



Wildlife Division

DEER HUNTING REGULATIONS

Deer management did not exist in Michigan prior to 1859. The first attempt at managing white-tailed deer included a restriction on the dates deer hunting was allowed: no deer hunting for the first seven months of the year. The following table outlines the major changes in Michigan deer hunting regulations through the years.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1859	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ First legislative act regarding deer. Previously there were no restrictions on method of take or season. ◆ Open season: August 1 to December 31 statewide.
1863	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: September 1 to January 15 statewide.
1869	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: September 1 to January 1 statewide.
1873	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: October 1 to January 1 statewide.
1875	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Upper Peninsula (UP): August 1 to November 15. ❖ Lower Peninsula (LP): September 15 to December 15.
1881	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP: August 15 to November 15. ❖ LP: October 1 to December 1. ◆ Unlawful to take deer with spotted or red coat or while deer is in the water. ◆ Unlawful to use pit, pitfall, or traps in the taking of deer. ◆ Deer may be taken only for food. ◆ Unlawful to ship deer or parts thereof in any form from the state.
1887	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP: October 1 to November 1. ❖ LP: October 1 to December 1. ◆ Unlawful to use dogs or lights in the taking of deer.
1889	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP: October 1 to November 15. ❖ LP: November 1 to December 1. ◆ Revised open season in UP: September 25 to November 15.
1891	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP: September 25 to October 25. ❖ LP: November 5 to November 25. ◆ First deer hunting closures to increase deer numbers: Allegan and Van Buren counties closed for three years.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1893	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures expanded: Lapeer, Huron, Sanilac, Tuscola, Macomb and St. Clair counties closed for 10 years.
1895	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: November 1 to 25. ◆ First deer hunting license required. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Deer license fee: resident \$0.50, non-resident \$25.00. ❖ 14,477 resident licenses sold, 22 non-resident licenses sold. ◆ First bag limit: five deer per hunter per year.
1897	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: November 8 to 30 (until 1905). ◆ Deer hunting closures expanded: Alcona, Allegan and Ottawa counties closed until 1903. Monroe County closed until 1902.
1901	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures expanded: Bois Blanc Island and Lapeer, Huron, Monroe, Sanilac, Tuscola, Macomb, Allegan, Ottawa and St. Clair counties closed until January 1, 1906. ◆ Unlawful to market hunt. ◆ Unlawful to sell venison in any form or serve venison for a charge. ◆ Bag limit reduced: three deer.
1903	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures expanded: Lake, Osceola, Clare, Mason, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Newaygo, Mecosta, Isabella, Benzie, Leelanau, Grand Traverse, Oceana, and Gladwin counties closed for five years.
1905	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: November 10 to 30 (until 1911). ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Bois Blanc Island and Lapeer, Huron, Sanilac, Tuscola, Macomb, Allegan, Ottawa, St. Clair, Lake, Osceola, Clare, Mason, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Newaygo, Mecosta, Isabella, Benzie, Leelanau, Grand Traverse, Oceana, Gladwin counties closed until January 1, 1908. Kalkaska County closed until September 17, 1910. ◆ Bag limit: two deer per hunter. ◆ 14,878 resident licenses sold, 105 non-resident licenses sold.
1907	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Leelanau and Benzie counties closed to deer hunting until 1912. Arenac, Bay, Emmet, Cheboygan counties closed to deer hunting for five years.
1911	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: October 15 to November 30 (until 1913). ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Berrien, Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Jackson, Ingham, Oakland, Genessee, and St. Clair counties closed to deer hunting until 1920.
1913	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: November 10 to 30 (until 1925).
1915	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bag limit: one deer per hunter. ◆ Age restrictions created: individuals under the age of 17 must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian when obtaining license and while hunting. ◆ 21,061 resident licenses sold, 178 non-resident licenses sold.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1917	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended: Mason County closed to deer hunting for five years, Lake County closed for ten years by State Game, Fish, and Forest Fire Warden. ◆ Age limit created: minimum age 12 to hunt deer (firearm or archery equipment). ◆ Camp deer permits created; 425 sold.
1918	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended: Emmet, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Antrim, Otsego, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Crawford, Oscoda, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Roscommon, Ogemaw, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin, Arenac, Bay, Oceana, Newaygo, Midland, Huron, Tuscola, and Sanilac counties closed to deer hunting for ten years.
1920	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 36,800 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1921	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Department of Conservation organized. ◆ Discretionary Power Act instituted. ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Shiawassee, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb, Wayne, and Monroe counties closed to deer hunting for five years. ◆ Bag limit (regular license and camp license): one antlered deer with antlers extending three or more inches above the skull.
1923	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended: Lake and Newaygo counties closed to deer hunting until 1926. ◆ Deer license fee: resident \$2.50, non-resident \$50.00.
1925	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Open season: November 15 to 30 (until 1962). ◆ Deer hunting closures expanded: Isle Royale closed to all hunting for a period of five years. ◆ Conservation Commission given discretionary power.
1926	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Emmet, Charlevoix, and all counties south of the north line of Township 20 North closed to deer hunting for a period of five years by the Conservation Commission.
1927	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended: Manistee, Wexford, and Missaukee counties closed to deer hunting for a period of five years. ◆ Over 50,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1928	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended: Grand Traverse County closed to deer hunting until 1936. ◆ Game Division established. ◆ Bear included on the deer license.
