Bears

Nonresidents hunting bear must possess a bear hunting license (See page 8).

Restrictions  It is unlawful to do any of the following:

- Take a cub (less than 50 pounds) or a female bear with cub(s).
- Hunt bear on a designated bear sanctuary. (See the information below on bear sanctuaries.)

Information on the use of dogs to hunt bears and the use of unprocessed foods is on page 46.

BEAR HUNTING SEASONS

DAILY LIMIT 1; SEASON LIMIT 1

WESTERN BEAR SEASON

Oct. 13 – Nov. 22
Dec. 15 – Jan. 1 In and west of Surry, Wilkes, Caldwell, Burke, Cleveland.

Note: Further game land restrictions may apply. See the Game Lands section for specific game land rules.

PIEDMONT BEAR SEASONS

Nov. 15 – Jan. 1

In the following counties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alamance</th>
<th>Granville</th>
<th>Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anson</td>
<td>Guilford</td>
<td>Randolph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabarrus</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Rockingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caswell</td>
<td>Mecklenburg</td>
<td>Rowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatham</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>Stanly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durham</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Oct. 18 – Jan. 1

In the following counties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Franklin</th>
<th>Moore</th>
<th>Vance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harnett</td>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>Wake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>Warren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoke</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nov. 22 - Jan. 1

In the following counties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alexander</th>
<th>Forsyth</th>
<th>Lincoln</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catawba</td>
<td>Gaston</td>
<td>Stokes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davie</td>
<td>Iredell</td>
<td>Yadkin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EASTERN BEAR SEASONS

Nov. 10 – Jan. 1

In the following counties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bladen</th>
<th>Onslow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carteret</td>
<td>Pamlico (use of dogs for hunting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland</td>
<td>bear is prohibited here.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplin</td>
<td>Pender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hanover</td>
<td>Sampson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

bear sanctuaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sanctuary</th>
<th>Applicable County or Counties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor Bay Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Bertie, Martin and Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bombing Range Bear Sanctuary (except by permit only)</td>
<td>Avery, Burke and Caldwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Boone Bear Sanctuary (except by permit only)</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus County Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Carteret, Craven and Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatian Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Clay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fires Creek Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Mitchell and Yancey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flat Top Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Brunswick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Swamp Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Hyde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gull Rock Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Pamlico and Beaufort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gum Swamp Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Haywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmon Den Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panther Town-Bonas Defeat Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>McDowell and Yancey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Mitchell Bear Sanctuary (except by permit only)</td>
<td>Camden and Currituck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North River Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pisgah Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Hyde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pungo River Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Madison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Mountain Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Haywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherwood Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Macon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Indian Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Bladen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggs Mill Pond Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Wilkes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurmond Chatham Bear Sanctuary</td>
<td>Macon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following additional restrictions apply to bear sanctuaries:

- It is unlawful to take feral swine on bear sanctuaries except during the deer archery season, deer blackpowder season, deer gun season and any small game season using only weapons and manner of take prescribed for that hunting season.

- Dogs may not be used to take feral swine.

- Dogs may not be used to pursue bear.

- It is unlawful to train dogs or allow dogs to run unleashed on bear sanctuaries in and west of Madison, Buncombe, Henderson and Polk counties from March 1 until the Monday on or nearest Oct. 15.

DEER

EASTERN DEER SEASON

Archery: Sept. 13 – Oct. 3
Blackpowder: Oct. 4 – Oct. 17
Gun: Oct. 18 – Jan. 1

CENTRAL DEER SEASON

Archery: Sept. 13 – Oct. 31
Blackpowder: Nov. 1 – Nov. 14
Gun: Nov. 15 – Jan. 1

(continued on page 55)
Restrictions on Hunting Bear with Dogs and Using Unprocessed Foods

DOGS. Hunting bears with dogs is prohibited in the following counties or parts of counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Pamlico (per local law), Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Union, and Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98. In all other counties, hunting bears with the use of dogs is legal during open bear seasons, but restrictions may apply on game lands. See Game Land Section for further information.

UNPROCESSED FOODS. Only from the first open Monday of the bear seasons in the shaded eastern and western counties of the map below until the following Saturday (six days only)* hunters may use unprocessed foods to aid in the taking of bears on private lands:

* The prohibition against taking bears with the use and aid of bait does not apply to the release of dogs in the vicinity of any food source that is not a processed food product. However, dogs may not be released in the vicinity of any commercially available mineral supplement whether placed for the purpose of attracting deer or otherwise.

