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Issue 288

October/November 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Deer
TIPS**

**B.A.S.S.
News**

**DNR
Updates**



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Magazine

Volume 1 Issue 288

Publisher and Editor
Mark A. Goudy

Contributing Editors
West Virginia Division Of
Natural Resources

No Subscriptions Offered

Printed Every Six Weeks.

W.Va. Sportsman

P.O. Box 5521
Vienna, WV 26105

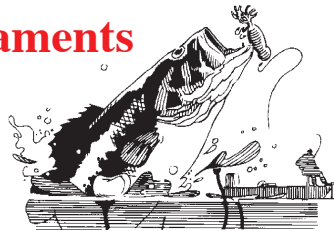
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Cover Photo

A 7 pound, 1 oz. largemouth bass was landed by Brandon Hunter at the Stonewall Classic bass event in September. Along with his father, Chris from Danville, were the overall winners of the 2 day tournament with 32 1/2 pounds.

Archery season is now in and deer gun season begins November 23 in 51 counties. Hunt safely and enjoy your time in the woods of West Virginia. Text or email your pics - Page 38

Fall Trout Stocking Announced

SOUTH CHARLESTON, WV – Gov. Jim Justice has directed the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) to implement additional improvements to its fall trout stocking method.

Anglers will have more opportunities than ever to enjoy West Virginia fishing trips this year, with the addition of two lakes to the stocking schedule, and with trout being stocked in state parks and forests so families and children have more opportunities to get outside and fish for trout.

“We have so many families with young children getting out and exploring, seeing just how spectacular West Virginia is in the fall, and they’re visiting our state parks and

forests in record numbers,” Gov. Justice said. “This is an exciting way for our children to make memories that will last a lifetime by giving them more opportunities to catch a big fish in one of our beautiful lakes.”

Traditional trout stocking will begin in streams across West Virginia on Monday, Oct. 19. Then, on Saturday, Oct. 24, the WVDNR will stock additional trout in lakes at state parks and forests. These waters include the new locations of Pendleton Lake at Blackwater Falls State Park and Pipestem Lake at Pipestem Resort State Park, as well as the following lakes:

Coopers Rock Lake at Coopers Rock State Forest
Seneca Lake at Seneca State Forest
Watoga Lake at Watoga State Park
Cacapon Lake at Cacapon Resort State Park

During the two-week season, WVDNR fisheries staff will stock trout in a total of 39 lakes and streams around the state.

Last April, Gov. Justice directed the WVDNR to begin spreading out over longer sections of streams for trout stocking, allowing for fish to be available to anglers at many new and exciting locations.

“This is now the second time in two years that Governor Justice has
continue to the next page



Colton Ring went to Tucker Co. for a good sized black bear. *Photo courtesy of Tyler Outdoor Supply in Middlebourne.*

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made significant improvements to the way we stock trout so more West Virginians can enjoy great fishing in more places than ever," said WVDNR Director Stephen McDaniel. "West Virginia's wonderful lakes and streams already provide some of the best fishing opportunities, so it's exciting when we can use our stocking program to make the experience even better for anglers and their families."

Fall trout stocking also coincides with several hunting seasons, which gives hunters and anglers plenty of options for outdoor adventures in October.

"The neat part about it is that a lot of folks can hunt in the morning and still have an opportunity to fish in the afternoon," said Jim Hedrick, hatchery program manager for the WVDNR. "One of the safest places to be right now is the outdoors, so

this provides a great opportunity to get outside and have something fun to do."

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the online stocking report will not be updated and anglers are asked to maintain a safe physical distance from stocking personnel and other anglers.

While fishing for trout, all anglers 15 and older are required to have a West Virginia fishing license, trout stamp and valid form of identification. To learn more about West Virginia's fishing regulations, visit www.wvdnr.gov. To purchase a fishing license and trout stamps, visit www.wvfish.com.

2020 Fall Stocking Waters

Anthony Creek
 Big Clear Creek
 Blackwater River
 Brandywine Lake
 Buckhannon River
 Buffalo Fork Lake

Oct/Nov 2020 ~ Page 5

Cacapon Park Lake
 Coopers Rock Lake
 Cranberry River
 Elk River
 Evitts Run
 Glade Creek of New
 Knapps Creek
 Lost River
 New Creek Dam #14
 North Fork South Branch
 Opequon Creek
 Pendleton Lake
 Pinnacle Creek
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 Pond Fork
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Extreme Weather Bass Fishing

Regardless of the time of year, we anglers like those days that are gorgeous. We know we're going to be fishing comfortably on a pretty day.

But I've learned over many decades of heading to northern Michigan that those days aren't always the best for fishing.

Call me nuts, but I have become so addicted to fishing in extreme conditions. I find myself praying for horrible weather before I get to my destination.

Extreme weather does something to those big fish this time of year, especially when cold nights send the water temperature tumbling. First, it draws them into the shallows where they are not only vulnerable, but they have an attitude to disintegrate everything they see.

A recent fishing trip was no exception, and my prayers were answered. I was in northern Michigan taping some Strike King Pro Journal shows along with Pro Bill McDonald.

As I always do, I was glued to my weather and wind apps before I went. When I saw the wind forecast was going to be ugly – like 25-

45 mph winds – I was torn. That makes it very tough for those camera guys to film when the boat is bouncing all over the place, but we had a crew that was coming and

were locked in.

I put together the best plan of attack given the conditions for getting some good footage and being

continue to page 8



Jamie Arman used a bow for a top quality buck.



Jim Merial caught a 5 lb., 12 oz. large bass at the Stonewall Classic.

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safe.

Now, if I'm going up there for fun fishing under bad conditions, it's not a problem. I get excited because that kind of wind keeps the boat ramps empty, and I'll have the lake to myself. And more importantly, I know the kind of magical experiences an angler can have in September and October when the wind is howling.

So, I put us on a lake where I thought we could catch good numbers of fish on a spinnerbait in shallow water. As expected, the bass were going nuts in that wind, slamming our spinnerbaits with vengeance. It was a blast.

I kept watching the wind direction that morning and told the crew we could catch 2s and 3s all day if we stayed or we could go someplace else and possibly catch some really big ones – or strike out completely.

We rolled the dice, loaded up and

went to the other lake.