1929	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Antrim County closed to deer hunting until 1933. ◆ Unlawful to hunt from raised platform, scaffold, or tree.
1930	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Leelanau and Benzie counties closed to deer hunting until 1936. ◆ Over 75,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1931	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Mason, Lake, Newaygo, and Clare counties closed to deer hunting for a period of five years. All other counties south of the north line of Township 20 North and Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet closed to deer hunting for a period of two years, and Leelanau, Benzie, and Grand Traverse for five years. ◆ Deer license fee: \$3.50 resident, \$50.00 non-resident.
1933	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Counties south of the north line of Township 12 North including the Thumb, Oceana, Mecosta, Isabella, and Osceola counties closed to deer hunting until 1936. ◆ Deer license fee: \$2.25 resident, \$25.00 non-resident.
1935	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Over 90,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1936	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer hunting closures extended and expanded: Leelanau County and all counties and parts of counties lying south of M-47 and M-46 between Bay City and Muskegon and including the Thumb closed to deer hunting until 1947. ◆ At this time the law stated that “firearms” may be used in hunting deer. Archery equipment is not mentioned as being either legal or unlawful. Few hunters used archery equipment and did so mainly in Iosco County where discharge of firearms was illegal.
1937	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ First archery season and license: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Available for Iosco and Newaygo counties only. ❖ November 1 to 14. ❖ Bears and antlered deer may be harvested. ❖ 186 archery licenses sold. ◆ Possession of firearms by archery hunter or in archer’s vehicle unlawful. ◆ Sportsmen allowed either archery or firearm license but not both. ◆ Over 150,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1939	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Firearm deer season: November 15 to 30. ◆ Archery deer hunting season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Counties open to archery deer hunting same as during the firearm season. ❖ November 1 to 14. ❖ Antlered deer only may be harvested. ◆ Age limit: minimum age 14 to hunt deer (firearm or archery). ◆ Deer harvest reported: 45,148 deer harvested during firearm season, 4 deer harvested during archery season. ◆ Bag limit: one deer (archery or firearm equipment). ◆ Bear not included on deer hunting license.
1940	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Attorney General ruled hunting deer with crossbows unlawful. ◆ Bear included on the deer license in selected counties.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1941	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ First time since 1920 that antlerless deer could be hunted with firearms. ◆ Any-deer hunting season (legal to harvest antlered or antlerless deer) established in part of Allegan County. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Archery: November 1 to 14. ❖ Firearm: December 1 to 10. ◆ Camp deer regulation changed from one antlered deer to any deer for party of four or more hunters. ◆ Over 220,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1942	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Camp deer regulation revised to allow only antlered deer harvest: one deer per party of four or more hunters.
1943	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Leelanau County opened to firearm deer hunting. ◆ Any-deer (antlered or antlerless) archery hunting season in Allegan County extended: November 1 to 30.
1944	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Archery season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Open area expanded to include the entire the state. ❖ November 1 to 14. ❖ Antlered deer only except in Allegan County (any deer).
1945	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Archery season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Allegan County: October 1 to November 30. ❖ Remainder of state: October 1 to November 5. ◆ Hunters allowed to purchase both archery and firearm license; bag limit remained one deer per hunter per year. ◆ Over 260,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1946	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Archery season in Allegan County: October 1 to December 15. ◆ Over 340,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1947	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Archery season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Any deer (legal to harvest antlered or antlerless deer): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alpena, Benzie, Crawford, Gogebic, Ionia, Iosco, Iron, Leelanau, Luce, Mackinac, Montcalm, Montmorency, Newaygo, Ontonagon, Oscoda, Roscommon, and Schoolcraft Counties: October 11 to November 5. ○ Allegan County: October 1 to December 15. ❖ Antlered deer only in remainder of state: October 1 to November 5. ◆ Legislature ruled hunting deer with crossbows unlawful. ◆ Firearm deer license fee: \$3.50 resident, \$35.00 non-resident.
1948	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular firearm deer season: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Entire state open to firearm deer hunting for first time since 1891. ❖ Antlered deer only. ❖ November 15 to 30 (statewide through 1961). ◆ Firearms limited to shotguns in southern Michigan.
1949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless only firearm deer season open in parts of Antrim, Charlevoix, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, Manistee, Newaygo, and Allegan counties: December 1 to 10. Special permit required.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer archery season expanded to include most counties (18 counties restricted to antlered deer only). ◆ Bows must be unstrung when transported in a vehicle.
1950	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm season open in parts of Antrim, Charlevoix, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, and Manistee counties: December 1 to 5. Special permit required. ◆ Antlerless only firearm deer season in parts of Newaygo and Allegan counties: December 1 to 10. Special permit required. ◆ Over 375,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1951	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless firearm deer season in parts of Allegan County only. ◆ Any-deer archery season expanded (11 counties antlered deer only).
1952	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ First hunting seasons established for the purpose of managing deer overpopulation. ◆ Legislature granted Conservation Commission authority to set deer hunting regulations for entire LP for three years. ◆ Any-deer firearm permits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Northern LP north of M-20: November 28 to 30. No special permit required. ❖ Allegan County: December 1 to 7. Special permit required. ◆ Archery seasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Antlered deer only in Menominee and Chippewa counties (excluding Drummond island). ❖ Any deer in remainder of state. ◆ Lawful to transport or carry archery and firearm equipment together. ◆ Over 455,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1953	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Northern LP north of M-55: December 1 to 5. No special permit required. ❖ Allegan County: December 1 to 7. Special permit required. ◆ Rifle and shotgun zones established for deer hunting.