UNPROCESSED FOODS. For the entire open bear seasons (all days) in the shaded central counties of the map below hunters may use unprocessed foods to aid in the taking of bears on private lands:

It is unlawful:

• to take a bear while in the act of consuming unprocessed foods;
• to place processed food products as bait in any area of the state with an established season for taking black bears. Processed food products are any food substance or flavoring that has been modified by the addition of ingredients or by treatment to modify its chemical composition or form or to enhance its aroma or taste. This includes: food products enhanced by sugar, honey, syrups, oils, salts, spices, peanut butter, grease, meat, bones, or blood; candies, pastries, gum, and sugar blocks; and extracts of such products;
• to use any bear bait attractant, including scented sprays, aerosols, scent balls, and scent powders; and
• to place any sort of processed or unprocessed foods on game lands.
NORTHWESTERN DEER SEASON

Archery: Sept. 13 – Nov. 7
Blackpowder: Nov. 8 – Nov. 21
Gun: Nov. 22 – Jan. 1

WESTERN DEER SEASON

Archery: Sept. 13 – Sept. 28 and Oct. 12 – Nov. 23
Blackpowder: Sept. 29 – Oct. 11
Gun: Nov. 24 – Dec. 13

Seasons: See the maps on the preceding pages for either-sex season dates for deer and exceptions to the season listed above.

- Seasons for deer with visible antlers and other weapons seasons on game lands follow the season for the county in which they are located except for Buffalo Cove Game Land, Nicholson Creek Game Land, Rockfish Creek Game Land, Sandhills Game Land and South Mountains Game Land. See the Game Lands section for additional restrictions on these Game Lands seasons. Refer to the "Game Lands" section for Gun Either-Sex Deer Season dates on game lands.

General Restrictions

- Any person hunting deer during a deer firearms season shall wear hunter orange visible from all sides. This includes hunting on Sundays during the blackpowder or gun seasons, even though hunters may only use archery equipment on Sundays. Landholders, their spouses and children hunting on land held by the landholder do not have to wear hunter orange.
- Deer with visible antlers may be taken during any open deer season. Antlerless deer may only be taken during either-sex deer seasons. See next column for information about either-sex seasons.
- Visible antlers are defined as bony structures that protrude through the skin. Knobs or buttons covered by skin or velvet are not considered visible antlers.
- It is unlawful to place processed food products as bait in any area of the state with an established season for taking black bears. Processed food products or any food substance or flavoring that has been modified by the addition of ingredients or by treatment to modify its chemical composition or form to enhance its aroma or taste. This includes: food products enhanced by sugar, honey, syrups, oils, salts, spices, peanut butter, grease, meat, bones, or blood; candies, pastries, gum, and sugar blocks; and extracts of such products.
- The placement of commercially available mineral supplements specifically and exclusively marketed for attracting or feeding deer is allowed anywhere in the state, except on game lands.

Weapons and Dogs

- Archery: During the archery season the following are legal weapons: bows and arrows and crossbows (both described on page 41). It is unlawful to use a dog while hunting deer during this season, except to retrieve a wounded deer. See page 41 for details.
- Blackpowder: During the blackpowder season the following are legal weapons: bows and arrows, crossbows (both described on page 41), and blackpowder firearms as defined on page 41. It is unlawful to use a dog while hunting deer during this season, except to retrieve a wounded deer. See page 41 for details.
- Gun: During the gun season the following are legal weapons: bows and arrows, crossbows (both described on page 41), blackpowder firearms, shotguns, rifles, and handguns. Hunters may use dogs to hunt deer during this season in counties indicated on the map on page 52, and to retrieve a wounded deer. See page 42 for details.

Bag Limits

- The big game hunting license authorizes the hunter to harvest up to six deer. All six deer can be antlerless for all areas of the state. The season limit for antlered deer in the Eastern Deer Season is four. The season limit for antlered deer in the Central, Northwestern, and Western deer seasons is two.
- There is no daily bag limit.
- The possession limit for antlered deer is the same as the season limit.
- The possession limit for antlerless deer harvested in areas with a maximum either-sex season, or in those areas participating in the Urban Archery Season, is equivalent to the number of antlerless deer the hunter is authorized to harvest on his big game hunting license and any Bonus Antlerless Harvest Report Cards he may have procured. The possession limit for antlerless deer harvested in all other areas is equivalent to the number of antlerless deer the hunter is authorized to harvest on his big game hunting license.
- Bonus Antlerless Harvest Report Cards allow for the harvest of two additional antlerless deer per card. These are NOT valid for use on game lands. Unlimited Bonus Antlerless Harvest Report Cards are available to each hunter. Bonus Antlerless Harvest Report Cards are valid during archery, blackpowder, and gun season in those areas with a maximum either-sex gun season. Bonus Antlerless Harvest Report Cards are also valid in cities, towns and villages participating in the Urban Archery Season. Bonus Antlerless Harvest Report Cards can be obtained at most wildlife service agents, or online at ncwildlife.org or by calling 888-248-6834.
- Antlerless deer harvested under the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) and tagged with harvest tags provided with the program are not included in normal statewide bag limits.
- Note: Antlerless deer may be taken only in those areas and during those times described elsewhere in this publication.

