

Chronic Wasting Disease

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) HAS BEEN DETECTED IN PENNSYLVANIA IN CAPTIVE AND FREE-RANGING DEER.

What is Chronic Wasting Disease?

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a neurological (brain and nervous system) disease found in deer and elk in certain geographic locations in North America. CWD belongs to a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE) or prion diseases; it attacks the brains of infected deer and elk and produces small lesions that result in death. While CWD is similar to mad cow disease in cattle and scrapie in sheep, there is no known relationship between it and any other TSE of animals or people.

Is it dangerous to humans?

There is no evidence that CWD is transmissible to humans. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that "animal studies suggest CWD poses a risk to some types of non-human primates, like monkeys, that eat meat from CWD-infected animals or come in contact with brain or body fluids from infected deer or elk. These studies raise concerns that there may also be a risk to people. Since 1997, the World Health Organization has recommended that it is important to keep the agents of all known prion diseases from entering the human food chain."

How can I tell if a deer has CWD?

Infected animals may not show symptoms in the early stages. However, as the disease progresses, infected animals begin to lose body functions and display abnormal behaviors, such as staggering or standing with poor posture. Many diseases can look like CWD, or can occur at the same time as CWD. At this time, the diagnosis only can be made after death.

What should I do if I see a deer with CWD symptoms?

You should accurately document the location of the animal and immediately contact the nearest Game Commission Region Office. Do not attempt to disturb, kill or remove the animal.

How is it spread?

While it's not known exactly how CWD is spread, the agent responsible for the disease may be spread both directly (animal to animal contact) and indirectly (soil or other surface to animal) through various excretions and secretions (saliva, urine or feces).

Where has it been found?

CWD has been found in Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

What can hunters do?

Follow all regulations and requirements in the Disease Management Areas. Hunters also can tell political leaders of their concerns about CWD. Indicate your support for increased financial assistance to state wildlife and agricultural agencies to combat CWD. Encourage state officials to support the important steps taken to manage the spread of CWD. And finally, because any concentration of deer or elk assists in the spread of diseases, stop supplemental feeding programs and the use of urine-based lures. Hunters also should immediately report deer that have ear tags.

HIGH-RISK DEER PARTS CAN'T BE IMPORTED

To help prevent the spread of CWD, the Game Commission has banned the importation of specific cervid carcass parts from states and provinces where CWD has also been found, including from our own Disease Management Areas.

Before hunting deer, elk or moose out of state, hunters should visit the Game Commission's website to see which states and Canadian provinces are affected. Check frequently, as the list does change. Hunters heading to a state with a history of CWD should become familiar with that state's wildlife regulations and guidelines for the transportation of harvested game animals, as well as the Game Commission's Cervid Parts Importation Ban.

Hunters may not bring back into Pennsylvania: the head (including brain, tonsils, eyes and retropharyngeal lymph nodes), spinal cord/backbone, spleen, skull plate with attached antlers if visible brain or spinal cord material is present, cape if visible brain or spinal cord material is present, upper canine teeth if root structure or other soft material is present, any object or article containing visible brain or spinal cord material, unfinished taxidermy mounts or brain-tanned hides of any deer, elk or moose from listed states or provinces.

They may bring back to Pennsylvania only low-risk materials: meat without the backbone, skull plate with attached antlers if no visible brain or spinal cord material is present, tanned hide or raw hide with no visible brain or spinal cord material present, cape if no visible brain or spinal cord material is present, upper canine teeth if no root structure or other soft material is present, and finished taxidermy mounts.

These same high-risk parts may not be removed from the DMAs.

It is strongly recommended that hunters get their animals tested for CWD if hunting in a CWD-positive state. If, after returning to Pennsylvania, a hunter is notified by another wildlife agency that his or her game is positive for CWD, the hunter is directed to contact the Game Commission for further instructions. For more information on CWD, visit the Game Commission website at www.pgc.pa.gov and on the Home Page banner click on "Wildlife," "Wildlife- Related Diseases" then "CWD."

What precautions should hunters take?

Wildlife officials have suggested that hunters in areas where CWD is known to exist follow these guidelines to prevent the spread of the disease:

- Do not shoot, handle or consume an animal that appears sick.
- Wear disposable gloves when field-dressing, and thoroughly wash your hands and instruments after field-dressing.
- Bone out the meat from your animal, and minimize the handling of brain and spinal tissues. Ask your deer processor to process your meat individually, without meat from other animals, or process your own meat.
- Consider having your animal tested, and do not consume meat from any animal that tests positive for the disease.

Where can I learn more?

