

# CWD: Info to Know for the 2018–2019 Deer Season



For more information and an interactive map, visit [mdc.mo.gov/cwd](http://mdc.mo.gov/cwd)

Missouri Department of Conservation is testing deer for **chronic wasting disease (CWD)** during the 2018–2019 deer season in an effort to limit the spread of the deadly disease in Missouri.

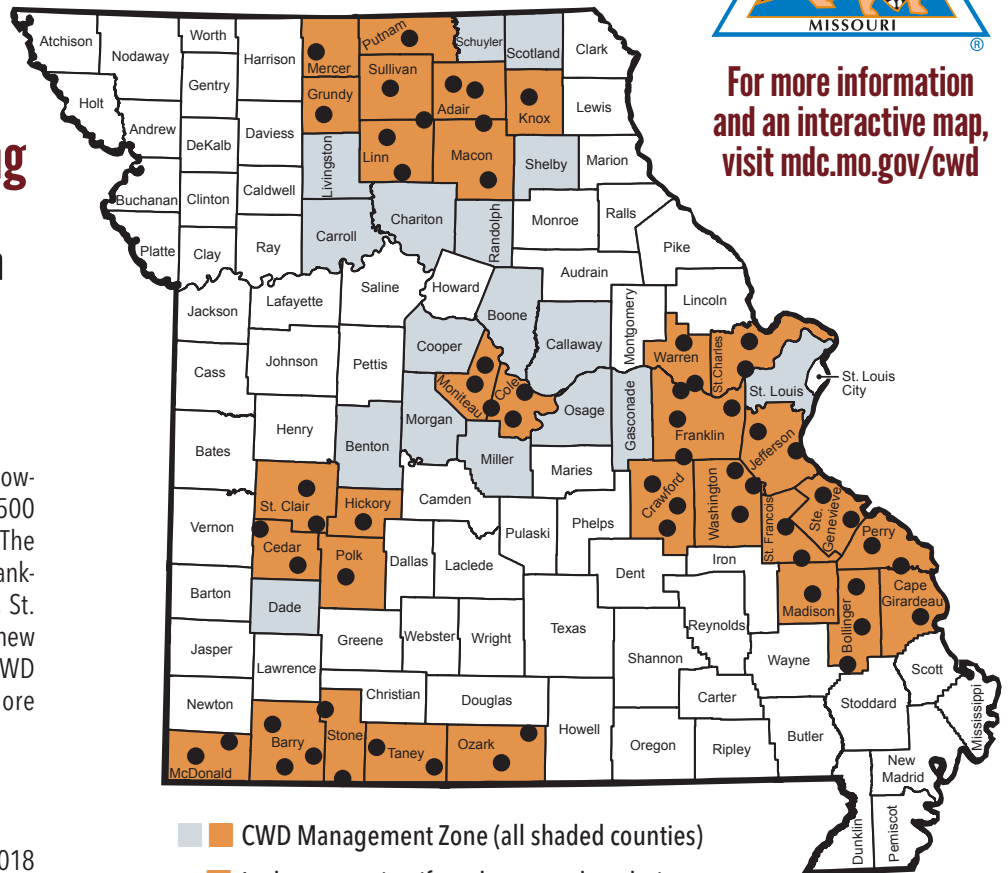
MDC confirmed 33 new cases of CWD following the sampling and testing of nearly 24,500 free-ranging Missouri deer last season. The new cases were found in Adair, Cedar, Franklin, Jefferson, Linn, Macon, Perry, Polk, St. Clair, and Ste. Genevieve counties. These new cases bring the total positive cases of CWD among free-ranging deer to 75. For more information, visit [mdc.mo.gov/cwd](http://mdc.mo.gov/cwd).

## New Counties Added to CWD Management Zone

Based on the findings from the 2017–2018 season, MDC has added seven new counties to its CWD Management Zone: **Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Grundy, Madison, McDonald, Mercer, and Perry.**

These seven new counties join 41 existing counties in MDC's CWD Management Zone. The zone consists of counties in or near where cases of the disease have been found. Mercer County was added because of the proximity of a CWD-positive deer found in southern Iowa. McDonald County was added because of CWD detection in northwest Arkansas.

The 48 counties are: Adair, Barry, Benton, Bollinger, Boone, Callaway, Cape Girardeau, Carroll, Cedar, Chariton, Cole, Cooper, Crawford, Dade, Franklin, Gasconade, Grundy, Hickory, Jefferson, Knox, Linn, Livingston, Macon, Madison, McDonald, Mercer, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan, Osage, Ozark, Perry, Polk, Putnam, Randolph, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby, St. Charles, St. Clair, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, St. Louis, Stone, Sullivan, Taney, Warren, and Washington.



