

2018 Deer License and Privilege Information

License	Resident	Non-Resident
Conservation Patron	\$165	\$600
Junior Conservation Patron (Valid only for youth ages 12–17)	\$75	\$77
Purple Heart Conservation Patron	\$10	\$161
Sports	\$60	\$275
Junior Sports (Valid only for youth ages 12–17)	\$35	\$36
Sports and Junior Sports privileges include: general fishing, small game and gun deer.		
Gun Deer	\$24	\$160
Youth Mentored Only (Valid only for youth age 11 and under. Gun Deer, Archer or Crossbow youth mentored only)	\$7	\$7
Junior Gun Deer (Valid only for youth ages 12–17)	\$20	\$36 (Purchase Jr. Sports license)
Archer	\$24	\$160
Junior Archer (Valid only for youth ages 12–17)	\$20	\$77 (Purchase Jr. Conservation Patron license)
Crossbow	\$24	\$160
Junior Crossbow (Valid only for youth ages 12–17)	\$20	\$77 (Purchase Jr. Conservation Patron license)
Archer or Crossbow Upgrade*	\$3	\$3
First-time Buyer Archer or Firearm	\$5	\$79.75
Farmland (Zone 2) Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization (DMU- and land type-specific)	<i>Included with each deer license in counties with Farmland (Zone 2) harvest authorizations available.</i>	
Metro Sub-unit Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization (DMU-, Metro sub-unit- and land type-specific)	<i>Included with each deer license in counties with metro sub-unit harvest authorizations available</i>	
Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization (Zone-, DMU-, sub-unit- (if applicable) and land type-specific)	\$12	\$20
Mentored Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization (11 years old and younger) (Zone-, DMU- and land type-specific)	\$5	\$5

*Purchase of archer or crossbow upgrade authorizes the use of both bow and crossbow; however, the upgrade will not include additional harvest authorizations.

Rates For Qualifying Hunters

Qualifying resident and non-resident hunters can purchase certain hunting licenses and permits at reduced rates. Visit dnr.wi.gov or contact the DNR call center (888-936-7463) for more information.

Licensing Requirements

Licenses, stamps, and permit applications are available online at GoWild.WI.gov and at license agents. Residents and nonresidents may purchase their licenses, submit their permit applications, check their preference points, and print copies of licenses and harvest authorizations at home from their online Go Wild account 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To find a sales location, visit dnr.wi.gov and search “[license sales](#).”

General License Information and Authorized Weapon Use

- **Gun Deer License:** Required to hunt deer with a gun (including a muzzleloader), and also allows hunting with a bow or crossbow, but only during a firearm deer season.
- **Archer License:** Allows hunting for deer with a bow only during the archery deer season and for small game during a small game season.
- **Crossbow License:** Allows hunting for deer with a crossbow only during the crossbow deer season and for small game during a small game season.

Note: The purchase of a \$3 upgrade is required with either an archer or crossbow license in order to use both weapon types.

Form of Proof and Reprints

The following forms of proof of a deer hunting license and deer harvest authorizations are accepted: a paper copy, an authenticated Wisconsin driver’s license, a DNR-issued Go Wild Conservation Card or a digital PDF file issued by the department and displayed on an electronic device. Paper copies of licenses and harvest authorizations may be obtained at no charge if printed at home or obtained at DNR service centers. There is a \$2 convenience fee for reprints obtained at license agents.

It is illegal to:

- use or carry another hunter’s license or harvest authorizations while engaged in hunting.
- obtain a hunting license without completing hunter education or participating in the hunting mentorship program. Anyone born on or after January 1, 1973 who has not completed hunter education or youth age 11 and younger must hunt with a mentor. See page 23 for details.

Resident Licenses

Wisconsin residency

- A person must have maintained a permanent residence in Wisconsin for 30 consecutive days immediately before purchasing a license. Domiciliary intent is required. Evidence of domiciliary intent includes where the person votes, pays personal state income taxes or obtains a driver’s license. Mere presence in the state for a 30-day period and/or ownership of property is not sufficient to establish residency.

Note: non-residents under 18 who have a parent that is a Wisconsin resident may purchase licenses at resident prices.

Non-resident students attending school in Wisconsin

- Full-time non-resident students in residence at **any** public or private Wisconsin college, technical college or university offering an associate’s or bachelor’s degree or foreign citizens residing in the state and attending a Wisconsin high school or a university agricultural short course may purchase non-resident student gun deer, archer, crossbow, small game, fishing and sports licenses at resident prices.

Note: student licenses may only be purchased in person (not online).

Armed Forces Members

People who have successfully completed basic training in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard are exempt from hunter education requirements. Armed Forces privileges may only be purchased in person (not online).