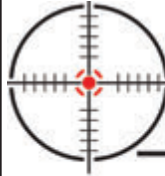
Everything came together. We caught the fire out of the really big ones, including one that pushed 7 pounds.

That's what can happen this time of year. I don't blame anyone for not going fishing when he or she walks out the door with morning coffee in hand and sees the trees swaying.

Fishing under those conditions is not conducive for small boats or inexperienced boat handlers. But if you've got a big enough rig to handle it and you know what you're getting into, hook up and go.

When I came home that Friday I felt like I had been in a 12-round fight. I was tired and beaten up by the wind and boat rides. But at the same time, I made a memory that I never would have experienced if I stayed home.

And as crazy as it sounds, when



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I saw the wind was still blowing, I wished I was still up there.



Kurt Long bagged a huge 10 point-buck with a bow in Tyler Co. *Photo courtesy of Tyler Outdoor Supply in Middlebourne.*



Michael Nuhfer, from Parkersburg, got a bow buck in Wirt Co.



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Mast Survey 2020

ELKINS, W.VA. — Hunters preparing for the fall hunting seasons can now consult the 2020 Mast Survey and Hunting Outlook, available on the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources website. Information analyzing mast conditions and wildlife harvests also is available on the website.

With the help of volunteers from various agencies, the Wildlife Resources Section of the WVDNR has conducted a fall mast survey each year since 1971 to determine the abundance of mast produced by 18 species of trees and shrubs.

"Hunters can find a wealth of facts in the Mast Survey and Hunting Outlook and it should provide them with a lot of valuable information they need before heading into the field," said Chris Ryan, supervisor of the Game Management Services of DNR's Wildlife Resources Section.

In the survey, the Wildlife Resources Section reports that production of red and black oak acorns and scarlet oak acorns are the only

continue to the next page

Hunt Safely This Season

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From 2020

Info Is On Page 38

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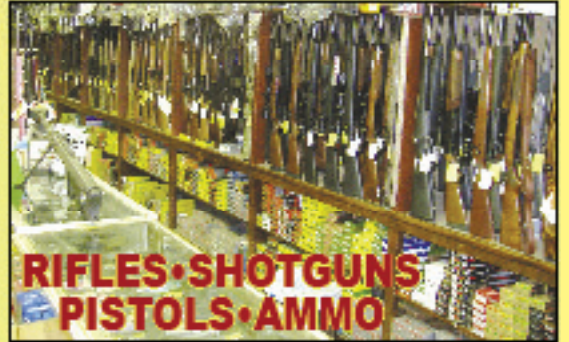
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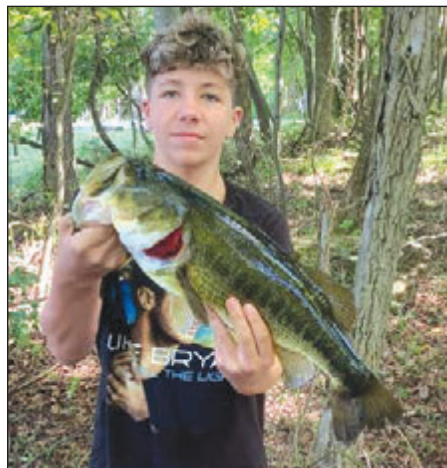
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Trevin Horn, from Kermit, used a bow for a top notch buck.

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species higher than the long-term average, which will have significant effects on the 2020-21 hunting seasons. White and chestnut oak, hickory, beech, walnut and all soft mast species are down significantly from last year and well below their long-term average.

“Hunters really need to get out and scout this year,” Ryan said. “White oak production was very limited but red and black oak was good, so hunters should concentrate their efforts in areas with ample red and black oak trees.”



April Ring took a bow buck in Tyler Co. Photo courtesy of Tyler Outdoor Supply in Middlebourne..



Brandon Jones, from Sissonville, arrowed a nice 11 point buck.

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Brandon and father Chris White, from Danville, won the 2 day Stonewall Classic with 32 lbs. 8 oz. 2nd was Nibert-Settle 25-11, 3rd Crumbliss-Merical 24-5. 4th Hanson-Birthisel 22-15 and 5th Batten-Batten 21-4.

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West Virginia Wildlife Calendar

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.VA. — Incredible paintings of native wildlife aren't the only reason the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources' award-winning calendar is a best seller every year. Known for its high-quality artwork, the annual publication also includes facts and information hunters and anglers need to plan outdoor adventures and family outings around the state.

"Our calendar is a one-stop shop for figuring out when and where to go hunting and fishing in West Virginia and includes a lot of interesting facts about our state's wildlife," said Scott Warner, assistant chief of wildlife diversity for the WVDNR. "Whether you hunt, fish or just love wildlife, this calendar has something in there for everybody."

Warner says hunters and anglers often use the calendar as a daily planner and to remind them when to buy their hunting and fishing licenses and stamps. It also includes information about moon phases, sunrises and sunsets, hunting season dates, articles about research projects and recruitment opportunities and special events throughout the year.

"If you have friends or family members who hunt and fish and don't know what to get them for Christmas, this calendar makes a great gift," Warner said.

To purchase a 2021 West Virginia Wildlife Calendar, find a list of available retail locations or download a mail-in order form, visit wvdnr.gov/wildlife/wildlifecalendar.shtm. Proceeds fund WVDNR

Wildlife Resources Section programs, such as school-based education initiatives.



Roger Daff bagged a huge black bear. *Photo courtesy of Hardcore Hunters in Grafton.*

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Elk Restoration

LOGAN, W.VA. — West Virginia's elk restoration project is wrapping up another successful summer at the Tomblin Wildlife Management Area in Logan County and the state's herd continues to grow with the addition of at least 15 calves.

Over the summer, wildlife managers for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources were able to confirm the births of about 15 calves, which brings the total elk population to about 85.

"Summer 2020 has been really good for the elk in southern West Virginia," said Randy Kelley, elk project leader for the WVDNR. "Population growth is a slow process because elk only have one new calf per female, but the herd is growing at a rate I think we'll be happy with over time."

As the elk restoration project comes to the end of its fifth year, the herd has grown to a point where where wildlife managers won't be able to count of all the elk, Kelley said. Most of the elk that were transplanted from the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area in western Kentucky and the Arizona Game and Fish Department have radio collars, but not all of the native born elk have tracking devices.

