

# Area deer hunters continue to report their '97 successes

Deer hunting opportunities are dwindling down. Late archery and the special antlerless-only season are the only seasons that remain open for hunters still itching to put some venison in the freezer. Although the opportunities are declining, the success reports are still rolling in.

It's already been a month since Thanksgiving, but the excitement of bagging a buck of a lifetime over the Thanksgiving holiday still lingers for Marty Collier.

While heading out to his blind on a farm in northern Oakland County on Nov. 25, a pair of does raced out from a nearby wooded lot Collier had just walked through. Hot on their tails was a 9-point buck soon wandered by.

"He was coming my way with his head down," explained Ward. "He stopped right in my shooting lane and raised his head, but he was looking the other way so I took the shot."

By 8:05 a.m. Ward was back in his house waking his wife to help him drag his first buck in over 20 years of hunting.

Farmington Hills hunter Tom Byrde had a fantastic fall. On opening weekend of the archery hunting season Byrde arrowed a trophy 8-point buck while hunting from a tree stand on private land near Baldwin.

On opening day of gun season Byrde shot a 6-point buck that had four times on one side and two on the other.

Jamie Batterby broke a 10-year drought this fall and he did it in a big way. The Westland hunter shot his first deer ever when he tagged a button buck on state land in Pinckney during the early archery hunting season. He followed that up by dropping a spike with his shotgun while hunting near Osceola during the firearms season.

Anglers and hunters are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, AL 36005. Fax information to (248) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (248) 901-2573.

But the story doesn't quite end there. During the early archery season Collier arrowed a 7-point buck. "After I gun the one I thought to myself, seven come 11," he added with a grin.

## OUTDOOR INSIGHTS



BILL PARKER

■ Another area hunter had an equally exciting hunt early in the firearms season. Chuck Ward moved from Farmdale to Oxford a little over two years ago. One of the benefits of living in a rural area is that now Ward can walk out his back door and start hunting, which is exactly what he did on Nov. 16, the day before his 45th birthday. An active participant in Cowboy Shoots, Ward was hunting with his .44 magnum six-shot revolver - a Ruger Super Blackhawk.

Ward awoke a little later that morning and didn't leave his house until 7:30 a.m. Since it was so late, and since he didn't think he'd stay out in the woods very long, Ward trudged through some four inches of snow with nothing on his feet but a pair of street shoes. He arrived at his blind and didn't have to wait long for the action to heat up as a 9-point buck soon wandered by.

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## DATES/DEADLINES

**BASS**  
Bass season ends statewide on Dec. 31.

**DEER**  
The second archery season runs through Jan. 1 statewide. A special late antlerless only firearms season runs through Jan. 4 on private land only in Zone III.

**GOOSE**  
The special late Canada goose season runs Jan. 2-Feb. 1 in southern Michigan. The boundaries for the late hunt have been changed this year and are now the same as those for the South Zone of the regular waterfowl season. The entire south zone is open during the late hunt with the exception of the five GMU's.

**SQUIRREL**  
Fox and gray squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

**RABBIT**  
Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

## CLASSES

**FLY TYING**  
The Challenge Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Birmingham Continuing Education will offer a 10-week fly tying class beginning at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at Birmingham Seaholm High School. Registration begins Jan. 5. Call (248) 203-3800 for more information.

## ARCHERY

**JUNIOR OLYMPICS**  
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

**JUNIOR ARCHERS**  
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9810 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

## OUTDOOR CLUBS

**SOLAR**  
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation, a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

## FISHING CLUBS

## OUTDOOR CALENDAR

**CLINTON VALLEY BASS ANGLERS**  
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers is seeking new members (bassers and non-bassers are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gardner Mountain in Waterford. The next meeting is slated for 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. Call Mike Daily at (248) 668-8910 for more information.

**METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS**  
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

**MICHIGAN FLY FISHING**  
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

**FOUR SEASONS**  
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizen's Center in the Livonia Civic Center. Call Jim Kudej at (313) 591-0843 for more information.

**FISHING BUDDIES**  
Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. Call (248) 656-0556.

## BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Dearborn Civic Center. Call (313) 676-2863 for more information.

## SHOOTING RANGES

**BALD MOUNTAIN**  
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (except & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are noon to sunset on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to sunset on Wednesdays. On Saturdays and Sundays the rifle and pistol range is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the sporting clays course is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield Rd. (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

**PONTIAC LAKE**  
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Road. Call (810) 666-1020 for more information.

**ORTONVILLE RECREATION**  
Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 22 are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Road. Call (810) 693-6767 for more information.

## METROPARKS

**METROPARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7766; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

**1998 PERMITS**  
The 1998 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 and \$8 for senior citizens. The annual boat launching permits are \$18 and \$9 for senior citizens. Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

## TRUCK TIRE SAVINGS!

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3429 Rochester Rd. (at Pioneer Lakes) • 893-8081

STERLING HEIGHTS • 838-4700

4025 Van Dyke Rd. (at Pioneer Lakes) • 893-8081

NOVI • 247-1501

42900 Grosse Pointe Ave. (at Lakeview) • 247-1501

FARMINGTON HILLS • 377-7812

30700 W. 13 Mile Rd. (at Orchard Lake) • 377-7812

CLINTON TOWNSHIP • 780-1800

33033 Grand Ave. (at 15 Mile Rd.) • 893-8081

NEW HARTFORD • 893-8081

28300 23 Mile Rd. (at 15 Mile Rd.) • 893-8081

CENTERLINE • 810-781-1800

26005 Van Dyke

LIVONIA • 810-4210

10215 Mack Centre Rd. (at Orchard Lake) • 810-4210

PORT HURON • 420-2411

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