Armed Forces members are entitled to the following:

- a qualified U.S. Armed Forces member may use **one Farmland (Zone 2) Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization in units outside of the Farmland Zones to take an antlerless deer**, including buck-only units, but only under the authority of a **gun deer license** and only during a **season open to hunting deer with firearms**; authorization is land type-specific (public-access or private);
- a qualified U.S. Armed Forces member may use their Gun Buck Deer Harvest Authorization during any **firearm deer season**, including antlerless-only firearm deer seasons, to take a buck that has been harvested with any legal weapon for that firearm season;

A qualified U.S. Armed Forces member is defined as a person who meets all of the following:

- is a Wisconsin resident stationed outside of Wisconsin, or was a resident when they entered active service;
- is in active service with the U.S. Armed Forces or forces incorporated in the U.S. Armed Forces; and
- is on furlough or leave.

Non-residents meeting any of the following criteria may purchase any hunting, trapping or fishing license at the resident price if they are:

- an active duty U.S. Armed Forces member or member of forces incorporated in the U.S. Armed Forces who is stationed in Wisconsin or was a resident when that person entered active service;
- a member of a reserve unit located in Wisconsin or a member of a unit located outside of Wisconsin who was a Wisconsin resident when that person entered active service; or
- a member of the Wisconsin National Guard.

Note: Armed Forces members are still required to purchase a valid deer hunting license.

Wisconsin residents in active service with the U.S. Armed Forces stationed outside Wisconsin on furlough or leave may also purchase one Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization for any one unit with a quota, even if the unit is sold out.

Deer Harvest Authorizations

Hunters are no longer required to validate paper carcass tags or attach them to harvested deer. Hunters are also no longer required to keep the tag with the meat. However, hunters must carry one of the forms of proof of a deer harvest authorization listed on page 13. Keep in mind that even with electronic forms of proof of deer harvest authorizations available, hunters will need the unique authorization number to begin the harvest registration process.

Gun Buck Deer Harvest Authorization

Valid in any DMU statewide for harvesting one buck deer with a firearm, muzzleloader, bow or crossbow during any firearm deer season except it is not valid in any DMU where an antlerless-only hunt is taking place. See pages 14–16 for military and disabled hunter exceptions.

Bow Buck Deer Harvest Authorization

Valid in any DMU statewide for harvesting one buck deer with an archer or crossbow license during an open archery or crossbow season, except it is not valid in any DMU where an antlerless-only hunt is taking place. During the Holiday Hunt, this harvest authorization is valid for taking a buck only in DMUs not offering the Holiday Hunt. This harvest authorization is weapon-specific and may not be filled with a deer harvested with a firearm.

Junior Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization (youth under age 18)

Hunters ages 17 and younger will be issued a statewide Junior Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization with each license. This authorization is valid for taking one antlerless deer in any DMU statewide on the land type specified on the authorization. It may be used during any open deer season with the appropriate gun, archer or crossbow license and weapon authorized by that license. This authorization may be filled **ONLY** by the authorization holder and may not be filled by another hunter.

Obtaining and Using Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorizations

Obtaining Antlerless Harvest Authorizations

1. Farmland (Zone 2) Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorizations are included with each deer hunting license; hunter selects DMU(s) in which they are available.
2. Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorizations can be purchased where available.

Harvest authorizations can be obtained through the hunter's Go Wild account at home or at a license agent. Reprints from a license agent incur a \$2 processing fee.

Hunters can use Farmland (Zone 2) or Bonus Antlerless Harvest Authorizations in metro sub-units within the DMU of choice.

Antlerless Harvest Authorizations Designated for Use on Private and Public Land

Antlerless harvest authorizations designated for use on private land must be used on any land defined as private land on page 7 that is located within the DMU specified on the authorization. Landowner permission is required to hunt on private land. Deer harvest authorizations designated for use on public land are valid for use on any lands defined as public-access land on page 7 and which are located within the DMU specified on the authorization.

Farmland (Zone 2) Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization

A Farmland (Zone 2) Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization is available with the purchase of each deer hunting license in DMUs that offer them. At the time of purchase, the buyer will specify the DMU within the Farmland Management Zone (Zone 2) and land type (private or public-access land) they plan to hunt. Some DMUs will offer more than one Farmland (Zone 2) Antlerless Deer Harvest Authorization with the purchase of a deer hunting license; see map below. Within the same DMU, hunters may designate each harvest authorization for a different land type. This harvest authorization is not weapon- or season-specific, but the hunter must possess the correct license for the method of harvest and season.

Farmland (Zone 2) Antlerless Harvest Authorization Availability