1954	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer with firearm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Parts of Northern LP: December 1. Permit quotas established in three areas. ❖ Allegan County: December 1 to 7. Special permit required. ◆ Age restriction for archery deer license removed.
1955	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer with firearm in Allegan County with special permit: December 1 to 11. ◆ Antlered deer only archery hunting expanded to Bay, Cheboygan, Emmet, and Huron counties.
1956	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer with firearm in 22 areas with special permit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lake-Newaygo Area and Bois Blanc Island: November 15 to 30. ❖ Two Areas: December 1 to 2. ❖ Allegan County: December 1 to 9. ◆ Any-deer archery season opened in Bay and Huron counties.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1957	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer with firearm in 31 areas with special permit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 17 Areas: November 15 to 30. ❖ 13 Areas: December 1 to 2. ❖ Area Y in Allegan County: December 1 to 8. ◆ Any-deer archery season opened in Cheboygan County. ◆ Bow defined in the law as the “longbow... a weapon made of a strip of wood or other elastic material, with a cord to connect the two ends when bent, by means of which an arrow is propelled when drawn and released by hand.” ◆ Firearm deer license fee: \$5.00 resident, \$35.00 non-resident.
1958	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer with firearm in 37 areas with special permit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 36 Areas: November 15 to 30. ❖ Area 1 in Allegan County: December 1 to 10.
1959	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer with firearm in 39 areas with special permit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 38 Areas: November 15 to 30. ❖ Area 39 in Allegan County: December 1 to 6. ◆ Bear stamp required to take a bear on a deer hunting license. ◆ Bear stamp fee: \$2.00
1960	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer with firearm in 35 areas with special permit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 34 Areas: November 15 to 30. ❖ Area 1 in Allegan County: December 1 to 6.
1961	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm season – legal to harvest any deer with firearm in two areas with special permit during regular firearm season: November 15 to 30. ◆ 420,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1962	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular firearm deer seasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP west of M-77: open first Saturday prior to or on November 15. Open for 16 days (November 10 to 25). ❖ Remainder of state: November 15 to 30. ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 32 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons.
1963	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular firearm deer seasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP west of M-77: November 9 to 24. ❖ Remainder of the state regular firearm season: November 15 to 30. ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 46 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons.
1964	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular firearm deer seasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP west of M-77: open Saturday on or nearest November 15 (November 14 to 29). ❖ Remainder of the state regular firearm season: November 15 to 30.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 62 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons. ◆ Bear license valid with a deer license. ◆ Bear license fee: \$5.00 resident, \$25.00 non-resident. ◆ Over 500,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1965	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular firearm deer seasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP: November 13 to 28. ❖ LP: November 20 to December 5. ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 56 areas with special permit during the regular firearm season. ◆ Separate “deer and bear” hunting guide published.
1966	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular firearm deer seasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UP: November 12 to 27. ❖ LP: November 19 to December 4. ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 62 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons.
1967	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regular firearm deer season: November 18 to December 3 statewide. ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 59 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons. ◆ Archery seasons for Zones 1 & 2, October 1 to November 5. Zone 3, October 1 to November 17 & December 4 to December 31.
1968	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Legislature declares regular firearm deer season dates: November 15 to November 30 statewide. ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 56 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons. ◆ Deer license fee: \$5.10, non-resident fee \$25.10. ◆ Over 600,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1969	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Department of Conservation becomes Department of Natural Resources (DNR). ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 83 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons.
1970	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ UP (except Bois Blanc Island) closed to antlerless deer hunting with firearms. ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 58 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons. ◆ Archery age limit created: minimum age 12 to hunt deer with archery equipment. ◆ Sportsman’s license available. Valid for firearm, archery, and muzzleloader hunting in the respective seasons. Included deer licenses, bear, small game, & fishing. Resident fee: \$18.50. ◆ Military license available to servicemen on furlough. Valid for deer and small game hunting during the open seasons; over 3,000 sold.
1971	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 64 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Hunter Safety Certification or previous hunting license required for individuals under 17 applying for a deer hunting license. ◆ Deer Range Improvement Program (DRIP) enacted. Public Act 106 of 1971 provided that \$1.50 of each deer hunting license be earmarked “for the purpose of improving and maintaining habitat for deer, for the acquisition of land required for an effective program of deer habitat management, and for payment of ad valorem taxes on lands acquired.” ◆ Senior resident deer license created; over 33,000 senior firearm and over 1,500 senior archery licenses sold.
1972	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 37 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons. ◆ Antlerless deer permits issued for parties of four or more hunters in Area 12 (in UP). ◆ First “successful deer hunter” patch issued to hunters volunteering to have biological data collected from harvested deer (deer check).
1973	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 42 areas with special permit during regular firearm deer seasons. ◆ Antlerless deer party permit system discontinued. ◆ Senior sportsman’s license created; over 24,000 sold. ◆ Deer license fee: \$7.50 resident, \$40.00 non-resident.
1974	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 27 areas in the LP with special permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Areas 30, 31, and 36: November 15 to November 30. ❖ Remainder of special areas: November 15 to November 21. ◆ UP closed to antlerless deer hunting with firearms. ◆ Deer and small game hunting guides combined. ◆ First antlerless deer hunting guide published.