"Elk are really good at hiding
continue to the next page

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their calves and sometimes it takes us the course of a summer to figure out how many we have, but we feel like the elk have had a good reproductive year and we hope to sustain that," Kelley said.

In 2015, the WVDNR started its elk restoration project at the Tomblin WMA, which includes reclaimed strip mines and open spaces with freshly seeded grass, which is elk's preferred habitat. Elk were once native in West Virginia, but the species disappeared in the 1800s due to timbering and over-hunting.

The elk restoration project is a major conservation initiative and would not be possible without the help of key partners like the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, which have helped fund all stages of the project so far, and The Conservation Fund, which helped the WVDNR acquire tens of thousands of acres of land.

Just the chance to catch a glimpse of West Virginia's elk has made wildlife viewing tours a popular attraction at the Tomblin WMA over the last few years. This year, the tours were cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, but the WMA remains open to the public.

"Tomblin is a public area where people can come and try to see the



Matt Brown caught a 7 pound RD Biale Lake lagemouth.

elk when the bulls are in rut and bugling," Kelley said. "Getting here involves a little more shoe leather

because you'll have to hike in to get access, but it's such a beautiful place."



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WVDR Furbearer hunting, Trapping & Tagging

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.VA. — Hunting and trapping seasons for furbearing animals will start soon and state wildlife biologists are anticipating a good harvest due to solid reproduction last winter and favorable mast conditions in some areas around the state.

The raccoon hunting season starts Oct. 17 and raccoon trapping starts Nov. 7. Hunting and trapping seasons for red fox, gray fox and bobcat and trapping seasons for mink, muskrat, fisher, beaver and otter start on Nov. 7.

Electronic Check Requirements For Trappers

Trappers harvesting beaver, bobcat, fisher and otter must electronically check their catch online at wvhunt.com no later than 30 days after the close of the respective season. A game tag number issued by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources must be

recorded in writing with the trapper's name and address on a field tag, which must be attached to each pelt or whole animal until it's sold, tanned, processed into commercial fur or mounted.

The WVDNR uses game checking data to monitor harvests around the state and assist in future management of each species. Decisions regarding the length of seasons, opening and closing dates and bag limits depend on accurate data from these tags.

WVDNR Accepting Otter Carcasses For Research

Trappers are being asked to deliver skinned otter carcasses to their local DNR district office. If a hunt-

er is unable to deliver the carcass, they should contact a district office to arrange a pickup. Examination of these carcasses provide important information that allows for informed decision-making regarding furbearer management and future trapping seasons. A \$20 gift certificate will be issued for each useable otter carcass turned into the WVDNR.

continue to the next page



Tammy Biddle, from Parkersburg, caught a nice tiger musky.



Roger Russell reeled in a 7 pound Stonewall Jackson largemouth.

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CITES Seal Requirements

The WVDNR advises hunters and trappers to obtain a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) seal for each bobcat and otter pelt harvested in West Virginia. The plastic seal is necessary only if the pelts will be shipped out of state. Federal law requires the seal on all bobcat and otter pelts if they will eventually be shipped to international markets such as those in Canada. Bobcats and river otters are not endangered species, but they may be confused with similar looking species found on the international market.

CITES seals must be obtained from the state where the animals were harvested. Seals may be obtained from the Elkins Operations

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Center and any DNR district office. Trappers should call ahead to ensure personnel authorized to seal pelts will be available.

For more information about hunting and trapping seasons, visit wvdnr.gov or download a copy of the 2020-21 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary. To purchase a West Virginia hunting and

trapping license, visit wvhunt.com.



Damien Salmons went to Mingo County for a wide racked 8 point buck.



Scott Lontz, from Vienna, caught a 4 lb. 11 oz. bass for lunker in a tournament in Ravenswood. Fishing with Joe Michael, they won the tournament.

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 Rate Information
 On Page 3

Conaway Range Reopens

PARKERSBURG, W.VA. — The W&s reopened the public shooting range at Conaway Run Wildlife Management Area in Tyler County. The range was closed for renovations and repairs in August and September.

Renovations and repairs included construction of a new shoot-

ing range shelter and concrete pad, shooting benches, expanded parking area, vegetation removal, regarding and drainage improvements. The shelter now includes a handicapped-accessible shooting bench, parking area and concrete loading and unloading pad. The new backstops at 25-, 50- and 100-yards may be accessed by a graveled walkway.

“We are very excited to present this newly upgraded facility to the sporting public,” said Jerry Westfall, District 6 wildlife biologist. “This project would not be possible without the help of Antero Resources, Litman Excavating and Construction, the Middle Island Longbeards Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the sporting public. We encourage local sportsmen and women to visit this new facility and take advantage of the expanded shooting opportunities.”

For more information about the Conaway Run WMA shooting range, contact the DNR District 6 Office in Parkersburg at 304-420-4550.

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Parker Maston caught a huge walleye at the Willow Island Dam.



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Deer Hunting Tips

How do you become a great deer hunter and be able to bag every buck that you target in the woods? Consider this scenario:

Hunter A goes to a given hunting spot and skillfully clean kills a monster buck; Hunter B goes to the same place and fails to knock down a single deer.

The difference between the two hunters?

It's simple: Hunter A has all the skills and tricks necessary to trick that deer into his range for a nice shot.

There are probably numerous deer hunters in real life who always finds themselves in a similar situation to Hunter B.

If you're one of these hunters, you can raise your game in the woods by learning some powerful skills and tips.

Whether you are a veteran deer hunter or a beginner venturing into the woods for the first time, the tips below will help you maximize your hunting prowess in no time...

7 Tips and Tricks That Will Make You A Great Deer Hunter

Cover Your Scent

continue to the next page

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Isaac Mullens - 13 - got his first gobbler in Webster County.



Ryan Friend landed a nice channel catfish at Burnsville Lake.



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The ability to fully cover up your scent is one of the primary determinants of whether your deer hunting sessions will be a success or not.

The deer can sense human smell a mile away – not forgetting that they can also detect the smell you leave on the ground as well as in the air as you walk.

The good news is that you can easily cover up you scent and prevent the deer from detecting you by using some scent eliminator (I've only tried this brand). Simply spray the bottom of your boots and hunting stand with an odor eliminator.

Bathing with a scent-free soap (like this one) before every hunting trip also ensures that you don't leave your scent in the air.