Hunters are encouraged to contact state wildlife agencies where they plan to hunt for more information on the status of CWD in that state. Most states, including Pennsylvania (www.pgc.pa.gov), now have up-to-date information on CWD on their websites. The Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance website (www.cwd-info.org) is frequently updated with new information.

Disease Management Areas

PENNSYLVANIA'S DMAs

When CWD is detected in new areas within Pennsylvania, Disease Management Areas (DMAs) are established. Enhanced CWD monitoring occurs within DMAs, and there are special rules within DMAs that affect those who live and hunt there. As new CWD-positive animals are detected near a DMA's boundary, the DMA expands to include a larger area, so it's always important to check boundaries to be sure they haven't changed. While the maps provided in this digest were updated at the time of publication. The most recent versions of all DMA maps always can be found at www.pgc.pa.gov.

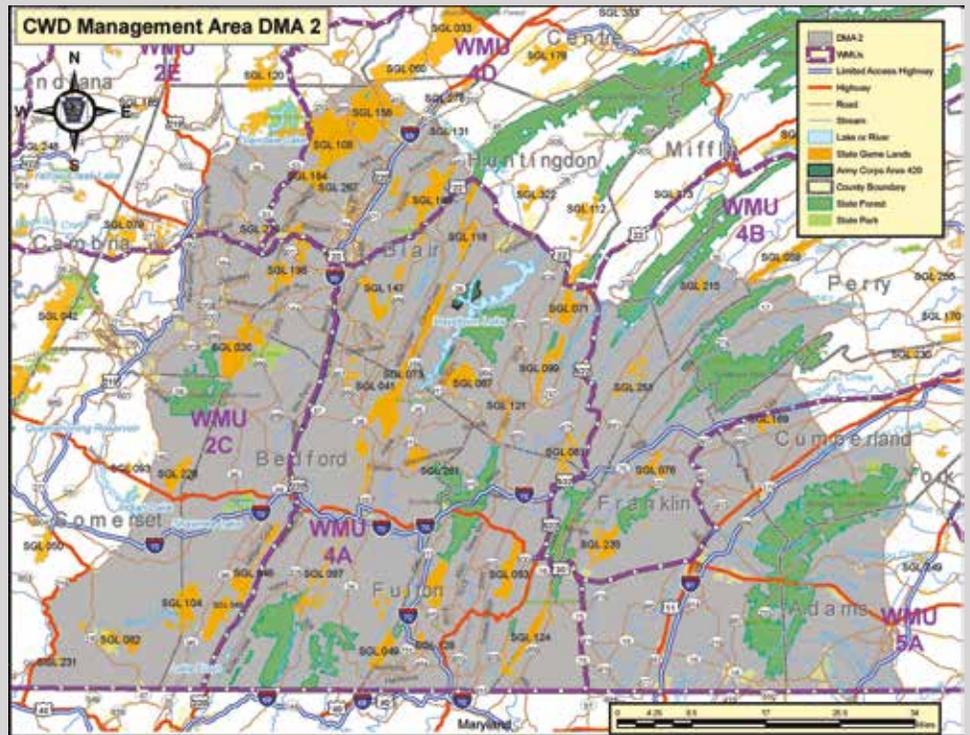
Within Disease Management Areas
THE FOLLOWING ACTS ARE PROHIBITED:

- Removal or exportation of high-risk cervid (deer or elk) parts
- Rehabilitation of cervids
- Use or possession of cervid urine-based attractants in any outdoor setting
- Feeding of wild, free-ranging cervids

DMA 2 Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Clearfield, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Perry and Somerset counties