1975	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 46 areas in the LP with special permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Areas B73 to B96: November 15 to November 21. ❖ Areas 1 to 11: November 15 to November 30. ❖ Areas A12 to A24: November 24 to November 30. ◆ First muzzleloader season and license: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ December 5 to December 14 statewide. ❖ Antlered deer only. ❖ Over 1,400 muzzleloader licenses sold. ◆ Legal to archery hunt deer from raised platform. ◆ Over 700,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1976	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 58 areas with special permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Areas 106 to 135: November 15 to November 21. ❖ Areas 31 to 103: November 15 to November 30. ◆ Any-deer or antlerless deer permits re-named “Hunter’s Choice” permits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A limited number of antlerless deer were taken during the firearm season within the area designated on the Hunter’s Choice permit.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Hunter's Choice permits were issued via an application process. ❖ If the number of applications for an area exceeded the quota of deer to be taken from that area, a drawing was held to determine successful applicants.
1977	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 76 areas with special permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Areas 106 to 135 open November 15 to November 21. ❖ Areas 2 to 49: November 15 to November 30. ◆ Hunter orange: deer hunters required to wear a vest, jacket, or cap of a highly visible orange color, variously referred to as hunter, fluorescent, blaze, or fluorescent blaze orange. ◆ Bag limit: two deer per hunter per year provided one deer is taken with firearm and the other with archery equipment during the appropriate season. ◆ Landowners not receiving regular Hunter's Choice permits were given the opportunity to obtain Landowners Limited Permits for use on their own property or adjoining private land with permission of the owner, during the hunter's choice season. This was done to increase the harvest of antlerless deer on certain private lands.
1978	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Any-deer firearm permits – legal to harvest any deer in 91 areas with special permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Areas 120 to 155: November 15 to November 21. ❖ Areas 15 to 118: November 15 to November 30. ◆ Landowners, renters, lessees, and immediate family members of a landowner residing on 40 or more acres of huntable land within designed areas open to antlerless deer hunting may apply for a special Hunter's Choice landowner preference permit. These licenses were issued by quota on a first-come, first-served basis by designated DNR offices.
1979	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Quotas established for landowner preference Hunter's Choice permits in some deer management areas.
1980	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Late archery season in the UP changed back to December 1 to 31. ◆ Camp deer permits eliminated. ◆ Bear no longer can be taken using a deer hunting license. ◆ Junior archery deer license created. Fee: \$4.50. ◆ Deer license fee: \$8.75 resident, \$4.00 senior, \$75.25 non-resident. ◆ 725,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1981	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Archery deer season extended to include January 1, statewide. ◆ Extended firearm season was held in Deer Management Unit (DMU) 215 (In the UP) from November 15 to December 6. ◆ In addition to regular bag limit, with special permit hunters may take up to two deer on South Fox Island; one with firearm and one with archery equipment. ◆ Camp deer permits restored. Parties of not less than four persons could purchase a camp deer permit to take one antlered deer for camp purposes. Camp permits could be for either firearm or archery camps.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1982	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless deer could be taken with a Hunter's Choice license in all DMUs open between November 15 and 30. ◆ Hunters not filling Hunter's Choice permits during firearm season were permitted to take an antlerless deer during the muzzleloading season.
1983	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Firearm season extended in DMU 215 (in UP) to December 11. ◆ Applicants for Landowner Limited Hunter's Choice permits must supply property tax numbers to be eligible. Landowners, renters, lessees, and immediate family members residing on 40 acres (or more) of huntable land within a DMU open to antlerless deer hunting may apply.
1984	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bonus Hunter's Choice permits introduced in DMU 215. Hunters taking an antlerless deer on Hunter's Choice license could register that deer at a specific DNR office and be issued a second Hunter's Choice license.
1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Firearm season extended in DMU 215 to November 30. ◆ Bonus Hunter's Choice permits available in DMUs 124, 139, and 215. ◆ A special deer hunt established on North Manitou Island. Hunters could take three deer, only one of which could be antlered.
1986	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Camp deer permits were eliminated. ◆ Non-refundable \$3.00 application fee established for Hunter's Choice permits. ◆ Second deer licenses available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Firearm: statewide. ❖ Archery: LP only. ◆ Hunters must be in possession of a valid hunting license in their name to be afield with deer hunting arms. ◆ North Manitou hunt bag limit reduced to two deer; one may be antlered.
1987	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Muzzleloading deer hunting season split to open the first Friday in December in Zones 1 and 2 (UP and Northern LP), and to open the second Friday in December in Zone 3 (Southern LP). Both seasons: open 10 days. ◆ Hunter's Choice permits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Hunter's Choice permits remaining after the computer drawing made available in select DMUs in Districts 2, 9, 12, and 13. ❖ Private Land Hunter's Choice permits available to hunters with permission to hunt deer on private land of 40 or more acres. ❖ Private Land Hunter's Choice permits available to immediate family members of landowners with 40 or more acres of huntable land in open DMUs even if they did not reside on the property. ❖ Private Land permit drawing: landowners given preference in drawing over family members, invited guests, or lessees in 26 DMUs described as crop damage "hot spots." ❖ Bonus antlerless-only deer permit issued by mail to hunters successful in Hunter's Choice computer drawing in 13 DMUs. ❖ Bonus any-deer (antlered or antlerless) permits offered in DMUs 215 and 414 to hunters registering an antlerless deer on their Hunter's Choice permit.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ DMU 215: extended firearm season for Hunter's Choice permit holders. ◆ North Manitou Island deer hunting: bag limit four deer per hunter per year, two during firearm season and two during archery season. One deer in each season may be antlered. ◆ Penalties for game law violations increased. ◆ Unlawful to shine deer during the month of November. ◆ Deer license fees: \$12.85 resident, \$6.60 junior archery, \$100.35 non-resident.