Either-Sex Deer Seasons

Archery Deer Season

- Deer of either sex may be taken during archery deer season in all areas (includes game lands).

Blackpowder Firearm Deer Season

- Deer of either sex may be taken during the last day of the blackpowder firearm deer season in and west of Henderson, Buncombe, Yancey, Mitchell and Avery counties (includes game lands).
- Deer of either sex may be taken anytime during the blackpowder firearm deer season in east of Polk, Rutherford, McDowell, Burke, Caldwell, Watauga and Ashe counties (includes game lands).

Gun Either-Sex Deer Season

- Deer of either sex may only be taken during the gun season during those dates indicated on pages 48–51. Most gun either-sex seasons fall under one of the following four categories in North Carolina:
  - Maximum: Either-sex harvest is allowed the entire gun season.
  - Moderate: Either-sex harvest is allowed the first six open days and the last six open days of the regular gun season.
  - Conservative: Either-sex harvest is allowed the last six open days of the regular gun season.
  - Introductory: Either-sex harvest is allowed the last open day of the regular gun season.

Urban Archery Season

Archery only: Jan. 10 – Feb. 14, 2015

Information for Hunters

- The intention of the Urban Archery Season is to enable cities, towns and villages to reduce urban deer populations through increased hunter opportunity. Hunting during the Urban Archery Season is allowed ONLY in participating municipalities.
- Each city, town and village will decide if hunting is allowed on public property and restrictions, if any, for hunting on private property within the city, town and village limits.
- Hunters wishing to hunt in an area participating in the Urban Archery Season should call the participating city, town or village or visit its website to obtain a map showing lawful areas to hunt.
and additional information on specific restrictions that may apply to each area.

- The Urban Archery Season does not obligate private landowners to allow hunting on their property, nor does it eliminate the ethical requirement for obtaining permission from the landowner before hunting. Hunters are legally required to obtain written permission to hunt on posted property.

The 2015 participating cities, towns and villages are:

- Albemarle 704-984-9656 bhinson@ci.albemarle.nc.us
- Archer Lodge 919-359-9727 www.townofarcherlodge.com
- Belmont 704-825-5586 www.cityofbelmont.org
- Boiling Springs 704-434-2357 www.boilingspringsnc.net/police
- Chapel Hill 919-968-2784 www.townofchapellhill.org
- Cleveland www.clevelandnc.org
- Concord 704-920-5000 www.concordnc.gov
- Earl 704-481-1500 www.townofearl.org
- Elkin 336-794-6464 www.elkinnc.org
- Fairview 704-364-3412 www.fairviewnc.gov
- Franklinville 336-824-2604 www.townoffranklinvillenc.org
- Harrisburg 704-455-0708 www.harrisburghc.gov
- Huntersville 704-875-6541 www.huntersville.org
- Indian Trail 704-821-5401
- Jefferson 336-846-9368
- Jonesville 336-835-3426 www.jonesvillenc.gov
- Kannapolis 704-920-4000 kjackson@cityofkannapolis.com
- Landis 704-857-4114 Andrew@townoflandis.com
- Lattimore 704-434-2620
- Locust www.locustnc.com; flhartsell@locustnc.com
- Millstone www.townofmillstone.org
- Mooresboro 704-434-5666 www.townofmooresboro.org
- Morganton 828-432-2673 bbradshaw@morgantonsps.org
- Mount Pleasant 704-436-9803 www.townofmountpleasantnc.org
- Nags Head/ Kill Devil Hills
- New London 704-463-5423
- North Wilkesboro 336-667-7129 townmanager@north-wilkesboro.com Ext. 3012
- Norwood 704-474-3416 www.norwoodnc.com
- Oak Ridge 336-644-7009 www.oakridgencc.com
- Oakboro 704-485-3331 www.oakboronc.com
- Pittsboro www.pittsboronc.gov
- Pleasant Garden 336-674-3002 www.pleasantgarden.net
- Randleman 336-495-7500 www.cityofrandleman.com
- Richfield 704-463-1308 richfieldnc@aol.com
- Ronda 336-835-2061 townofronda@earthlink.net
- Sanford 919-777-1104 www.sanfordnc.net
- St. James 910-253-4730 www.townofstjamesnc.org; tosj@atmc.net
- Stallings 704-821-8557 www.stallingsnc.org
- Stanfield 704-888-2386 www.stanfieldnc.com
- Stokesdale www.stokesdale.org
- Summerfield 336-643-8655 www.summerfieldgov.com
- Trent Woods 252-637-3030 trentwoodsp.org
- Troutman 704-528-7600 www.townoftroutman.org
- Unionville 704-226-1989 www.unionvillenc.com
- Valdese 828-879-2120 www.ci.valdese.nc.us
- Wake Forest 919-435-9612 sanchwell@wakeforestnc.gov
- Waxhaw www.waxhaw.com
- Weddington 704-846-2709 www.townofweddington.com
- Wentworth 336-342-6288 www.townofwentworth.com
- Yadkinville 336-679-8732 www.yadkinville.org

