

**From
Plymouth DNR Service Center
“The Woodchucks”**



**To
Sheboygan County Conservation Association
November 15, 2107**

From the Front Line:

From Fish Management: Travis, Tanya, Danyelle

- Interviews for 6 Fisheries Biologist positions statewide are complete. The Plymouth vacancy was included, so that position will be filled in January. Fisheries has also begun the process to fill 10 Fisheries Management Technician positions statewide. Those hires should start early in the new year as well.

From Law Enforcement: Juan, and Tyler

On November 11, 2017, Gov. Walker signed a number of bills affecting the 2017 Deer hunt.

- The minimum hunting age was eliminated. Parents can decide when their child is ready to hunt and can do so as early as this opening weekend.
- The youth state wide antlerless tag CANNOT be used in group hunting scenarios. This change occurred 2 years ago and with the recent budget bill was introduced to allow the use of this tag and passed. We are back to NOT allowing the use of this tag during the deer season for group hunting. ONLY the youth may fill this tag.
- Mentor law change allows for both the mentor and the mentoree to possess a weapon. A mentor cannot group hunt on the mentoree's tag.
- Woodchuck Season (effective date 11/13/2017): The law will allow for an establish hunting and trapping season for woodchucks under the authority of a small game license or trapping license. The department will establish a year-round open season for woodchuck and impose a bag limit or possession limit for the season.

From Wildlife Management: Dan, Ed, Andrew

- 9 day gun season starts on Saturday morning
 - Be sure to check new tagging regulations
- CWD testing is available for those that are interested at the Plymouth Service Center by appointment. Please call (920)893-8541. There are also selected taxidermists that are doing sampling as well. See the DNR website for locations.

- Interested primarily in Sheboygan County, but will take samples from other locations. Weighted surveillance sampling, no confirmed cases of CWD as of yet.
- Pheasant stocking on wildlife properties will continue until the week of Dec. 6th
- Sheboygan Marsh drawdown did not occur this year. Will try again in 2018 in cooperation with Sheboygan County.
 - Hopefully last cattail removal occurred the 1st week of November to allow duck hunters to use the boat launch at the park again.
- DNR Staff will be at Orange Friday Event at the Plymouth Fleet Farm handing out informational items and answering questions.