UPDATED BOUNDARY

Beginning in the Southeastern extent of the DMA at the intersection of Taneytown Road (State Highway 134) and the Maryland State Line, proceed north on Highway 134 for approximately 7.4 miles to the intersection of Steinwehr Avenue in Gettysburg. Follow right on Steinwehr Ave to Baltimore Street. Follow left on Baltimore Street through downtown Gettysburg. Proceed halfway around the traffic circle at the square unto Carlisle Street (State Highway 34). The DMA boundary follows Highway 34 north for approximately 23.1 miles to the intersection of Baltimore Ave (State Highway 94). Follow Highway 94 north for approximately 3 miles to the intersection of W. Old York Road (State Highway 174). Turn left and follow State Highway 174 west for approximately 7.6 miles to State Highway 233 (Centerville Road). Turn right and follow State Highway 233 north 22.8 miles to the intersection with State Highway 850 (Montour Road) just north of Landisburg. Proceed west on State Highway 850 for 22 miles to State Highway 35 (Shade Valley Road). Head south on State Highway 35 for 0.2 miles and turn right onto State Route 4005 (Black Log Road). Follow Black Log Road south for 5.25 miles. Continue south onto Township Route 371 (Black Log Road) for 5.7 miles. At the Huntingdon and Juniata county lines continue south onto State Route 2017 (Black Log Valley Road) for 3.3 miles to the intersection with State Route 2012 (Black Log Mountain Road). Turn right onto Black Log Mountain Road for 4.2 miles to State Route 2019 (German Valley Road). Follow German Valley Road 0.25 miles north to State Highway 103 (Beacon Lodge Road). Turn left onto State Highway 103 and proceed west 3.4 miles to US Highway 522 (Croghan Pike). Follow US Highway 522 west for 1.6 miles to the intersection of US Highway 22. The DMA boundary follows US Highway 22 west for 20.3 miles to State Highway 453, then north along State Highway 453 for 20.5 miles to intersection of State Highway 253. Follow State Highway 253 south for 8.1 miles to State Highway 53 in Van Ormer. The DMA continues on State Highway 53 south for 1.7 miles to Marina Road. At Marina Road the boundary follows for 5.5 miles to the intersection of Glendale Lake Road. Continue left on Glendale Lake Road and in 3 miles join onto State Highway 36. The DMA boundary follows State Highway 36 west into the town of Patton and then straight onto Magee Ave to the intersection of 5th Avenue. Continue south on 5th Ave for about 0.3 miles where the road becomes Mellon Ave. Continuing on Mellon Ave for 0.4 miles the road becomes Carroll Road once in East Carroll Township. The boundary continues south on Carroll Road for 3.7 miles to State Highway 219 in Carrolltown. The DMA boundary follows State Highway 219 south for 26.7 miles to State Highway 56 East and then follows State Highway 56 east for 3.9 miles to State Highway 160. Following State Highway 160 southward the boundary continues for 26.5 miles to the borough of Berlin, then west through downtown Berlin on State Highway 2030 (Main Street) for 0.44 miles to the intersection of State Highway 219. Finally south along State Highway 219 for 20.6 miles to the Maryland border.



Disease Management Areas

ADDITIONAL DMA RULES

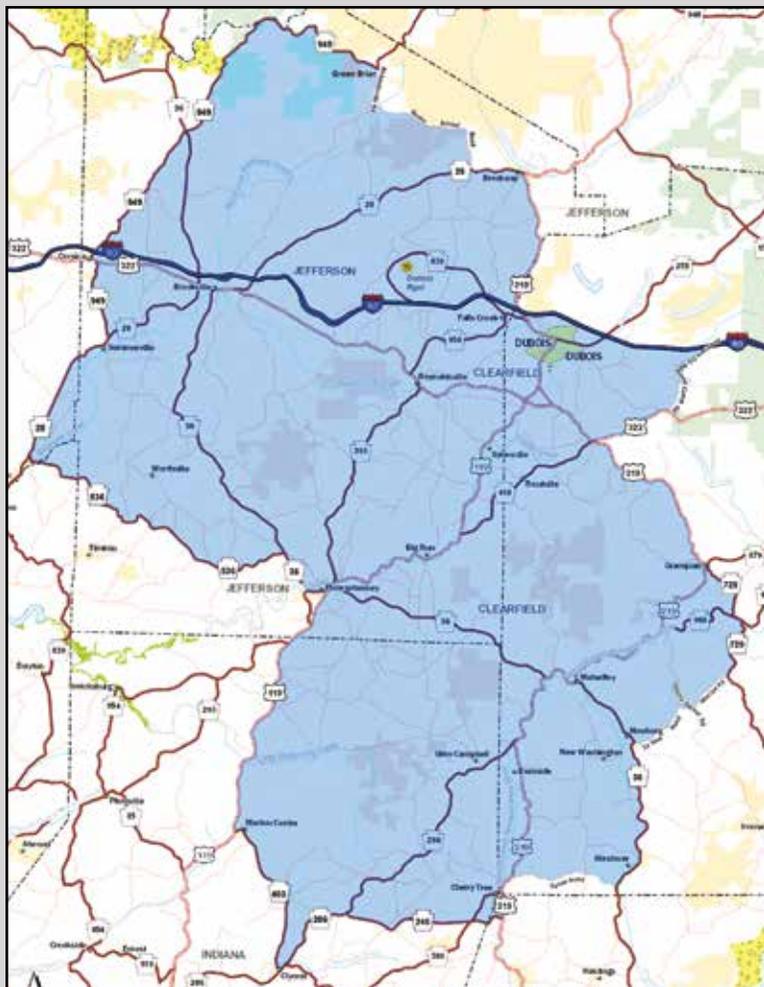
Additionally, the possession and removal of any vehicular-killed cervids, and/or cervid parts, from within DMAs to locations outside the DMAs, except to sites as approved by the Game Commission, are **prohibited**. Further, the issuance of any new Game Commission permits to possess or transport live cervids is prohibited in the DMAs.