One more thing: always ensure that you're downwind to your range to further prevent the game from detecting your smell.

2. Dupe the Deer

If you fall into the category of deer hunters who don't believe in tricking deer with decoys, calls, etc., then you have been missing a lot!

But it's never too late. You can start incorporating different methods of tricking the deer into your range and thus increase your luck in the woods.

Decoys can be an excellent way to fool the deer. Modern models come with lifelike features that enable them to trick the deer easily.

As long your decoy setup is correct, you'll surely get deer visitors

to your hunting area.

Other methods of duping the deer include the use of calls, e.g. the grunt tube and bleat cans and even the rattling of antlers to draw in the deer to your range for a perfect shot!

3. Be Attractive

Using deer attractants is another strategy that veteran hunters have been using to maximize their hunting success.

Fortunately, the market has all kinds of deer attractants; ranging from deer feed, deer urine, deer feeders, and so much more. (or you can make your own deer feeder!)

These enable you to attract the deer to your stand for easy take-down.

A great example where the deer attractants have been proven to work is the use of the drag rag soaked in the doe estrus in the peak-rut season.

Often, bucks will follow these trails right to your waiting stand!

4. Try Using a Bow

Using a compound bow or cross-bow has proven to be a great asset when it comes to deer hunting and many hunters swear by it.

But to enjoy the ultimate success when using your bow and arrow in the woods, you need to take care of a few things:

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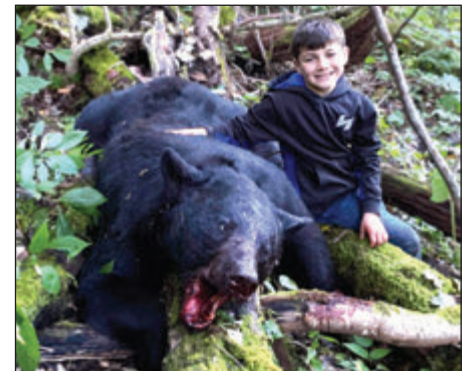
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Dakota Adkins-7- bagged a large black bear on a family hunt.



Jeremy Cloonan, from Flat Top, went to Kentucky for a bow buck in velvet.

Good Luck On Your 2020 Hunting Season



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and strength and that you're comfortable using.

Accuracy matters most: when that magical moment appears (when the buck enters your shooting range), you've got only one chance and your accuracy is all you need to grab the chance. Do everything to ensure you get the buck down with the first shot. Employ accuracy enhancing accessories such as the single pin bow sight. Don't let the opportunity go!

Practice makes perfect: if you wait until the hunting day to use your bow, you'll definitely fail. The surest way to hone your archery skills is by practicing shooting at differ-



Easton Border got his 1st gobbler in Jackson County.

ent elevations and positions using readily available archery targets.

Use razor-sharp broadheads: most bowhunters recommend this type of arrowhead, quoting its capability to kill the game more efficiently and even leave a good blood trail.

Know your distance: did you know that most of the missed shots are attributed to wrong yardage estimations? When in your tree stand, try ranging the trees at different distances and use them as landmarks in your head. A rangefinder will also be helpful here.

Deer Hunting Tip 5 Be Quiet 5. Be Quiet

So you believe that after fully covering your human scent you're safe?

You're wrong.

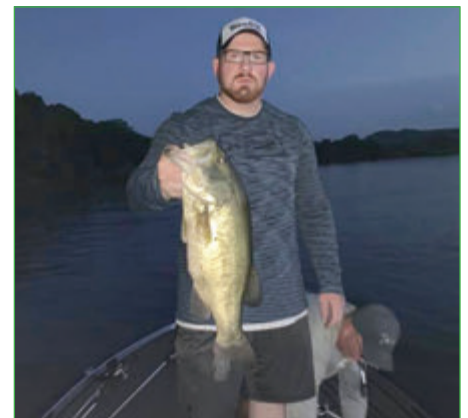
Deer have excellent hearing as

well. In fact, they can quickly detect your movements from a quarter mile away on a non-windy day!

And if they hear your movements, they can take around two hours to return.

You can avoid making any noise

continue to page 24



Kyle Warner landed a huge largemouth bass at night.

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Ammunition Retail Price List

Effective January 3, 1972. Subject to change without notice.



Cartridge	Wt. Grs.	Type of Bullet	Retail Per Box
218 Bee	46	HP	10.80
22 Hornet	45	SP	10.35
22 Hornet	46	HP	10.35
22-250	55	PSP	4.65
222 Rem.	50	PSP	4.25
225 Win	55	PSP	4.65
243 Win (6mm)	80	PSP	5.85
243 Win (6mm)	100	PP (SP)	5.85
25 Auto (6.35mm)	50	FMC (OP)	5.70
25-06	90	PEP	6.40
25-06	120	PEP	6.40
25-20 Win	86	L	8.25
25-20 Win	86	SP	9.20
25-35 Win	117	SP	5.75
250 Savage	87	PSP	5.50
250 Savage	100	ST Exp	5.50
256 Win Magnum	60	OPE	10.10
257 Roberts	87	PSP	6.05
257 Roberts	100	ST Exp	6.05
257 Roberts	117	PP (SP)	6.05
264 Win Mag	100	PSP	7.95
264 Win Mag	140	PP (SP)	7.95
270 Win	100	PSP	6.40
270 Win	130	PP (SP)	6.40
270 Win	130	ST Exp	6.40
270 Win	150	PP (SP)	6.40
284 Win	125	PP (SP)	6.40
284 Win	150	PP (SP)	6.40
7 mm Maus. (7*57)	175	SP	6.40
7mm Rem Mag	150	PP (SP)	7.95
7mm Rem Mag	175	PP (SP)	7.95
30 Carbine	110	HSP	10.05
30 Luger (7.65mm)	93	FMC (OP)	9.05
30-30 Win	150	HP	5.00
30-30 Win	150	PP (SP)	5.00
30-30 Win	150	ST Exp	5.00
30-30 Win	170	PP (SP)	5.00
30-30 Win	170	ST Exp	5.00
30 Rem	170	ST Exp	5.85
30-06 Spgld	110	PSP	6.40
30-06 Spgld	125	PSP	6.40
30-06 Spgld	150	PP (SP)	6.40
300-06 Spgld	150	ST Exp	6.40
30-06 Spgld	180	PP (SP)	6.40
30-06 Spgld	180	ST Exp	6.40
30-06 Spgld	220	PP (SP)	6.40
30-06 Spgld	220	ST Exp	6.40

