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Attention Hunters: New Rules to Protect Ontario from Chronic Wasting Disease

If you hunt in Ontario, natural attractants containing body parts of any member of the deer family may no longer be possessed or used for the purposes of hunting

If you hunt outside of Ontario and want to possess and/or bring in carcasses or parts of members of the deer family (i.e. deer, American elk, moose and caribou) from out of province, you need to know about the new regulations. These changes are now in effect.

Natural attractants containing body parts of any member of the deer family may no longer be possessed or used for the purposes of hunting

Possession and use of products that contain body parts of any member of the deer family, including blood, urine, gland oils, and other fluids, for the purposes of hunting, is no longer permitted. Hunters will still be allowed to possess and use artificial or plant-based products that can attract wildlife or be used as a cover scent, but they must not contain any body parts of a member of the deer family.

Possession of out-of-province harvested carcasses and their high-risk parts of moose and caribou banned

The possession in Ontario of high-risk parts of moose and caribou killed in other jurisdictions is no longer permitted. Possessing high-risk parts from all other members of the deer family killed out-of-province was banned in 2005.

Generally, it is now illegal to possess any part of the antlers, head, brain, eyes, tonsils, hide, hooves, lymph nodes, spleen, mammary glands, entrails, internal organs or spinal column of any member of the deer family that has been killed outside Ontario. For details about this regulation and limited exceptions to this prohibition, see www.ontario.ca/cwd

New requirement for transporting live white-tailed deer, American elk, moose and woodland caribou into Ontario

A person transporting live white-tailed deer, elk, moose, woodland caribou, and their hybrids into Ontario now requires a permit under the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act. This applies to transporting these species for any purpose, including deer and elk farming and zoos.

Why the new rules?

These new regulations are in place to protect Ontario's deer, moose, elk and caribou from chronic wasting disease, a fatal disease that affects members of the deer family. The disease has never been found in wild deer, moose, elk or caribou in Ontario, but it has been detected in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and 18 American States.

Find out more at ontario.ca/cwd