1988	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Muzzleloading split season changed: Zone 1 open the first Friday in December, Zones 2 and 3 open the second Friday in December. Both seasons open 10 days. ◆ Hunter's Choice permits: ◆ Private Land permit drawing: landowners given preference in drawing over family members, invited guests, or lessees in all DMUs. ◆ Bonus antlerless-only deer licenses issued in 62 DMUs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Five DMUs: permittees issued one Hunter's Choice license and one antlerless-only license. ❖ 57 DMUs: permittees issued one Hunter's Choice license and two antlerless-only licenses. ◆ North Manitou Island deer hunting: bag limit increased to six deer; three deer per hunter in firearm and archery seasons. One deer in each season may be antlered. ◆ Firearm regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lawful to use black powder pistols, .44 caliber or larger, during muzzleloading season. ❖ Lawful to use miniballs, maxiballs, and commercial substitutes for black powder. ◆ Block permits (now called Deer Management Assistance Permits or DMAPs) first introduced: thirty permits issued to the Lake City Experiment Station for the purpose of managing deer damage to crops.
1989	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Hunter's Choice permit system discontinued and replaced with an Antlerless-only deer hunting license statewide. ◆ Firearm regulations: unlawful to transport a break-action firearm if not in a case or locked in the trunk of a vehicle. ◆ Hunters permitted to apply for Antlerless-only licenses with either archery or firearm license, and use those licenses during the late deer season from December 1 to January 1. ◆ Block permits issued experimentally in Districts 2, 9, and 13 and at the Lake City Experiment Station. ◆ South Fox Island deer hunting: bag limit set at two deer per hunter, limited to one antlered deer during firearm season. ◆ Extended firearm season in DMUs 215 and 414: November 15 to December 15.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Block permits instituted statewide. ◆ South Fox Island deer hunting: bag limit increased to six deer - three deer per hunter in firearm and archery seasons. One deer in each season may be antlered. ◆ Unlawful to take or possess an albino or completely white deer. ◆ Over 750,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bag limit: two antlered deer in archery, firearm, and muzzleloading deer seasons combined. ◆ North Manitou Island deer hunting: early muzzleloading deer season added between archery and firearm seasons.
1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bonus antlerless-only licenses leftover from the drawing issued in six DMUs on a first-come, first-served basis. ◆ Private land antlerless license drawing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Landowner must have 40 or more acres of huntable land within DMUs open to antlerless hunting to apply for drawing. ❖ Landowners given highest priority in drawing. ❖ Immediate family members, lessees, and invited guests of the landowner given second priority in drawing. ◆ Sunday hunting authorized in Shiawassee and Livingston counties on the weekend before firearm deer season opener.
1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ground blinds on public land: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Unlawful for ground blinds constructed of manufactured materials to be placed on public land prior to seven days before the hunting season. ❖ All ground blinds must be removed at the end of hunting season. ❖ Label with owner's name and address required. ❖ State game and wildlife areas: blinds built of manufactured materials must be removed daily. ◆ Firearm regulations: firearms must be unloaded, and arrows in a quiver when afield outside hunting hours. ◆ Private land antlerless license drawing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Landowner must have 40 or more acres of huntable land within DMUs open to antlerless hunting to apply for drawing. ❖ First priority given to landowners and immediate family members residing on the property. ❖ Second priority given to guests, lessees, and family members not residing on the property. ◆ South Fox Island Deer hunting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Drawing established for deer hunting permits. ❖ Antler restriction established: unlawful to take an antlered deer with less than six antler points. ◆ Severely disabled hunters may apply for a permit to use crossbows for hunting deer. ◆ Hunters permitted to use salt to draw deer into shooting range during the hunting season.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Five DMUs closed to antlerless deer hunting. ◆ Written permission not required to hunt on private land. Landowners may grant verbal permission. ◆ Private land antlerless license drawing: family members, guests, and lessees could not combine the acreage of separate owners to meet minimum qualifications. ◆ Significant landmark: 100 years of licensed deer hunting in Michigan.
1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Hunting and fishing licenses sold from an electronic system. ◆ Use of “second buck license” in Zone 1 (UP) restricted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Second archery license valid for antlerless deer only in DMUs open to antlerless deer hunting during the firearm deer season. ❖ Second firearm deer license cannot be used in DMUs open to the taking of antlerless deer during the firearm season. ◆ Drummond Island deer hunting: deer must be registered within 72 hours or harvest.
