



# SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

523 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE | PIERRE, SD 57501

November 1, 2019

Deer Hunter,

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, taxidermists and collection of vehicle killed deer. 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 (02C, 11A, 11B, 15B, 20A, 31A, 49A, 49B, 53A, 60A, 65A, 67A)
- East River Deer Hunting Units (18A)
- Other Deer Hunting Areas: Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Standing Rock Tribal Lands, Pine Ridge Tribal Lands 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 season dates. 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 drop-off location. 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 and Hunting Unit, 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 because 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 drop-off location will be a

collection area with barrels where the heads can be placed. South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks will collect all heads on a regular basis. Samples will be collected and sent 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. If you have questions on this process, please call the Rapid City GFP Regional Office (605.394.2391).

### Locations of CWD Collection Stations Arranged Alphabetically by City

Location Name	Address or Description of Location	City	Latitude	Longitude
Belle Fourche-site provided by Croell Inc.	Junction of US Hwy 85 and US Hwy 212-old Shopko	Belle Fourche	44.68076	-103.85265
Bison DOT	17854 SD Hwy 20	Bison	45.5313	-102.46664
Keller Kountry Korner	43415 SD Hwy 20	Bradley	45.09328	-97.53235
Big C Travel Plaza	801 1st Ave. E	Clark	44.8769	-97.72253
Dakota Butcher, LLC	99 S. Commercial St.	Clark	44.8769	-97.73323
Dan's Last Shot	203 Main Street	Colome	43.26131	-99.715441
Custer State Park Headquarters	13329 US Hwy 16A	Custer	43.77032	-103.39702
Prairie Vista Inn	Junction of US Hwy 212 and 1st Ave.	Faith	45.02299	-102.03577
Hayes DOT Rest Area	1/2 mile east of Hayes on Hwy 34	Hayes	44.37098	-101.01251
Howes Store	19188 SD Hwy 73	Howes Corner	44.6199	-102.05121
Isabel City Landfill	1/2 mile west of SD Hwy 65 northwest of Isabel	Isabel	45.40004	-101.4385
Discount Fuel	Highway 73 at Exit 150 I-90	Kadoka	43.83665	-101.52293
SD DOT Weigh Station	Junction of SD Hwy 73 and US Hwy 12	Lemmon	45.93403	-102.17638
Bro's / KJ's Station	203 East US Highway 18	Martin	43.17176	-101.72933
McIntosh Roadside Park	On east side of McIntosh Lake off US Hwy 12	McIntosh	45.92431	-101.33471
NAPA Auto Parts	100 N Main St	McLaughlin	45.81624	-100.81047
Midland Food & Fuel	404 US Hwy 14	Midland	44.07476	-101.15701
Rosebud Sioux Tribe GFP Office	111 South Jane Street	Mission	43.30449	-100.64539
Mobridge GFP District Office	909 Lake Front Drive	Mobridge	45.52675	-100.42009
The Bay	28095 US Hwy 12	Mobridge	45.57168	-100.48656
Ben Ash Monument Site	7 miles east of Mud Butte on US Hwy 212	Mud Butte	45.02232	-102.73019
Forneys	Junction of US Hwy 385 and US Hwy 18	Oelrichs	43.18784	-103.23682
Philip DOT Weigh Station	1/4 mile north on Hwy 73	Philip	44.04956	-101.66772
Cutting Edge Meat Market	15475 Sturgis Road	Piedmont	44.22824	-103.38532
GFP Rapid City Regional Office	4130 Adventure Trail	Rapid City	44.09003	-103.28484
Rural Area	Junction of Creston Rd and SD Hwy 44	Rural Area	43.90626	-102.68334
Shadehill State Park	19150 Summerville Road	Shadehill	45.77566	-102.18708
Cammack Ranch Supply	16948 SD Hwy 34	Union Center	44.56114	-102.67402
West River Electric Association	1200 West 4th Street at Exit 109	Wall	43.99462	-102.26414
GFP Watertown Regional Office	400 West Kemp	Watertown	44.90145	-97.12125
White River DOT Weigh Station	Just south of junction of US Hwy 83 and SD Hwy 44	White River	43.5639	-100.74985
Dakota Convenience Store	710 SD Hwy 28	Willow Lake	44.63058	-97.64581
Winner DOT Weigh Station	1/2 mile east of junction of US Hwy 183 and US Hwy 18	Winner	43.38606	-100.02045

### TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF CARCASSES

Research has shown that CWD infected carcasses may be an avenue for the spread of CWD. If whole animals are removed from known endemic areas where CWD has been found, **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, a copy of the CWD Action Plan and other information related to CWD can be found at <https://gfp.sd.gov/chronic-wasting-disease/>.

### HEALTH RISKS

Public health officials and the Centers for Disease Control have found no link between CWD and any neurological disease 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 should: consult with their state wildlife agencies to identify areas where CWD occurs and take appropriate precautions when hunting in such areas; avoid eating meat from deer and elk that look sick or that test positive for CWD; consider having the deer or elk tested for CWD before consuming the meat if the animal was harvested from an area known to have CWD-positive animals; wear gloves, and bone-out the meat from the animal, and minimize handling of the brain and spinal cord tissues when field dressing an animal.

The GFP CWD Surveillance Program and testing procedures are neither designed nor intended to provide hunters with meat quality assurance for harvested animals. If an animal tests positive for CWD, GFP will notify that particular hunter immediately by personal contact. Hunters who submit deer heads 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 either:

Chad Switzer, Wildlife Program Administrator, at 605.773.4193 or [chad.switzer@state.sd.us](mailto:chad.switzer@state.sd.us).  
Steve Griffin, Big Game Biologist, at 605.394.6786 or [steve.griffin@state.sd.us](mailto:steve.griffin@state.sd.us).