All cervids killed within the DMAs are subject to CWD testing. This testing may require hunters to present cervids, or cervid parts, for examination and sampling at prescribed locations pursuant to conditions announced in advance of or during the hunting season. This process will be announced through press releases, website notices and other means to reach the widest possible audience. The cost of any such testing and reporting to the hunter will be borne by the Game Commission.

Because new Disease Management Areas are established when new cases of CWD are detected in new areas, and the boundaries of existing DMAs might be adjusted as well, all people affected by DMA requirements are asked to go to www.pgc.pa.gov for the most-up-to-date DMA maps.

DMA 3 Armstrong, Cambria, Clarion, Clearfield, Indiana and Jefferson counties

NEW BOUNDARY



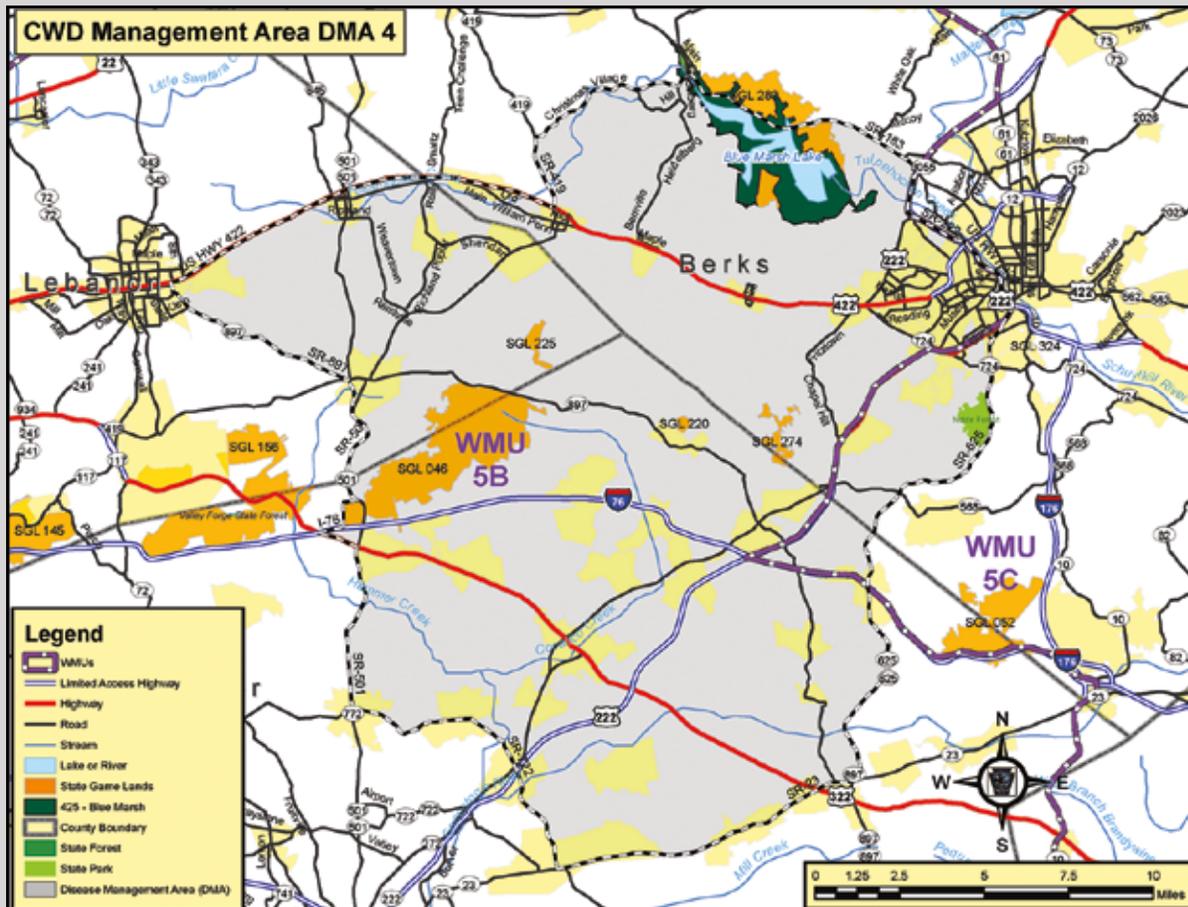
Armstrong, Cambria, Clarion, Clearfield, Indiana and Jefferson counties bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the southwestern corner at the intersection of state highways 403 and 286 in the town of Clymer, proceed north on State Highway 403 for 8.5 Miles to US 119 in Marion Center. Follow US 119 north for 14.2 miles to State Highway 36 in Punxsutawney. Continue north on State Highway 36 for 3.2 miles to State Highway 536; west on State Highway 536 for 16.6 miles to State Highway 28; north on State Highway 28 for 7.4 miles to State Highway 949 in Summerville; north on State Highway 949 for 4.2 miles to US 322 in the town of Corsica. Proceed west on US 322 for 0.3 miles to State Highway 949; north on State Highway 949 for 23.4 miles to SR 4005, Richardsville Road in Green Briar. Proceed south on Richardsville Road for 2 miles to Game School Road. Go south on Game School Road 7.4 miles to State Highway 28 in Sugar Hill. Proceed east on State Highway 28 for 2.8 miles to US 219 in Brockway. Go south on US 219 for 7.5 miles to Interstate 80; east on I-80 for 9.4 miles (Mile Marker 106) to Township Route 339, Anderson Creek Road. Proceed south on Anderson Creek Road for 1.8 miles to Township Route 340, Home Camp Road. Go south on Home Camp Road for 2.5 miles to US 322 in Rockton. Go west on US 322 for 4 miles to US 219. Proceed south on US 219 for 9.6 miles to State Highway 729 in Grampian. Go south on State Highway 729 for 7.7 miles to State Route 3016, Marron Road, then west on Marron Road for 2.7 miles to State Route 3005, Cherry Corner Road. Go west on Cherry Corner Rd for 0.3 miles to State Route 3016, La Jose Rd. Go south on La Jose Rd. for 3.6 miles to State Highway 36. Head south on State Highway 36 for 8.8 miles to Sylvis Road. Travel west on Sylvis Road for 5.8 miles to US 219 near Cherry Tree.