1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ground blinds on public lands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Unlawful to use ground blinds on public lands that do not meet the requirements of either Type 1, 2 or 3 below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Type 1 - Portable ground blind: clearly portable and removed at the end of each day’s hunt. Fasteners, if used to attach or anchor the blind, cannot penetrate the bark of a tree and must be removed daily with the blind. No identification required on these blinds. May be used on public lands at any time for legal hunting. Legal on state game areas, state parks, and state recreation areas in Zone 3. ○ Type 2 - Dead natural materials ground blind: constructed exclusively of dead natural materials found in the area of the blind. Hunter may add netting, cloth, plastic, or other materials for concealment or protection from weather if these materials are not permanently fastened to the blind and are removed at the end of each day’s hunt. These items can be tied to the blind but cannot be stapled, nailed, glued or fastened in any other permanent manner. No identification required on these blinds. Fasteners (nails, screws, etc.) cannot be used in the construction. May be used on public lands at any time for legal hunting. Legal on state game areas, state parks, and state recreation areas in Zone 3. ○ Type 3 - Constructed ground blind: unlawful on state game areas, state parks, and recreation areas in Zone 3. Cannot be placed on public lands any earlier than November 10 and must be removed from public lands no later than January 1 of each year. Unlawful to leave, place or build a constructed ground blind on public lands at any time during the period January 2 to November 9. In addition to any criminal penalties, a constructed blind found on public lands during this period would be considered abandoned. Constructed ground blinds must have the name and address of the person placing the blind on public lands permanently attached,

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<p>etched, engraved or painted on the ground blind. Fasteners, if used to anchor or attach the blind, cannot penetrate the bark of a tree and must be removed with the blind. Exception: local (city, township, county) public agency administering the lands on which a Type 3 constructed ground blind is placed may allow the blind to be left on their property beyond the November 10 to January 1 dates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Permit to keep game beyond 60 days following the season eliminated. A permit is no longer required to keep legally taken game. ◆ Persons butchering or processing wild game for other hunters must keep a copy of their records for 90 days following receipt of an animal for processing. ◆ Deer license fee: \$13.35 resident, \$7.10 junior, \$100.35 non-resident.
1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless deer hunting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Antlerless deer license established as stand-alone license valid in a specific DMU. ❖ Experimental DMUs 066, 077, 083, 089 and 094 open to taking antlerless deer with valid antlerless deer license. ❖ Hunters aged 12-16 may purchase one antlerless deer license over-the-counter prior to the August 1 application deadline. ❖ Acreage requirements to qualify for private land antlerless deer licenses reduced in Southern LP to 10 acres from 40 acres or more of contiguous huntable land. ❖ Persons qualifying for private land antlerless deer licenses could purchase one antlerless deer license in any of 29 DMUs prior to the August 1 application deadline. Previous deadline was September 24. ❖ Early antlerless firearm deer season on private land established in DMU 215: September 19 to September 28. ◆ Second archery and second firearm deer license established: valid for taking only antlered deer with at least four antler points on one side, one or more inches in length. ◆ South Fox Island, Drummond Island, and DMU 101: bag limit one antlered deer with two or more antler points, one or more inches in length on one side. ◆ Lawful for legally blind hunters to use laser sighting devices. ◆ Deer license fee: \$13.00 resident, \$5.20 senior, \$6.50 junior, \$120.00 non-resident. ◆ Director may discount cost of an antlerless license for management purposes. ◆ Over 1,680,000 deer licenses sold (archery, firearm, and antlerless deer licenses). ◆ Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) discovered in deer in Northeast LP.
1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Second archery and firearm deer licenses eliminated. ◆ Combination deer license established: two tags issued with this license. ◆ Late archery season closed on January 3.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ TB regulations created. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ TB control permits established. ❖ TB management area established (Northeast LP north of M-55 and east of I-75). ❖ DMU 066 the special restrictions on taking antlerless deer only with an antlerless deer license removed from due to TB management area expansion. ❖ Unlawful to bait or feed deer for recreation in TB management area. ❖ Core TB management area (DMU 452): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Early firearm deer season on private land established for antlerless deer only: October 17 to October 26. ○ Late firearm deer season on private and public land established for antlerless deer only: December 11 to January 3. ◆ Antlerless deer hunting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Late firearm antlerless deer season on private land in all but 19 DMUs in the LP: December 19 to January 3. ❖ Private land antlerless deer licenses valid with permission on any private land within specific DMU. ❖ Acreage requirements to qualify for private land antlerless deer licenses reduced in Southern LP to 5 acres from 10 acres or more of contiguous huntable land. ❖ Unlimited antlerless deer license quotas in 63 LP DMUs. ◆ “No spike” rule on South Fox Island, Drummond Island, and DMU 101 (in Iosco County): antlered deer harvest restricted to deer with at least two or more points on one side, each one or more inches in length. ◆ DMAPs expanded to include areas of serious deer overpopulation as documented by the DNR. ◆ Hunting from elevated platforms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Firearm deer and bear hunters may hunt from elevated platforms. ❖ Treestands and raised platforms cannot be placed on public lands prior to September 1 and must be removed one day after the deer season closes. ❖ Screw-in tree steps unlawful on public lands. ◆ A dog may be used to locate down or mortally wounded deer if the dog is on a leash and no firearm or archery equipment is in possession. ◆ Bag limit: two antlered deer (one must have at least one antler with four or more antler points one inch or longer). ◆ Over 835,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season. ◆ Over 2,200,000 deer hunting licenses sold (archery, firearm, combination, and antlerless deer licenses).
