
2023 Deer Firearms Draw Information Deer Creek Fish & Wildlife Area

This page includes information and instructions for those interested in or selected to participate in a 2023 Indiana Hunt Draw. It is important to note that areas participating in reserved hunts are managed by various agencies and may have unique restrictions that each hunter must follow. Please read each area's information packet carefully before pursuing a hunt.

Applying:

The application period for the 2023 Deer Creek Deer Firearms Hunt Draw is Aug. 20, 2023 – Sept. 24, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted. You must obtain a valid Deer Firearm's License, Deer Archery License, Deer Crossbow License, or Deer Bundle License prior to applying. Each hunter is eligible to select one hunt period from any Deer Creek FWA when applying. Dates can be seen when applying. There are no age restrictions on applying. Youth hunters may apply if they are properly licensed to hunt white-tailed deer.

Restrictions:

Allowed Equipment:

- Hunters with a deer firearm's license may use shotguns, handguns, and rifles with legal cartridges, muzzleloading long guns, muzzleloading handguns, and air guns during firearms season.
- Shotguns must have a 10, 12, 16, 20, 28, or .410" bore and shoot a single slug or sabot bullet.
- Handguns must have a barrel length of 4" minimum, bullet diameter of .243" minimum and a cartridge length of 1.16" minimum, except for 10mm.
- Rifles must have a bullet diameter of .375" and case length between 1.16"-1.8".
- Muzzleloading long guns must have a barrel caliber of .44" and bullet diameter of .357".
- Muzzleloading handguns must have a barrel length of 12", measured from the base of the breech plug (excluding tangs and other projections to the end of the barrel, including the muzzle crown), barrel caliber of .50", and bullet diameter of .44".
- Air guns must shoot .40 caliber or larger single bullet generating 400 ft. lbs. of muzzle energy; or an arrow or bolt with a sharpened metal or metal-edged broadhead at minimum of 300 fps at release.
- Hunters with an archery license may use vertical bows and hunters with a crossbow license may use crossbows.
- Vertical bows (long bows, compound bows, or recurve bows and arrows) must have a draw weight of 35 lbs. minimum and arrows must have metal, metal edged, napped flint, chert, or obsidian broadheads.
- Crossbows must have a draw weight of 125 lbs. minimum.
- Hunters with a deer bundle license may use any of the equipment listed above.

*For a complete list of equipment regulations please refer to the Indiana Hunting & Trapping Guide.

Bag Limit:

- For those using a firearms license the season bag limit is one (1) antlered deer. An antlered deer must have at least one antler that is 3” long.
- For those using an archery or crossbow license the season bag limit is two (2) deer: one (1) antlered and one (1) antlerless deer or two (2) antlerless deer.
- For those using a deer bundle license, you must ensure you are not over your season bag limits.
- Bonus Antlerless Licenses are not permitted. You cannot harvest an antlerless deer with a firearm at Deer Creek FWA.

Hunting Hours:

- One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Hunt Information:

If you are successful in drawing a deer firearms hunt at Deer Creek FWA, you will receive a more detailed letter with instructions on how to claim your hunt, property sign-in procedures, and your daily hunt permits. Successfully drawn hunters may bring one (1) hunting partner with them during their hunt. All hunting partners must be properly licensed. Please be aware that other property users such as squirrel hunters may be in the area. Do not cross the Department of Corrections boundaries for any reason. All hunters are required to follow hunter orange requirements. All other state hunting regulations apply in addition to Deer Creek FWA procedures.

Hunters may start hunting one-half hour before sunrise and must stop one-half hour after sunset.

Area Information:

Possession of Deer Creek FWA began in 2010 with the transfer of 1,962 acres from Putnamville Correctional Facility. After 2010, several more parcels were added to Deer Creek, bringing the current total to 2,175 acres.

The property consists of rolling interspersed agriculture and mature oak-hickory woods. Deer Creek winds through the south portion of the property, with a low-head dam, iron bridge, and a concrete creek crossing. A smaller, unnamed creek crosses the north portion of the property.

Deer hunting is by draw only the first seven days of deer firearms season at Deer Creek. When applying to the 2023 Deer Creek FWA Deer Firearms hunt, you may choose from three hunt periods:

- Saturday – Sunday: Nov. 18, 2023 – Nov. 19, 2023
- Monday – Tuesday: Nov. 20, 2023 – Nov. 21, 2023
- Wednesday – Friday: Nov. 22, 2023 – Nov. 24, 2023

The property will draw 10 hunters for each hunt period. If you are successful in drawing a deer firearms hunt at Deer Creek FWA, you will receive a more detailed letter with instructions on how to claim your hunt, property sign-in procedures, and your daily hunt permits.