Head south on US 219 through Cherry Tree for 2.4 miles to State Highway 240. Go west on State Highway 240 for 8.5 miles to State Highway 286. Proceed west on State Highway 286 for 4.9 miles to State Highway 403 in Clymer.

Disease Management Areas

DMA 4 Encompasses 346 square miles in northeastern Lancaster County, southeastern Lebanon County and western Berks County

NEW DMA



Beginning in the northwestern extent of the DMA in the city of Lebanon, at the intersection of State Route 897 and U.S. Route 422, proceed east on U.S. Route 422 for 12.3 miles to State Route 419. Turn left on State Route 419 and proceed north for 2.3 miles to Christmas Village Road (State Route 4010). Turn right, proceeding east on Christmas Village Road for 5.1 miles to North Heidelberg Road (State Route 3033). Turn left on North Heidelberg Road, proceeding northeast for 0.6 miles to State Route 183. Turn right on State Route 183, proceeding southeast for 7.7 miles to the U.S. 222. Turn right on U.S. 222 proceeding southwest for 3.2 miles to the interchange with U.S. Route 422 Bypass. Proceed on U.S. Route 422 Bypass for 2.4 miles to intersection with Business Route 222E (Lancaster Avenue). Proceed south on Business 222E for 0.6 miles to the intersection with State Route 625. Turn left onto State Route 625 and proceed south for 16.7 miles to the intersection with Route 23. Turn right on Route 23, proceeding westerly for 9.7 miles to intersection with State Route 772 (Glenbrook Road). Turn right on State Route 772, proceeding northwest for 9.3 miles to State Route 501 (Furnace Hills Pike). Turn right on State Route 501, proceeding northerly for 5 miles to the intersection with U.S. Route 322 (West 28th Division Highway). Turn left on U.S. Route 322, proceeding westerly for 1.3 miles to the Pennsylvania Turnpike (U.S. Route 76). Move right along U.S. Route 76, proceeding east for 0.7 miles to the western boundary of State Game Lands 46. Proceed north, then east for 1.2 miles along the game lands boundary to State Route 501 (Furnace Hills Pike). Turn left on State Route 501, proceeding north for 4.1 miles to the intersection with State Route 419. Turn left, proceeding west for 0.1 miles to State Route 897 (South 5th Street). Turn right on State Route 897, proceeding northwest for 6.2 miles to the starting point at the intersection of State Route 897 and U.S. Route 422.