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless deer hunting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Acreage requirements to qualify for antlerless deer licenses in the UP, to 5 acres from 40 acres. ❖ An early firearm antlerless deer season on private land in DMU 452: October 16 to 25.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Late private land antlerless deer season in all LP DMUs: December 18 to January 2. ❖ Late antlerless deer season in DMU 452 on public and private land: December 18 to January 2. ❖ Late archery deer season closed on January 2. ❖ Unlimited antlerless deer license quotas in 69 LP DMUs. ◆ “No spike” rule expanded to include DMU 107 (Clare County). ◆ Deer baiting legal only if all of the following conditions applied: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baiting occurs from October 1 to December 15. 2. Bait material is of any type of food material. 3. Bait scattered directly on the ground in a 10’ x 10’ area. 4. Bait volume less than or equal to five gallons/site/day. 5. No deer baiting allowed in TB management area. ◆ Unlawful to take deer by using a fence to limit deer movement. Fences under 52” high and ¼ mile long allowed. ◆ Head and kill tag from a legally harvested deer must accompany a butchered animal during transport.
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless deer hunting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Limit of three antlerless deer licenses per person per year except in the TB management area or in UP DMUs. ❖ Unlimited antlerless deer license quota in DMU 452. ❖ Early firearm antlerless deer season on private land in DMU 452: October 14 to 23. ❖ Late antlerless deer season in DMU 452 on public and private land: December 16 to January 1. ❖ Late firearm antlerless deer season on private land in all DMUs except DMU 222 in the LP: December 16 to January 1. ❖ Antlerless deer license fees: \$6.00 resident, \$60.00 non-residents (half price in TB areas). ◆ Combination deer license has two kill tags: regular and restricted. ◆ Youth firearm deer season for 14 - 16 year olds on private land only: September 23 and 24. ◆ Late archery season closed on January 1. ◆ Deer baiting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Use of bait prohibited in any county with a positive TB deer (11 counties). ❖ Hunters could bait for deer only from October 1 to January 1. ❖ No more than two gallons of bait to take deer in LP counties open to baiting. ❖ UP counties restricted to no more than five gallons of bait to take deer. ◆ Legal to take deer with conventional single shot handguns. ◆ Over 750,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season.
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless deer hunting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Statewide acreage requirements to qualify for private land antlerless deer licenses: five acres.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Antlerless deer licenses issued separately for public land and private land, eliminating the general private land license. ❖ Public land antlerless deer licenses and private land antlerless deer licenses both valid on Commercial Forest Reserve Lands. ❖ Limit of three antlerless deer licenses per person per year except in counties having one or more TB-positive deer (12 counties). ❖ Early and late antlerless deer seasons include any county with one or more confirmed TB-positive deer. ❖ Over-the-counter purchase of antlerless deer licenses available in DMUs with one or more confirmed TB-positive deer. ❖ Early antlerless deer season on private land in part of the UP (DMU 055) approved to help reduce deer numbers in agricultural areas: September 24 to 30. ❖ Male antlerless deer (button bucks) may be taken using an antlered deer license (firearm, archery, or combination). ❖ Antlerless deer license fees: \$7.00 residents, \$70.00 non-residents (half price in TB areas). ◆ DMUs 118, 122, 152, 155, and 252: antlered deer harvest restricted to deer with at least three or more points on one side (Quality Deer Management [QDM]). QDM regulations to be revisited after five years. ◆ “No spike” rule removed from DMU 107 (Clare County), but remains in effect on South Fox Island, Drummond Island, and in DMU 135 in Iosco County. ◆ Drummond Island mandatory deer registration is repealed. ◆ Most DMU boundaries are revised and simplified for hunters, landowners, and the general public to understand and recognize. Field units identified 108 DMUs. ◆ Changes in the youth deer hunting season allow 12 and 13 year-olds to participate (archery only) in the September 22 and 23 season and allow this season to occur on all land ownership types. ◆ Deer management assistance permits (DMAPs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Issued to landowners in areas where current antlerless deer management methods are insufficient to achieve deer management objectives. ❖ Free in certain DMU 452 townships. ◆ DMU 452: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Baiting allowed only if all of the following conditions apply: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restricted to October 1 to November 30. 2. Bait material may only be grain or shelled corn. 3. Bait must be scattered – “scattered” means that bait is dispersed or thrown over a minimum 10’ by 10’ area or equivalent so that individual pieces of bait are separated and not placed in piles. The purpose of scattering is to mimic natural feeding conditions. 4. Bait may be scattered directly on the ground by any means, including mechanical spin-cast feeders, provided that the feeder does not distribute more than the maximum volume on the ground.
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YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<p>5. Volume of bait shall not exceed one gallon per day at any one hunting site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Heads of deer harvested October 1 to November 30 must be presented at a DNR office or designated check station within 120 hours (5 days) of harvest. ◆ Use of crossbows approved for hunting deer during the November 15 to 30 firearm deer season. ◆ Deer license fees: \$14.00 resident, \$5.60 senior, \$7.00 junior, \$129.00 non-resident.
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless deer hunting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Minimum acreage requirement to qualify for private land antlerless deer licenses eliminated. ❖ No property tax number or telephone number required for purchasing a private land antlerless license. ❖ Private land antlerless licenses sold over the counter beginning August 2. ❖ Early private land antlerless deer season in part of the UP (DMU 055) approved to help reduce deer numbers in agricultural areas: September 21 to 27. ❖ Public land antlerless deer licenses available by lottery. ❖ No leftover public land antlerless licenses sold following the drawing. ❖ Two kill tags issued with each antlerless deer license purchased for TB management area (now called special regulation units). ◆ Baiting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Unlawful to bait in Alcona, Alpena, Crawford, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego, and Presque Isle counties ❖ Bait volume restricted to two gallons at any hunting site in remainder of the state. ◆ DMU 045: antlered deer harvest restricted to deer with at least three or more points on one side (QDM). QDM regulations to be revisited after five years. ◆ DMU 052 incorporated into DMUs 036 and 152. ◆ New kill tag backer available free from license agents meant to improve data collection at DNR deer check stations. ◆ Youth firearm deer season for 12 - 16 year olds on private land only: September 28 and 29. Youth 12 and 13 years of age restricted to archery equipment use. ◆ Projectile requirement for deer hunting with a muzzleloading firearm (.44 caliber) eliminated.