Symbol No.	Cartridge	Wt. Grs.	Type of Bullet	Retail Per Box
W3006M1	30-06 Spgld W Cup	180	FMC BF	9.45
*30401	30-40 Krag	180	PP (SP)	6.50
*30403	30-40 Krag	180	ST Exp	6.50
*30404	30-40 Krag	220	ST Exp	6.50
W30WM1	300 Win Magnum	150	PP (SP)	9.35
W30WM2	300 Win Magnum	180	PP (SP)	9.35
W30WM3	300 Win Magnum	220	ST Exp	9.35
W300H1	300 H & H Mag	150	ST Exp	9.35
W300H2	300 H & H Mag	180	ST Exp	9.35
W300H3	300 H & H Mag	220	ST Exp	9.35
W3001	300 Savage	150	PP (SP)	6.20
W3003	300 Savage	150	ST Exp	6.20
W3004	300 Savage	180	PP (SP)	6.20
W3005	300 Savage	180	ST Exp	6.20
W3032	303 Savage	190	ST Exp	6.45
W303B1	303 British	180	PP (SP)	6.45
W3081	308 Win	110	PSP	6.40
W3087	308 Win	125	PSP	6.40
W3085	308 Win	150	PP (SP)	6.40
W3082	308 Win	150	ST Exp	6.40
W3086	308 Win	180	PP (SP)	6.40
W3083	308 Win	180	ST Exp	6.40
W3084	308 Win	200	ST Exp	6.40
W32WS2	32 Win Spec	170	PP (SP)	5.15
W32WS3	32 Win Spec	170	ST Exp	5.15
*W32AP	32 Automatic	71	FMC (OP)	6.50
*W32SWP	32 S & W	85	L (OP)	5.00
*W32SWLP	32 Smith & Wesson Long	98	L (OP)	5.20
*32SCP	32 Short Colt	80	Lub (OP)	5.00
*32LCP	32 Long Colt	82	Lub (OP)	5.20
*W32CNP	32 Colt New Police	98	L (OP)	6.05
W32R2	32 Rem	170	ST Exp	6.05
*W32201	32-20 Win	100	L (OP)	7.20
*W32202	32-20 Win	100	SP (OP)	9.00
WBMM	8mm Mauser (8*57, 7.9)	170	PP (SP)	6.40
W3381	338 Win Mag	200	PP (SP)	8.60
W3382	338 Win Mag	250	ST Exp	8.60
W3383	338 Win Mag	300	PP (SP)	8.60
W3482	348 Win	200	ST Exp	8.95
W35R1	35 Rem	200	PP (SP)	5.80
W35R3	35 Rem	200	ST Exp	5.80
*W351SL2	351 Win SL	180	SP (OP)	12.65
*3571P	357 Mag	159	Lub (OP)	7.30
*3572P	357 Mag	158	Met.Pierce (OP)	8.30
*3574P	357 Mag	158	JHP	8.55

Symbol No.	Cartridge	Wt. Grs.	Type of Bullet	Retail Per Box
*3575P	357 Mag	158	JSP	8.55
W3581	358 Win (8.8mm)	200	ST Exp	7.75
W3582	358 Win (8.8mm)	250	ST Exp	7.75
W375H1	375 H & H Mag	270	PP (SP)	10.20
W375H2	375 H & H Mag	300	ST Exp	10.20
W375H3	375 H & H Mag	300	FMC	10.20
*W9LP	9mm Luger (Par)	115	FMC (OP)	8.10
*W9MMP	9mm Luger (Par)	100	PP	8.10
*W38SWP	38 S & W	145	L (OP)	6.15
*W38S1P	38 Spec	158	L (OP)	6.20
*W38S2P	38 Spec	158	MP (OP)	7.65
*W38S3P	38 Spec	200	L (OP)	6.45
*W38SPD	38 Spec	158	HP (OP)	7.65
W38WCP	38 Spec	158	SWC	6.40
*38S4P	38 Spec SX	150	Lub (OP)	6.70
*38SSP	38 Spec SX	150	Met.Pierce (OP)	7.95
*W38SMRP	38 Spec Mid-Range Match	148	Sharp Corner	6.45
*38SMP	38 Spec SM	158	L (OP)	6.30
*38SCP	38 Short Colt	130	Lub (OP)	5.60
*38LCP	38 Long Colt	150	Lub (OP)	6.20
*W38A1P	38 Automatic SS (For use only in 38 Colt Super and Colt Commander Automatic Pistols.)	130	FMC (OP)	6.90
*W38A2P	38 Automatic (For all 38 Colt Automatic Pistols.)	130	FMC (OP)	6.90
*W380AP	380 Automatic	95	FMC (OP)	6.70
*W3840	38-40 Win	180	SP (OP)	10.70
*W44SP	44 S & W Special	246	L (OP)	8.40
*44MP	44 Mag SX	240	Lub (GC)	10.95
*44MHSP	44 Mag SX	240	HSP	4.50
*W4440	44-40 Win	200	SP (OP)	12.85
*W45CP	45 Colt	295	L (OP)	8.40
*W45A1P	45 Automatic	230	FMC (OP)	8.75
*45AWCP	45 Automatic SM Clean Cutting	185	FMC	9.25
W4570	45-70 Govt	405	SP	7.90
W4580	458 Win Mag	500	FMC	18.95
W4581	458 Win Mag	510	SP	12.45

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*W32BL1P	32 Smith & Wesson (No Bullet) Smokeless	4.35
*W32BL2P	32 Smith & Wesson (No Bullet) Black Pow.	4.35
*W38BLP	38 Smith & Wesson (No Bullet) Smokeless	4.50
*W38SBLP	38 Spec. (No Bullet) Smokeless	7.00

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Oct/Nov 2020 ~ Page 23



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on the hunting day by setting up your stand 1-2 days before.

You might also want to walk carefully and step with great care to minimize the chances of your sound spooking the deer.

Wearing special sound eliminating hunting boots or boot covers can drastically reduce the noise you make while walking.

6. Know When to Hunt

Anytime is not the time to hunt the deer...

For the most part, deer are active in the early morning as well as near dusk.

