



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**Division of Fish and Wildlife**

Wildlife Permitting Unit

PO Box 400

Trenton, NJ 08625

JON S. CORZINE  
*Governor*

MARK N. MAURIELLO  
*Acting Commissioner*

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PERMIT HOLDERS OF CAPTIVE DEER & ELK**

- In April of 2005, tests confirmed that Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was present in both wild and captive deer herds in New York. Population reductions with surveillance since that time have not revealed additional cases.
- Since 1998 New Jersey has tested 3,612 wild deer, 129 captive deer and 5 elk and the presence of CWD has not been detected.
- The NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife will continue to monitor the health of our wild deer herd through sampling and testing.
- **Remember - the ban on the importation of deer and elk put in place on April 15, 2002 is still in effect and will be strictly enforced.**
- In the event that you are concerned about CWD, notice a decline in the health of your deer herd and/or one or more of your deer die suspiciously, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss the situation and test the deer.
- In the event of the death of a deer at least 1 1/2 years of age, please prepare the deer head for testing. Taking proper sanitary precautions, remove the head of the deer below the second vertebrae, place the head in a plastic bag and refrigerate the sample immediately. These steps should be completed as close to the time of death as possible. **Never freeze the specimen.** The refrigerated sample should be transported to the Division's Forensic Pathologist. Contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife for more detailed information.
- Should the specimen test positive, the USDA currently has an indemnification program for qualified individuals. If qualified, you may be reimbursed for the loss of your herd should all individuals have to be euthanized.
- More information about Chronic Wasting Disease can be found on the on the USDA's website: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_diseases/cwd/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/cwd/)
- If you have any questions or need further information please call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at 609 292-2966.

4/8/2009