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Restrictions on importing mule deer, white-tailed deer, or elk harvested from Colorado, Illinois, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming, or the province of Saskatchewan due to concerns over transmission of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). ◆ New kill tags have been developed. They have no sticky backing or plastic kill tag backer. They are pre-punched with a hole for attaching to the carcass with a cord.

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ DMU changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ DMU 027 and the portion of DMU 022 in Menominee County eliminated. ❖ The DMU boundaries for 055, 036, and 022 changed. ❖ DMU 255 in north Menominee County, south Marquette County, east Dickinson County, and west Delta County created. ❖ DMU 045 becomes a QDM DMU. ◆ Early private land antlerless deer season DMU 055 (in UP): September 20 to 26. ◆ Youth firearm deer season: September 27 and 28. ◆ Properly licensed, legally blind hunters may use a crossbow to hunt deer.
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Private Land Antlerless licenses not valid on lands enrolled in the Commercial Forest Reserve Program. Public Land licenses valid on these lands. ◆ Archery and late firearm deer seasons extend to January 2, 2005. ◆ All Sunday hunting closures repealed. ◆ Kill tags with kill tag backers used. Kill tag backer has a pre-punched hole for attaching the tag to harvested deer with a cord. ◆ Special regulation units: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ One kill tag will be issued with each antlerless license. ❖ Leftover public land licenses available for over-the-counter purchase in special regulation units and areas of the Western UP. ◆ Early private land antlerless deer season in DMU 055 (in UP): September 16 to 22. ◆ Youth firearm deer season: September 25 and 26.
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ No early antlerless firearm deer seasons. ◆ Four Southern Michigan counties added to late antlerless firearm season. ◆ Seven days added to the muzzleloader season in Zone 3: December 2 to 18. ◆ Archery and late firearm deer seasons close on January 1. ◆ North Manitou Island deer hunting season dates modified for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Archery: October 1 to 16. ❖ Muzzleloader: October 17 to 23. ❖ Regular firearm: October 23 to November 6. ◆ Disease control replacement antlerless permit established for hunters taking deer suspected to be infected with bovine TB. ◆ P. J. Hoffmaster State Park opened for a managed deer hunt administered by Parks and Recreation Division of DNR. ◆ Landowners issued DMAPs allowed to authorize designees on the permit with approval from DNR. ◆ Youth firearm deer season: September 24 and 25. ◆ Discount for antlerless deer license reduced from \$7.00 to \$5.00 for residents (license fee: \$10.00) and from \$68.00 to \$30.00 for non-residents (license fee: \$100.00).

YEAR	DESCRIPTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Deer license fees: \$14.00 resident, \$6.00 senior, \$7.50 junior, \$138.00 non-resident. ◆ Over 710,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season. ◆ Over 1,500,000 deer hunting licenses sold (archery, firearm, combination, and antlerless deer licenses).
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless deer hunting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Application date for private land antlerless licenses changed from July 1 to 31 to July 15 to August 15. ❖ Youths allowed to purchase an antlerless license during the application period (no application necessary). ❖ A telephone number of a landowner granting permission to hunt is required to purchase a private land antlerless deer license. ❖ Permission to hunt a parcel of at least 40 contiguous acres is required to purchase a private land antlerless deer license in Zone 1 and 2 (except within special regulations units). ❖ Antler point restrictions in DMUs 152, 155, and 252 removed (remain in effect in DMU 122) ❖ Number of private land antlerless deer licenses per hunter limited to three, with no more than two in Zones 1 and 2 combined. ◆ QDM antler point restrictions removed from DMUs 152, 155, and 252 after survey of landowners and hunters did not meet 66% approval to retain the restrictions. Antler point restrictions remain in effect in DMUs 045 and 122. "No spike" rule remains unchanged from 2001. ◆ Youth firearm deer season for 10 – 16 year olds: September 23 and 24. Youth 10 and 11 years restricted to archery equipment. ◆ Legal age to archery hunt deer lowered to 10; legal age to firearm deer hunt on private land lowered to 12. ◆ The Managed Deer Hunt permit authority is expanded to include public land requiring an access permit and open to a special firearm deer hunt by lottery. ◆ Online hunter harvest survey available to report deer harvest. ◆ Over 690,000 deer hunters hunted during the regular firearm season. ◆ Over 1,160,000 deer licenses total sold (combined archery, firearm, combination, and antlerless deer licenses).
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Antlerless deer hunting regulations from 2006 remain in effect. ◆ Unique antlerless application procedure for special regulations units. ◆ Youth firearm deer season: September 22 and 23. Youth 10 and 11 years restricted to archery equipment. ◆ Youth hunters may take an antlerless deer using a firearm or combination license during the youth deer season. ◆ Deer license fees: \$15.00 resident, \$6.00 senior, \$7.50 junior, \$138.00 non-resident.