This means that the best time to hunt them is early in the morning and in the evening as the sun sets.

For the evening hunts, you ought to set up your stand around the deer feeding area. And for a morning hunt, set up on its route to bedding.

It's good to note that this strategy does not apply at all times.

If you're in the rut season, feel free to hunt at any time of the day – since the buck will show up at any place, anytime. But be sure to remain downwind of the does.

7. Know Where to Hunt

Scouting a hunting area before the hunting season is recommended.

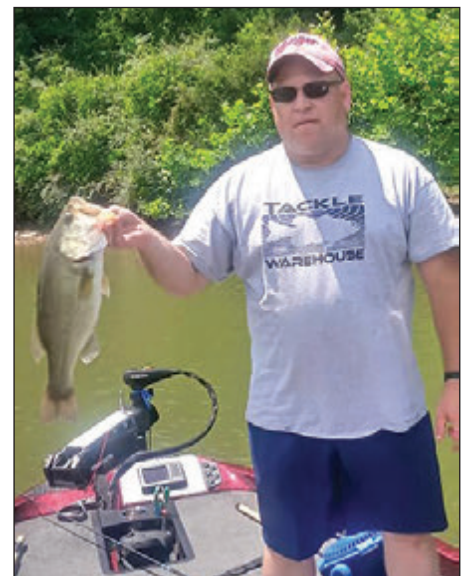
The deer will need to feed, drink, defecate, and mate.

When and where they do all these things is what you should set out to discover so that you can secure an ideal hunting location.

Different times of the year will always put the deer into different home ranges which are easy to identify by looking for various evidence and indicators such as tracks and droppings.

Final Thoughts

So, these are the top skills, tips, and tricks that you need to incorporate into your deer hunting if you want to make all your hunting sessions a success.



Danny Harper landed a largemouth bass over 5 pounds recently.

Fall Bluegill Fishing

During the summer you can find an abundance of small bluegill in hot shallow water, but big bluegill seek cooler temperatures in deep water. When the weather turns cooler in the fall and water temperatures start dropping the big bluegill move briefly to the shallows again to feed. As the days grow shorter and water temperatures start plummeting bigger bluegill return to deeper water.

Here are 10 tips you need to know to catch more bluegill this fall.

10) Target Shallow Cover

When big bluegill move to the shallows, the fish seek shelter around any available cover. Prime cover for bluegill includes docks, laydown logs, stumps, lily pads and grass mats.

9) Think Small

Bluegill have a voracious appetite but a small mouth so you need to tempt them with small jigs and spinners if you prefer using artificial baits for these panfish. Cast these lures next to the weed lines, docks or wood cover to catch bigger bluegill.

8) Offer The Real Deal

Live bait is hard to beat when big bluegill are foraging in the shallows. My favorite live bait for bluegill is a cricket, but other real baits that trigger bites are grubs,

continue to page 27

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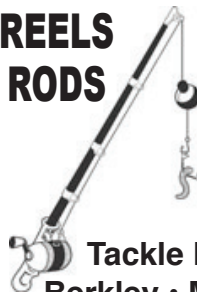


Paige Bland reeled in a big rainbow trout.



Justin Stanton hooked a nice large-mouth at night.

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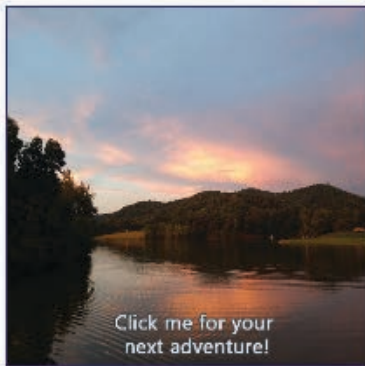
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ISSUE 286 July/August 2020

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SUMMER Catfish	B.A.S.S. News	DNR Updates
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worms and grasshoppers.

7) Float Your Bait

The easiest and most effective way to catch big bluegill in the shallows is to float your bait under a bobber. Crimp a split shot about 6 inches above your bait and attach a fixed bobber another 6 inches or 1 foot above the split shot depending on how shallow you find bluegill. Make sure you use as small of a bobber as possible to allow the bluegill to easily pull the float under the surface.

6) Try Fly Fishing

Fall is a great time to try fly fishing for bluegill when the bigger fish are in the shallows. Some flies to try are nymphs, dragon flies, poppers, soft hackles, wooly worms, wet flies and small streamers. Wind can be a problem in the fall so you will need to use a heavier fly line during this season.

5) Follow The Transitions

As water temperatures continue to drop by late fall, dying weeds in shallow water create lower oxygen levels so bigger bluegill move to deeper water to find more favorable conditions. The fish will move out to depths of 15 to 20 feet where they will set up on deep weed lines, drop-offs and points.

4) Rely On Your Electronics

continue to page 29

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Adam Hudson had success with a high rack bow buck.



Grant Owens-13-harvested an 8 point buck with a bow in Wood Co.

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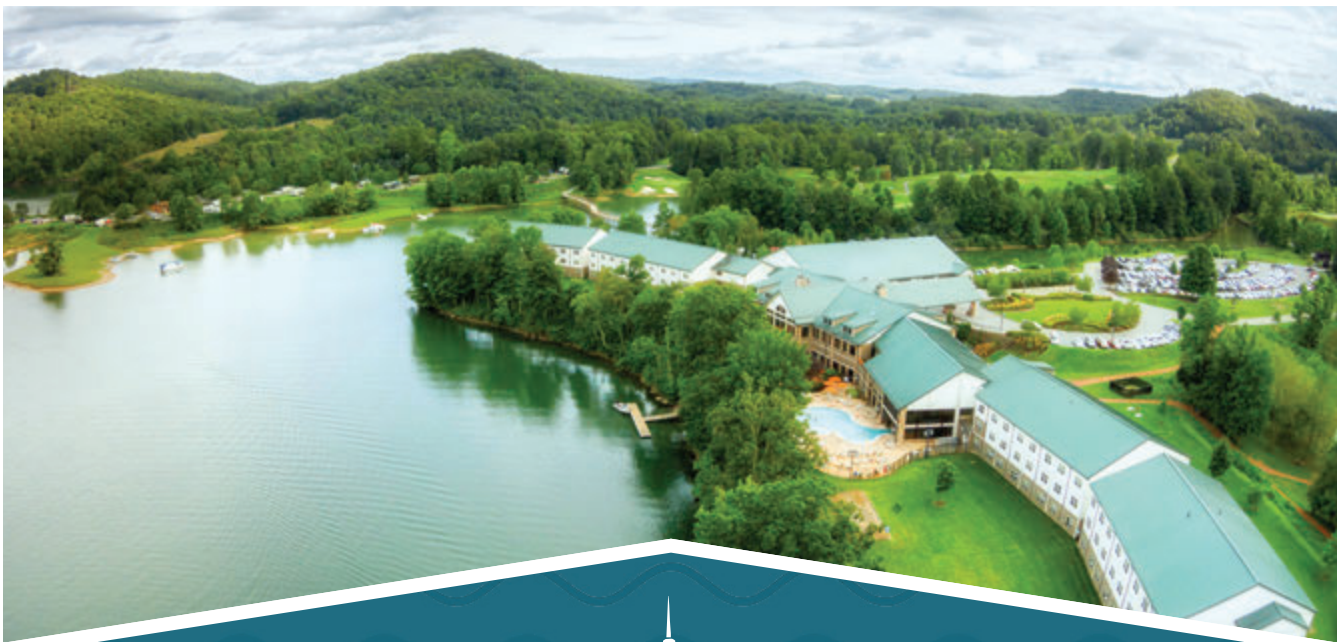