- Season bag and possession limits for both antlerless and antlered deer, including Bonus Antlerless Harvest Report Cards, that apply to the general archery, blackpowder, and gun deer seasons also apply to the Urban Archery Season.
- Deer of either sex may be harvested in participating areas during the Urban Archery Season. Hunters harvesting an adult buck that has dropped its antlers should validate the kill and insert the harvest authorization number on an authorization space specified for an antlerless deer on the hunter’s Big Game Harvest Report Card or Bonus Antlerless Harvest Report Card.

Information for cities, towns and villages

The Urban Archery Season is available for cities, towns and villages that submit to the Wildlife Resources Commission by April 1 of each year a letter of intent to participate in the season. A map clearly defining the area included in the season should also accompany the letter of intent. Interested municipalities should call the Division of Wildlife Management at 919-707-0050 and request to be contacted by a district wildlife biologist.

WILD TURKEY

WILD TURKEY SEASONS

Daily limit 1; Possession and season limit 2, only one of which may be taken during the youth season

Youth Season (male or bearded turkey only): Apr. 4 – Apr. 10, 2015

Turkey hunting by youth during this season is allowed statewide, but some game lands will require a permit (see Game Lands section).

Each youth hunting during this season must be accompanied by a properly licensed adult at least 21 years of age (“Youth” means a person less than 16 years of age). The adult may accompany more than one youth during any particular hunt and the adult may NOT harvest a turkey. Only one weapon is allowed per youth hunter. Each youth must have a Big Game Harvest Report Card and report harvests according to instructions in this Digest. License-exempt youth should report their harvest using a Big Game Harvest Report Card for License-Exempt Hunters.

Statewide Spring Season (male or bearded turkey only)

Apr. 11 – May 9, 2015

Restrictions: It is unlawful to:

- Use dogs during the spring wild turkey season.
- Use any type of handgun or rifle to hunt wild turkey.
- Take wild turkeys from an area in which bait has been placed. (An area is considered baited until 10 days after the bait has been consumed or otherwise removed.)
- Possess live wild turkeys or live birds that are indistinguishable from wild turkeys.

BIG GAME HARVEST REPORTING

Validating a Harvest Upon harvesting a bear, deer or wild turkey, and before moving the animal from the site of kill, the successful hunter must validate the Big Game Harvest Report Card, furnished with the big game hunting license, by cutting or punching out the crosshair symbol next to the appropriate authorization line. Instructions in this section also apply to the Bonus Antlerless Report Card.

Registering a Harvest The hunter must register any harvested bear, deer or wild turkey within 24 hours of the harvest and before it is skinned, dressed or dismembered.

Harvest ID. Harvest ID is the 9-digit number located on your Big Game Harvest Report Card. Hunters must locate the Harvest ID number next to the animal type they harvested and provide this number when registering the harvest through a cooperating agent, the telephone reporting system or the online reporting system.
Hunters who obtain their license and big game privilege by phone will be given their Harvest ID numbers during the call. If the hunter harvests a big game animal before receiving the Big Game Harvest Report Card in the mail, the hunter must immediately, upon receipt of the Big Game Harvest Report Card, record the authorization number for the reported harvest on the line above the Harvest ID number he or she used when reporting the harvest.

Big game animals may be field dressed before being registered. Field dressing includes bleeding and removal of digestive, respiratory and circulatory organs, but the hunter may not mutilate the carcass in a manner that obscures the identity, age or sex.

When a kill occurs in a remote area that prevents the animal from being transported as an entire carcass, the animal may be skinned and quartered before being registered.

