



**WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE**

NATALIE E. TENNANT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

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OFFICE OF
WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

**FORM 6 -- NOTICE OF FINAL FILING AND ADOPTION OF A LEGISLATIVE RULE AUTHORIZED
BY THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

AGENCY **Natural Resources**

RULE TYPE **Legislative** AMENDMENT TO EXISTING RULE **Yes** TITLE-SERIES **58-50**

RULE NAME **Deer Hunting Rule**

CITE AUTHORITY **20-1-7(30)**

HOUSE OR SENATE BILL NUMBER
SB 202

SECTION
64-10-1(c)

PASSED ON
03/11/2016

THIS RULE IS FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THIS RULE BECOMES EFFECTIVE ON THE
FOLLOWING DATE

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

BY CHOOSING 'YES', I ATTEST THAT THE PREVIOUS STATEMENTS ARE TRUE AND CORRECT.

Yes

**Joshua L Jarrell -- By my signature, I certify that I am the person authorized to file legislative rules, in
accordance with West Virginia Code §29A-3-11 and §39A-3-2.**



Title-Series: 58-50



Rule Id: 9879



Document: 27482

**TITLE 58
LEGISLATIVE RULE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**SERIES 50
DEER HUNTING RULE**

§58-50-1. General.

1.1. Scope and Purpose. -- The purpose of this rule is to establish rules that are to be complied with when pursuing and taking deer within the boundaries of this State.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §20-1-7(30).

1.3. Filing Date. -- April 20, 2016.

1.4. Effective Date. -- April 20, 2016.

§58-50-2. Definitions.

2.1. All terms have the meaning prescribed to them in the Division of Natural Resources' Rules Defining The Terms Used In All Hunting and Trapping, 58CSR46.

§58-50-3. Deer Hunting Rules.

3.1. After a person has met the daily or season bag limit during any of the open deer seasons established in the Division of Natural Resources' Hunting and Trapping Rules, 58CSR45, he or she may not participate further in deer hunting (e.g., driving deer) with a bow, crossbow or a firearm in his or her possession for the remainder of the day of the kill. In the event that a hunter kills a deer and wishes to pursue an additional deer on the same day, the hunter is not required to electronically register the deer prior to pursuing an additional deer during the remainder of that day. However, all deer must be electronically registered prior to hunting during the remainder of the season.

3.2. A person may not hunt deer with a shotgun using ammunition loaded with more than one solid ball nor with any rifle of less than twenty-five (.25) caliber using rimfire ammunition.

3.3. A person may not kill or wound a deer while the deer is in any stream, lake, or pond.

3.4. The hunting of small game is permitted beginning on the fourth day after the opening date of the buck firearms deer season. During this period, a hunter may carry solid ball ammunition and Number 4 or smaller shot with a shotgun prior to killing a deer.

3.5. In those counties, or portions of counties, open to antlerless deer hunting, the hunting of deer with a bow or crossbow, the hunting of bear, the hunting of small game (with the exception of that portion of the antlerless deer season running concurrent with

the first three days of the buck firearms season) and the hunting of waterfowl is permitted during the antlerless deer season provided that no hunter, except a hunter having a valid Class N or NN license or a hunter legally participating in bear hunting, may be afield with any firearm with solid ball ammunition or shells containing larger than Number 4 shot or, if using a combination rifle-shotgun, with rifle ammunition in his or her possession. During this period, a hunter may carry solid ball ammunition and Number 4 or smaller shot with a shotgun prior to killing a deer.

3.5.a. In those counties, or portions of counties open to antlerless deer hunting, the hunting of waterfowl is permitted. Persons legally hunting waterfowl during the antlerless deer seasons may possess nontoxic shotshells containing shot larger than Number 4, but may not possess solid ball ammunition.

3.6. After a person has met the daily or season bag limit during any of the open deer seasons established in the Hunting and Trapping Rules 58CSR45 a hunter may not be afield for the remainder of the day of the kill with a firearm with solid ball ammunition or, if using a combination rifle-shotgun, he or she may not have rifle ammunition in his or her possession unless he or she is legally participating in bear hunting or pursuing another legal deer in compliance with Subsection 3.1 of this rule.

3.7. It is illegal to hunt small game during the buck firearms deer season with any centerfire rifle, with any rifle of larger than twenty-two (.22) caliber using rimfire ammunition, or with a shotgun using solid ball ammunition in a county that is not open to bucks-only deer hunting.

3.8. A hunter may not use a firearm that has been converted into a muzzle-loader by use of a plug during muzzle-loading firearms deer season.

3.9. When being transported in or on a vehicle, a muzzle-loading firearm is considered to be unloaded when the powder charge and projectile are removed from the barrel; it is uncapped or the priming charge is removed from the pan; or any other ignition source of a muzzle-loader is removed.

3.10. A person may not actively participate in the hunting of antlerless deer (e.g., driving deer) unless that person has a Class N or Class NN stamp or is otherwise exempt from having a Class N or Class NN stamp.

3.11. A person shall comply with permit procedures and deadlines established by the Director to apply for limited antlerless deer permits (Class N/NN) in designated counties, wildlife management areas and state forests as established in §58CSR45(3.2), as well as for state park deer season permits as established in §58CSR45(3.8).

3.12. A person shall purchase Class RB archery and Class RRB archery stamps prior to the opening day of the deer archery and crossbow seasons; Class RG gun and Class RRG gun stamp prior to the opening day of the buck firearms season; and Class RM muzzleloader and Class RRM muzzleloader stamp prior to the opening day of the muzzleloader season. Class RB, RG, RM or Class RRB, RRG, RRM stamp must be signed to be valid.

3.12.a. The Class RB and RRB archery stamps are valid in those counties open to bucks-only firearms hunting and in those counties closed to bucks-only firearms hunting; Provided that, if two deer are taken in counties closed to bucks-only firearm hunting, one of the deer must be antlerless.

3.13. A Class N stamp is non-transferable.

3.14. Except as provided for in the Division of Natural Resources Rule, General Trapping 58CSR53, it is illegal to feed or bait wildlife on Beech Fork Wildlife Management Area, Burnsville Wildlife Management Area, Bluestone Wildlife Management Area, McClintic Wildlife Management Area, Calvin Price State Forest and Coopers Rock State Forest.