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Big bluegill congregate in large schools during late fall and are easy to find with reliable electronics. Once you find the school, mark a waypoint to help you stay close to the school while casting or vertical jigging for the panfish in deeper water.

3) Tipping Baits For Deep Fish

Tipping a small jig with a mealworm, wax worm or a piece of nightcrawler works best for fall bluegill in deep water. When fishing deep, cast to any cover first to catch any bluegill suspended over



Landon Conaway used an arrow on a 10 point. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*



Kaden Moore caught an 8 lb. 10 oz. rainbow trout. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*

the cover and then move in closer to vertical jig for any fish holding tight to the cover.

2) Experiment With Different Colors

Try various colors when fishing jigs or spinners in shallow or deep water until you find which hue bluegill prefer each day. Try flashy or bright colored lures in murky water, but opt for more natural colors such as brown, black, green pumpkin or watermelon for fishing in clear water for autumn bluegill.

1) Use Light Fishing Line

When fishing deep for bluegill in late fall, you should rely on light line to detect the slight taps of bluegill when the water gets colder and the fish's metabolism slows. Spool your spinning reel with 2-4 lb line to help you feel those light bites.

Try these techniques this fall for a tasty bluegill meal.

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Gerald McClain reeled in a big golden trout. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.*

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Fall Catfishing Techniques

When the weather cools in the fall, the action gets hot for catfish. Some catfish experts claim fall is one of the best times to catch catfish because the fish can be caught on a variety of methods.

Here are 10 tips you need to know to catch more catfish during autumn.

10) Bait Choice

Channel catfish will eat a wide range of bait choices from cut baits and live baits of bluegill and shad to chicken livers or stink baits. The cut baits become more productive in late fall because stink baits and livers lose effectiveness as the water cools. The best fall baits for blue cats are cut baits and live baits in the form of shad and bluegill, while flatheads prefer live bluegill, green sunfish, shiners, goldfish and crawfish.

9) Very Depths

Baitfish scatter after a lake turns over in the fall so catfish will be feeding at various levels of the water column. You can still fish some baits on the bottom, but you will also need to float some baits under



David Baldwin hooked a huge Kanawah River blue catfish..

large slip bobbers. Catfish move around a lot in the fall, so fishing with a float allows you to cover more water.

8) Target Riprap

Rock riprap is ideal habitat for catfish because it provides cover, depth and shade. Riprap is a home for crawfish, a favorite catfish meal, and attracts other catfish forage such as shad and minnows that eat algae growing on the submerged rocks.

7) Troll Crankbaits

Some riprap stretches for miles along a shoreline, so one of the best ways to cover water quickly is to troll shad and crawfish-imitating crankbaits along the rocks. I was introduced to this technique by a guide who trolled crawfish crankbaits that he bounced along riprap on the Mississippi River. The tactic produced channel, blue and flat-head cats the day I fished with him.

6) Key On Flats

Throughout the fall, catfish will continue to feed on baitfish along the shallow flats until falling water temperatures cause the fish to move towards deeper water. The fish will linger in the shallows as long as the water temperatures gradually decline, but quick changes in

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Cory Bailey, from Kenna, caught a big Elk Fork Lake largemouth.

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temperature and water clarity will force catfish to move out deeper to find more stable water conditions.

5) Anchor On Break Lines

When catfish vacate the shallows, their first staging spots are break lines where the water drops off in the 6- to 15-foot range depending on the fishery. One of the most effective ways to catch these staging cats is anchoring your boat on the top edge of the break line and spread your lines at various depths along the contour. Place some lines on the upper edge of the contour, a few on the drop off and other lines in the deeper end of the break.

4) Go Deep Later

As water temperatures drop below 50 degrees in late autumn, catfish move to deeper water on the main lake, but still venture shallow to feed along points and humps. Key on these shallow structures during warm, sunny days and switch to nearby holes in the 25- to 40-foot range when the weather turns nasty.

3) Get The Drift

One of the most popular ways to catch blue and channel catfish during fall and other seasons is drift fishing. In early fall try drifting baits with the wind along the shallow flats, but if the weather

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Jordan Juilfs hooked a 22 1/2" largemouth at North Bend Lake.



Adam Price landed a nice flathead at Indian Lake in Pinch..

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ng planer boards allows you to drift your baits farther away from your boat.

2) Bird Watching

Circling and diving gulls indicate schools of baitfish are near the surface and game fish such as white bass and largemouth bass are busting through the bait. Trophy blue and flathead cats lurk below this



PJ Saltis shot an early season black bear. Photo courtesy of Hardcore Hunters in Grafton.

www.wvasportsman.net



Kaitlyn Arbaugh harvested a black bear. Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.

activity picking off any injured baitfish sinking to the bottom.

1) Logging For Flatheads

Veteran catfish anglers consider fall as the prime time of the year to catch trophy flatheads because the big fish are feeding heavily in preparation for winter. Look for heavyweight flatheads in big log-jams along sharp bends of a river and drop big baits such as 1-pound bullheads, suckers or carp into the cover.