When a hunter harvests an animal in a remote area and plans to remain in the area for longer than a day, the 24-hour time is extended until the hunter leaves the area. However, the hunter must immediately register the animal upon leaving the remote area.

Bear and deer (except those deer harvested during the Urban Archery Deer) may be registered in one of four ways:

1. By calling the toll-free phone number, 800-1-GOT-ONE (800-446-8663). A touch tone telephone is required.
2. By using the Internet and clicking the “Report a Harvest” link located on the NCWRC home page (www.ncwildlife.org).
3. By reporting the harvest to a participating wildlife service agent location.
4. By reporting the harvest to a participating wildlife cooperators agent.

Wild turkeys and deer harvested during the Urban Archery Season can only be registered through the toll-free telephone, on-line at ncwildlife.org or at a participating wildlife service location.

Hunters should report each harvest only ONCE. For example, if you have reported your harvest over the telephone, you should not also register your harvest with an agent or on the Internet.

Recording the Authorization Number When a successful hunter registers a big game harvest, the hunter will be issued an authorization number for the animal. The hunter shall then record the authorization number in the space provided, immediately adjacent to the validation mark that has been cut or punched out on the Big Game Harvest Report Card. This record shall thereafter constitute the authorization for continued possession of the carcass. It shall be unlawful for a person to possess a Big Game Harvest Report Card on which the species validation mark has been cut or punched out, but on which the authorization number has not been recorded, unless the animal is in the person’s possession.

Identifying an Unattended Kill Persons killing a big game animal and leaving it unattended must identity the carcass with their name, hunting license number and date of kill. Once an unattended animal is registered, it need only be identified with the authorization number.

Reporting for License-Exempt Hunters Persons who are by law exempt from the Big Game Hunting License requirement shall obtain a License-Exempt Big Game Harvest Report Card from a wildlife service agent at no cost. Upon harvesting a bear, deer or wild turkey, the exempt person shall validate the License-Exempt Big Game Harvest Report Card and report the big game kill using the same registration methods listed above.

Deer Management Assistance Program Harvest Reporting Persons harvesting deer under the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) shall follow the tagging and reporting requirements described in the instructions they have received as a participant in the DMAP.

SMALL GAME AND OTHER SEASONS

RACCOON AND OPOSSUM

Oct. 13 (at sunrise) – Feb. 28
Opossum: No bag limits
Raccoon daily limit 3: No possession or season limits

General Restrictions

Field possession limit while hunting is the same as the daily bag limit. No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one’s vehicle, hunting camp or residence.

Axes and saws may not be carried when raccoon or opossum hunting.

It is unlawful to shoot raccoon during the daytime, west of U.S. 1, except in Richmond County.

It is unlawful to carry firearms or climbing irons when training dogs during closed seasons, except under special field-trial regulations.

SQUIRREL

Gray and Red (statewide): Oct. 13 – Feb. 28
Daily limit 8; No possession or season limits

Fox Squirrel: Oct. 13 – Dec. 31
Daily limit 1; Possession 2; Season 10

In the following counties:

Allegany
Anson
Ashe
Bladen
Brunswick
Cumberland
Duplin

Edgecombe
Greene
Harnett
Hoke
Johnston
Jones
Lenoir

Moore
New Hanover
Onslow
Pender
Pitt
Richmond
Sampson
Scotland
Stokes
Surry
Watauga
Wayne
Wilkes

REGISTRATION a Big Game Kill

Required for Bear, Deer, and Wild Turkey taken in North Carolina

• Before moving the animal from the site of kill (where the animal fell), validate your Big Game Harvest Report Card by punching or cutting in the appropriate crosshair symbol that correctly identifies the big game animal harvested.

• Register by reporting the harvest within 24 hours and record the authorization number on your Big Game Harvest Report Card. Reporting must be done within 24 hours of kill and before the animal is skinned, dressed, or dismembered for consumption.

• If the animal is left unattended before registering, it must be identified with your name, hunting license number and date of kill. An example would be if you leave it hanging in a cooler.

• If you leave an animal with a processor or taxidermist, donate it to Hunters for the Hungry or give it to someone else, you must have the authorization number attached to the carcass. The processor or taxidermist needs to keep a record of species and sex of animals received and name and address of hunter.

To register, choose one of the following options and have your Big Game Harvest Report Card and pen ready.

• Call toll-free 800-446-8663.
• Go online to ncwildlife.org.
• Visit a participating wildlife service agent location.
• Visit a wildlife cooperator agent. This service is not available for reporting Wild Turkey, and Urban Archery Deer.