Contact:

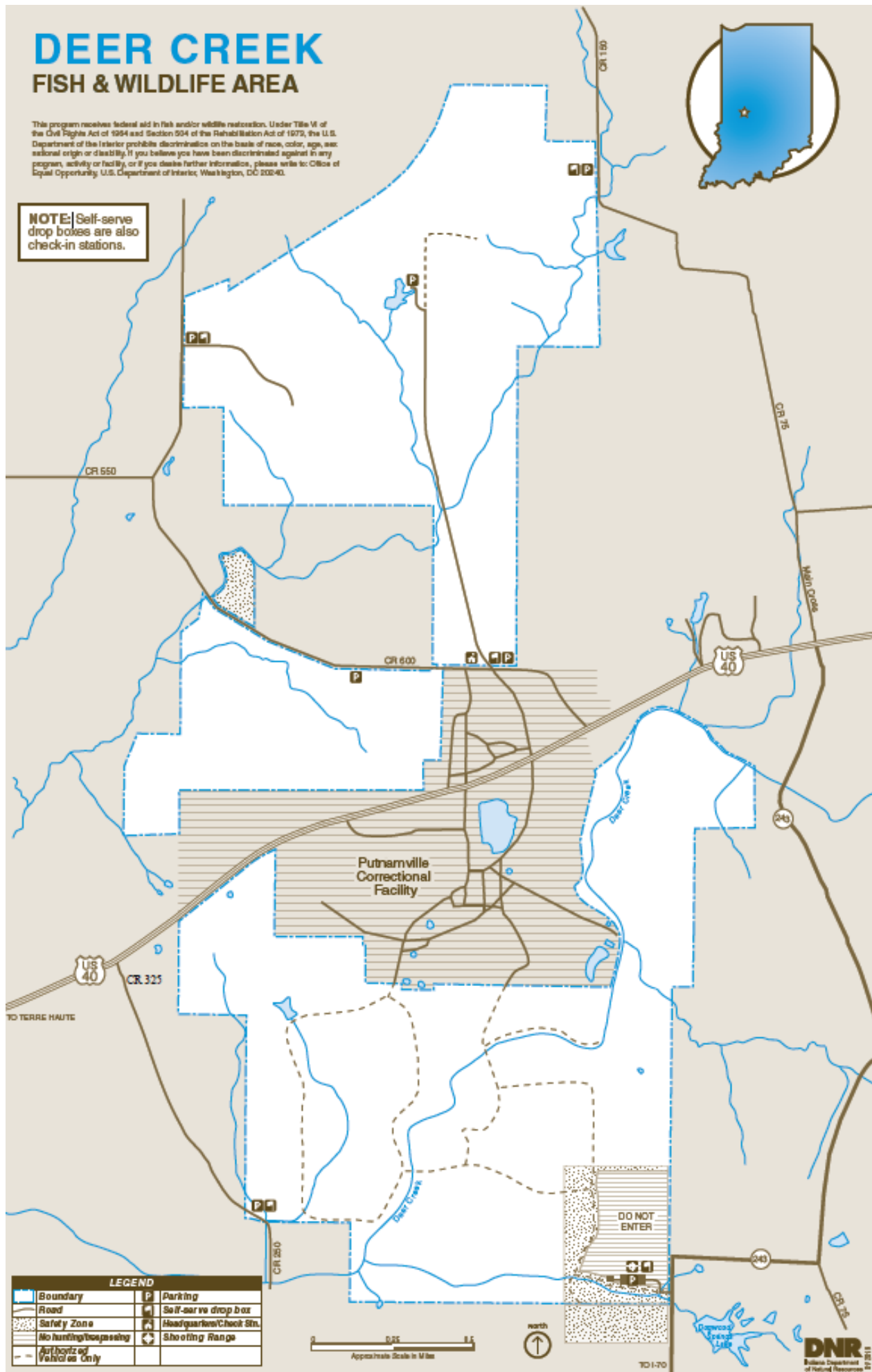
If you have further questions, please contact the Deer Creek FWA property office at (765)-653-0453 or DeerCreekFWA@dnr.IN.gov.

DEER CREEK FISH & WILDLIFE AREA

This program receives federal aid in fish and/or wildlife restoration. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, sex, national origin or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of Interior, Washington, DC 20240.



NOTE: Self-serve drop boxes are also check-in stations.



LEGEND			
	Boundary		Parking
	Road		Self-serve drop box
	Safety Zone		Headquarters/Check Sta.
	No hunting/boating		Shooting Range
	Authorized Vehicles Only		