Jarred Young brought in a bow buck.

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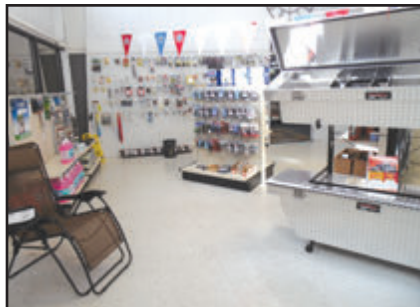
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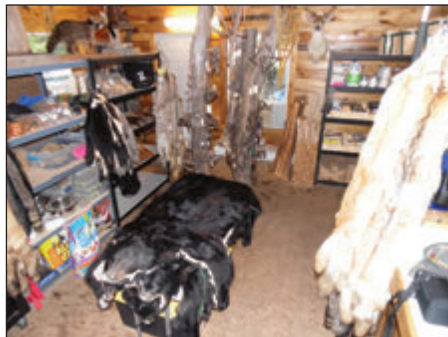
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Attracting Deer

It's amazing how deer can sometimes be guided to do what you want them to do. We're not talking about "deer whisperer" hocus pocus or anything like that; we mean making subtle changes in a deer's environment that encourages them to take specific and desired courses of action.

Probably 10 years ago, I wanted to set up a hunting spot behind the house that was quick to get into after work. Sometimes, especially after daylight savings time ended, I had only 30 minutes between the end of the workday and dark to hunt. I needed a place I could quickly walk to and one that was positioned so I could get into my stand without blowing out any deer in the area.

My choices were extremely limited. The area behind the house was a steep, decades-old cow pasture that had been overtaken by hardwoods, greenbriers, autumn olives, and a choking mix of grape vines and hawthorn trees. There was a marginal flat running along the hillside
continue to the next page



Stan Seckman went to Lincoln Co. for a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Tyler Outdoor Supply in Middlebourne.

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Dalton Cutwright, owner

that deer used to travel from one thicket to the next, but it offered no stand opportunities. Below this flat, though, was just the barest trace of a deer trail. Actually, it was the remnant of a cattle path from decades past that deer would occasionally step onto. It was here that I found enough open area to launch an arrow to around 25 or 30 yards. I could enter the woods about 40 yards away, heading into the wind, and I could walk out of the house and be on my stand in five minutes. Perfect.

The problem was, the deer didn't think too highly of the area. The first year I bowhunted that parcel, the action was less than exciting.

The following year, I put out a trace mineral block I got from the hardware store for about \$7 to try to attract deer. That got their attention. The next year, I put out a new block and started to drip some deer urine around the site. That old cat-

tle trail soon became worn down to fresh dirt and another trail showed up, this one coming off the flat above.

In the years since, this spot has become my "freezer supply zone." When I need to put venison on ice, it's the go-to place. Any deer cruising through the country usually wends its way down to my stand. The ground is barren from the years of pawing and licking, and the deer have even begun to use my own beaten path to my stand for their travel route to the hay field below my house.

Most importantly, they don't always come this way just to lick minerals or check out whatever scent I may have hanging about. I managed to successfully bend their normal travel habits along this side of the hill.

Last year, during the week leading up to the rut, I had several non-shooter bucks cruise by my stand, simply going from here to there. They were sniffing for hot

does, and this was the area those bucks knew they had to check out.

In short, I created a whitetail happening to suit my hunting needs — a place I could get to quickly and easily with some assurance that deer would show up.

A lot of hunters are no different.
continue to the next page



Austin Dalton used a bow in Ritchie Co. for an 8 point. Photo courtesy of Tyler Outdoor Supply in Middlebourne.

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They may have limited time to hunt or limited property to hunt on, and attracting deer toward their available hunting spot is their only option.

How to Attract Deer

If that sounds like you, here's a few helpful hints to get things heated up in your hunting country.

First, of course, is to figure out the area where deer are most likely to be or would be likely come to, if given a good reason. Look for existing travel routes through the area. Trails with fresh prints are good indications. Next, verify recent activity by setting up a trail cam. Capturing a deer on the cam-

era every other day or so may not get you all pumped up, but that's okay. At this point, you just want to determine that the area has the potential for deer to pass through. Trace Mineral Block or Salt Lick

Once you've decided that the site has potential, you need to give deer a reason to linger. For that, I've found no better performing or more cost-effective way to do this than to set out a trace mineral block or to establish a salt lick using a granulated salt/mineral mix. You'll first need to check the game laws to make sure that this is legal in your state because some states lump salt licks under baiting.

Should establishing a mineral lick not be an option open to you (you also need to ask the landowner's permission before doing this), the other way to set up a must-visit site is to start a few scrapes.

Mock Scrapes and Licking Branches

Most deer hunters understand that scrapes (and their inherent lick branches) in the whitetail world are

continue to the next page



Rachael King, from Fairmont, brought in a great bow buck.

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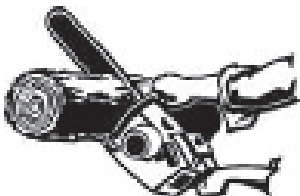
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an important means of communication, allowing deer to know who's in the neighborhood. These are particularly important for bucks as breeding season gets in full swing. Dominant bucks use lick branches and scrapes (the two go together like peanut butter and jelly) to reinforce their territorial claims and to check for does that may be ready to breed. (Does use scrapes and lick branches, too.)

What a lot of hunters don't realize is that scrapes and lick branches are used year-round. That means it is perfectly fine to start a mock scrape mid- to late summer.

Where to place a mock scrape or two depends on your situation.



Adam Kelly arrowed a huge McDowell County whitetail buck.



Joel Miller used a bow in Jackson Co. for a great buck.



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J	E	R	E	W	N	G	O	C	R	N	A	E	N	E	I	Z	N	L	O
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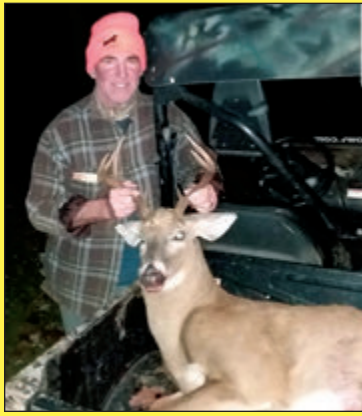


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