

SPRINGVILLE JOURNAL

NYSERDA opens applications for West Valley public deer hunting

September 6, 2015 -

By Submitted to the Journal

WEST VALLEY— The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority will offer its annual public deer hunting program at the Western New York Nuclear Service Center, in the town of Ashford beginning Oct. 1.

Approximately 1,700 acres will be open for the entire archery season and seven days during regular season. Scouting will be available three days this year: Sept. 19, 23 and 26 from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. Check-in and out for scouting will be held at NYSERDA's Hunting Station, located on Rock Springs Road, approximately half a mile south of the West Valley Demonstration Project.

NYSERDA's program is open to anyone with a valid 2015-16 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Big Game or Sportsman License, and allows up to 60 hunters to hunt each scheduled day. Application packets will be available starting Sept. 9, in the drop boxes at NYSERDA's Ashford Office, located at 9030-B Route 219, West Valley, and NYSERDA's Hunting Station, as well as at the main gate of the WVDP. Hunters will also be able to download an application from West Valley section of the NYSERDA website: www.nyserdera.ny.gov/Cleantech-and-Innovation/Environment/West-Valley.

Interested hunters can also call the Deer Hunting Information Line at 942-9960 ext. 4990 and request that an application be mailed or emailed to them. Completed application forms are to be mailed to the NYSERDA Deer Hunting Program, 9030-B Route 219, West Valley, New York 14171-9799, Attn: Alita Dueringer, or deposited in NYSERDA's drop box.

NYSERDA Deer Hunting Dates

Archery: Open all season; Oct. 1 through Nov. 20.

Regular: Nov. 21- 25, 27, and a half day Nov. 26.

All hunters must complete an application to hunt in NYSERDA's program. For archery season, preapproval is mandatory. Archery hunting assignments are on a first-come, first-served basis. As per NYSDEC regulations, licensed junior bowhunters (ages 12-15) are allowed to hunt deer, but a parent or guardian must accompany them while bowhunting.

For regular season, hunters may either pre-register and select one hunting assignment of choice, or walk-ins will be allowed, subject to availability.

Hunters are to use New York state legal firearms for this region as designated by NYSDEC, with the exclusion of rifles, pistols and crossbows. As per NYSDEC regulations, licensed junior gun hunters (ages 14-17) can hunt deer, but a parent or guardian must accompany them while hunting.

Changes to the 2015 NYSERDA Deer Hunting Program include a small reduction in the area opened for hunting.

For additional information related to the 2015 hunting program, please contact the Deer Hunting Coordinator, Alita Dueringer at 942-9960, extension 4389.