



October 20, 2022

FIRST NAME LAST NAME  
ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE ZIP

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal deer and elk disease caused by an abnormal protein called a prion. There are concerns regarding long-term effects of CWD on deer and elk populations. Learning about presence and distribution of CWD through surveillance and implementing best management practices to reduce the spread of CWD is a priority.

### **CWD SURVEILLANCE**

Our agency is interested in collaborating with deer hunters to assist in collecting samples for CWD testing from designated hunting units. Other sampling strategies will include partnering with game processors and taxidermists. High priority surveillance areas (see below) adjacent to hunting units or other states with confirmed CWD have been identified where testing is desired to determine the presence of CWD in designated hunting units.

- West River Deer Hunting Units (24A, 24B, 30A, 30B)
- East River Deer Hunting Units (04A, 10A, 13A, 13L, 17A, 33A, 38A, 54A, 62A)
- Other Deer Hunting Areas: Cheyenne River, Standing Rock, Pine Ridge and Rosebud Tribal Lands



To make sample submissions as convenient as possible, numerous CWD collection stations will be available for hunters to provide samples during the regular firearm seasons. Information regarding CWD collection stations and other methods to submit samples can be found at <https://gfp.sd.gov/cwd-testing/>.

Hunters should remove the deer head at the neck and take it to a collection station. It is the responsibility of the hunter to remove the head. To submit your deer head for testing, please follow the instructions below and as posted at the designated collection stations. **At the collection station, there will be a box with supplies in it which includes a heavy paper tag with a space for your Name, License Number, Hunting Unit, County of Harvest, and phone number and a wire tie attached.** Please use a permanent marker or pen and **print** the requested information on this tag and attach the tag to one ear of the animal by cutting a small hole through the center of the ear and inserting one leg of the wire through the hole and twisting the two legs of the wire together. This process is very important as we will

need to know the hunter's Name and License Number in order to contact the hunter if the deer tests positive for CWD. At the collection station there will be barrels where heads can be placed. GFP staff will collect samples on a regular basis and send to the lab for CWD testing.

Any hunter that voluntarily submits a deer head may transport their animal without the head if they complete a **Transportation Permit.** Transportation Permits will be provided at collection sites. Please fill out the permit form, keep the White copy, and leave the Yellow duplicate copy in the metal box located at the collection site.

**Animals to be mounted** can be submitted for testing also. Animals that are to be mounted can be caped by a taxidermist and the antlers can be removed with a v-cut that will not destroy the tissue needed for CWD testing. After an animal is caped out, the head can be submitted at the drop-off locations. Be sure to attach a tag to the head for identification. Animals that are to be European mounted will need samples pulled before cleaning the skull. Antlers left on the skull will not be returned. If you have questions on this process, please call the Rapid City GFP Regional Office (605.394.2391).

## TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF CARCASSES

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission has revised regulations for the transportation and disposal of deer and elk carcasses from other states and from the county of harvest within South Dakota. **These regulations will be in effect for the 2022 hunting seasons.** For more information on these regulations, visit <https://gfp.sd.gov/cwd-regulations/>.

Research has shown that CWD infected carcasses may be an avenue for the spread of CWD. If whole animals are removed from known CWD endemic areas, **the boned-out carcass should be disposed of in a landfill.** Contact your waste management provider to determine if carcass remains are an acceptable item for your container. Throwing the carcass in a ditch or in the back of your property may have potential to spread the disease to other areas. A map of permitted landfills and other information related to CWD can be found at <https://gfp.sd.gov/chronic-wasting-disease/>.

## HEALTH RISKS

Health officials and the Centers for Disease Control have found no link between CWD and neurological diseases in humans, but recommend you do not eat meat from an animal that tests positive for CWD (<https://www.cdc.gov/prions/cwd/prevention.html>). To minimize their risk of exposure to CWD, hunters can implement best management practices listed in a “Frequently Asked Questions” document found at [https://gfp.sd.gov/userdocs/docs/cwd\\_faq's\\_071922.pdf](https://gfp.sd.gov/userdocs/docs/cwd_faq's_071922.pdf).

This surveillance program is not designed nor intended to provide hunters with meat quality assurance for harvested animals. If an animal tests positive for CWD, GFP will notify a hunter immediately by personal contact. Hunters who submit samples for testing that are diagnosed as not positive for CWD will be notified by mail or e-mail as soon as possible.

We wish you a great experience with your South Dakota deer hunt and appreciate your consideration in cooperating with this surveillance effort. If you have questions related to CWD or the surveillance, please contact:

Steve Griffin, Big Game Biologist, at 605.484.5493 or [steve.griffin@state.sd.us](mailto:steve.griffin@state.sd.us).

Locations of CWD Collection Stations arranged alphabetically by city

Location Name	Address or Description of Location	City	Latitude	Longitude	Dates Available
GFP District Office - Aberdeen	5850 East Hwy 12	Aberdeen	45.45809	-98.39474	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
Beresford DOT	1508 W Cedar St	Beresford	43.08400	-96.79350	Nov. 18 - Dec. 5
Cahoy's General Store	511 US HWY 18	Bonesteel	43.07195	-98.94689	Nov. 4 - Nov. 28
GFP District Office - Chamberlain	1550 East King Ave	Chamberlain	43.78188	-99.31219	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe GFP Office	24390 US Hwy 212	Eagle Butte	45.00768	-101.22219	Nov. 1 - Dec. 1
Glen Bosse Taxidermy-Elk Point	701 W Main St	Elk Point	42.69030	-96.69290	Nov. 18 - Dec. 5
GFP Regional Office - Ft. Pierre	20641 SD Highway 1806	Fort Pierre	44.40533	-100.39643	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
Dakota Farm and Ranch Supply (Ace)	30960 US Hwy 212	Gettysburg	45.01374	-99.96591	Nov. 18 - Dec. 5
Runnings (Gregory)	115 Park Ave	Gregory	43.22796	-99.43433	Nov. 4 - Nov. 28
Titan Machinery	NE Corner of Hwy 14 and Hwy 47	Highmore	44.52776	-99.43977	Nov. 18 - Dec. 5
GFP District Office - Huron	895 3rd Street SW	Huron	44.36366	-98.22983	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
LBST Wildlife (Lower Brule)	22695 Little Bend Rd	Lower Brule	44.11029	-99.59079	Nov. 5 - Dec. 31
GFP District Office - Mobridge	909 Lake Front Drive	Mobridge	45.52675	-100.42009	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
Abby's (Pickstown)	P.O. Box 157	Pickstown	43.06981	-98.53506	Nov. 4 - Dec. 6
Plankinton DOT	Old Hwy 16	Plankinton	43.71024	-98.48839	Nov. 18 - Dec. 5
Platte DOT	201 North Main Avenue	Platte	43.39339	-98.84427	Nov. 18 - Dec. 5
GFP Regional Office- Rapid City	4130 Adventure Trail	Rapid City	44.09003	-103.28484	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
GFP Regional Office - Sioux Falls	4500 S Oxbow Ave	Sioux Falls	43.50590	-96.76140	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
GFP Regional Office - Watertown	400 West Kemp	Watertown	44.90145	-97.12125	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
GFP District Office - Webster	603 E 8th Ave	Webster	45.33339	-97.51139	Sept. 1 - Jan. 1
4-H Grounds -SW corner	503 12th St-- at back of grounds	Wessington Springs	44.09028	-98.57722	Nov. 18 - Dec. 5