,448.41 |
| Projected Road Expenses | $ | 65,186.88 |
| Balance Remaining in MAP fund | $ | 484,261.53 |
| | | |
| Local Government Economic Assistance Fund | | |
| LGEA Funds currently available | $ | 159,805.49 |
| Projected Expenses | $ | 79,000.00 |
| Balance Remaining in LGEA fund | $ | 80,805.49 |
| | | |
| Proposed Uses | | |
| MAP Funds: Main Avenue – Street Milling and Paving | $ | 65,186.88 |
| LGEA Funds: Highland Court and Seminole Trail – Speed Tables | $ | 79,000.00 |

Any person who cannot attend the public meeting but wishes to submit comments should email or call the City Clerk at tracie.hoffman@georgetownky.gov / 502-863-9800 ext. 1110.

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GEORGETOWN**

## *Nov. 19 meeting canceled*

The Housing Authority of Georgetown board meeting scheduled for November 19, 2026, has been canceled. If you have any question or concerns, please call the main office at 502-863-3773.

Who cares about public notices?

YOU SHOULD

You have the right to know what's happening in your community.

Public notices – information local governments are obligated to provide citizens – are required to be published in local newspapers to provide a public record that's accessible to everyone.

**Public notices keep you informed about your government.**
But, in some states legislators are trying to keep public notices from appearing in local newspapers. This severely impacts government transparency and, in turn, limits the public's right to hold them accountable for their actions.

Let your state legislators know that you value being able to access notices in your newspaper and that they are worth the investment.

Protect public notices in newspapers and protect your right to know.

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newspapers.org/public-notices

America's Newspapers

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You can drop them off, e-mail us at news@news-graphic.com, or mail them to our office.

**Deadline is Friday by 4:00 p.m. for the following week's Friday publication.**

*(Example: If submitted by 4:00 on Friday, May 1, announcement will run in Friday, May 8, paper.)*

1481 Cherry Blossom Way | P.O. Box 2168 | 502-863-1111