- CWD Management Zone (all shaded counties)
- In these counties, if you harvest a deer during Nov. 10–11, 2018, you must take it (or the head with at least 6 inches of neck attached) on the day of harvest to a designated CWD sampling station.
- Sampling station location

MDC has increased the availability of antlerless permits and expanded the firearms antlerless portion in the seven new counties to help stabilize deer numbers in these counties and limit the spread of the disease. MDC has also removed the antler-point restriction for Grundy and Mercer counties, which are now included in the zone.

## Help Limit the Spread

To help reduce the risks of spreading CWD, MDC encourages hunters to dispose of carcass parts by leaving or burying them on the immediate area where the deer was harvested and field dressed, or by bagging carcass parts and placing them in trash containers destined for a landfill.

## New Counties Added to Feeding Ban Restricted Area

The seven counties added to the CWD Management Zone are also included in MDC's ban on feeding deer and providing mineral supplements, effective July 1. Supplemental feed and minerals can increase deer-to-deer contact, which can spread CWD.

According to the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*, the placement of grain, salt products, minerals, and other consumable natural and manufactured products used to attract deer is prohibited year-round within counties in the CWD Management Zone. Exceptions include feed placed within 100 feet of any residence or occupied building, feed placed in such a manner to reasonably exclude access by deer, and feed and minerals present solely as a result of normal agricultural or forest management, or crop and wildlife food production practices.

**The feeding ban does not apply to wildlife food plots or other agricultural practices.**

## Mandatory CWD Sampling November 10 and 11

MDC will require hunters who harvest deer in 31 counties of the CWD Management Zone during opening weekend of firearms deer season, Nov. 10 and 11, to present their deer — or the head with at least 6 inches of neck attached — at one of 61 CWD sampling stations throughout the counties.

The 31 counties include those where CWD has previously been detected, those within approximately 5 miles of a positive, select counties along the Missouri-Arkansas border near where cases of CWD have been found in Arkansas, and the seven counties added to the CWD Management Zone.

The 31 counties for mandatory sampling are: **Adair, Barry, Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Cedar, Cole, Crawford, Franklin, Grundy, Hickory, Jefferson, Knox, Linn, Macon, Madison, McDonald, Mercer, Moniteau, Ozark, Perry, Polk, Putnam, St. Charles, St. Clair, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Stone, Sullivan, Taney, Warren, and Washington.**



MDC asks hunters to field dress and Telecheck their deer before taking them to a CWD sampling station.

Hunters can get test results for their CWD-sampled deer about four weeks after sampling online at [mdc.mo.gov/CWDTestResults](http://mdc.mo.gov/CWDTestResults).

For more information, visit [mdc.mo.gov/cwd](http://mdc.mo.gov/cwd) and look for *Mandatory Sampling*. Information is also available in the *2018 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information* booklet, available where permits are sold.

## Voluntary CWD Sampling All Season

MDC is offering voluntary CWD sampling of deer harvested anywhere in the state during the entire deer season — Sept. 15 through Jan. 15, 2019. For more information on MDC's voluntary sampling efforts, including locations, visit [mdc.mo.gov/cwd](http://mdc.mo.gov/cwd), *Voluntary Sampling*.

MDC asks hunters to field dress and Telecheck their deer before taking them to a CWD sampling station.

Hunters can get test results for their CWD-sampled deer about four weeks after sampling online at [mdc.mo.gov/CWDTestResults](http://mdc.mo.gov/CWDTestResults).

## Share the Harvest

Deer donated to Share the Harvest must be tested for CWD if harvested from any of the 11 counties where CWD has been found. These deer can only be donated through approved processors in or near any of the 11 counties that are participating in the Share the Harvest CWD Testing Program. The 11 counties are: **Adair, Cedar, Cole, Franklin, Jefferson, Linn, Macon, Perry, Polk, St. Clair, and Ste. Genevieve.**

Hunters can have their deer sampled for CWD before donating the animals. They must present the CWD barcode number provided at the sampling location to the participating processor as proof of sampling. Hunters may also present their deer for donation to approved processors in or near any of the 11 counties and the processor will collect a tissue sample or the head for testing.

Deer harvested outside of the 11 CWD-positive counties do not need to be tested for CWD and may be donated to any Share the Harvest processor.

For a list of participating Share-the-Harvest processors, visit [mdc.mo.gov/share](http://mdc.mo.gov/share).

There have been no cases of CWD infecting people, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) strongly recommends having deer tested for CWD if harvested in an area known to have cases of the disease. The CDC also recommends not eating meat from animals that test positive for CWD.

## Additional Efforts

MDC will again contact landowners of 5 acres or more in areas very near to where multiple infected deer have been found to offer no-cost CWD Management Seals to further reduce deer numbers and help limit the spread of the disease.

MDC will also work with landowners on a voluntary basis to remove potentially infected deer in immediate areas where CWD has been found through postseason targeted culling.